The Middle Childhood through Early Adolescence Program (MCEA) for Special Education is designed for students seeking to teach at the middle childhood-early adolescence level, ages 6-12 or 13, in 1st through 8th grade. This program prepares students to work in urban settings and takes place in close partnership with local school districts.

The UWM School of Education's urban mission is upheld in the MCEA program's commitment to preparing pre-service teachers to meet the needs of diverse populations. Students are admitted into the MCEA program upon admission to the University and completion of pre-professional coursework. It is possible to complete the program in four years. This is a field-based program involving gradual and extensive work in urban schools. Upon successful completion of all student teaching requirements, including several state required assessments, students will be licensed to teach grades 1st through 8th in Special Education.

### Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGLISH 201</td>
<td>Strategies for Academic Writing (GER-OWCB)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH 175</td>
<td>Mathematical Explorations for Elementary Teachers I (OWC-QLA)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 176</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTHRO 213</td>
<td>American Indian Peoples of Wisconsin (GER-CD, SS)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGLISH 276</td>
<td>Introduction to American Indian Literature: (GER-CD, HU)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIS 203</td>
<td>Western Great Lakes American Indian Community Life of the Past (GER-CD, SS)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>North American Indian History Since 1887 (GER-CD, HU)</td>
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<td>THEATRE 260</td>
<td>Storytelling: (GER-A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CURRINS 233</td>
<td>Introduction to Children’s and Young Adult Literature (GER-HU)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Introduction to Teaching: Colloquium and Fieldwork</td>
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<tr>
<td>CURRINS 333</td>
<td>Introduction to Teaching, Grades 1-8</td>
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**GER Distribution Requirements**

- **Arts**
  - Select one approved GER-A designated course
  - Select two approved GER-HU designated courses
  - Select two approved GER-SS designated courses

- **Natural Sciences**
  - Select one approved GER-NS or GER-NS+ designated course
  - Select one approved GER-NS+ designated course, which includes a lab component

- **Cultural Diversity**
  - Select one approved GER-CD designated course

**Total Credits**: 30-42

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1. Program-specific recommendations and requirements fulfill, or partially fulfill, University GER requirements. Program identifies certain course categories (e.g., literature, biology, political science, etc) be used to fulfill some GERs in order to meet PI 34 Statutory Requirements and/or program requirements.

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**Admission to Program (p. 2)**

**Program Core**

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**GER Competency Requirements**

- **Oral and Written Communication, Part A**: English Placement Test score at level 4 or higher, or pass English 102 with a grade of C or better

- **Oral and Written Communication, Part B**: Complete a GER-OWCB approved advanced course with a grade of C or better

- **Quantitative Literacy, Part A**: Math Placement Test code 30 or higher, or pass Math 102, 103, 105, or 175 with a grade of C or better

- **Quantitative Literacy, Part B**: Complete a GER-QLB approved advanced course with a grade of C or better

- **Foreign Language**: Complete one of the following:
  - 2 consecutive semesters of college instruction in a single foreign language with passing grades
  - 2 consecutive years of high school instruction in a single foreign language with passing grades
  - Demonstrate language proficiency on approved exam

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**GER Distribution Requirements**

- **Arts**: Select one approved GER-A designated course

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**GER Competency Requirements**

- **Oral and Written Communication, Part A**: English Placement Test score at level 4 or higher, or pass English 102 with a grade of C or better

- **Oral and Written Communication, Part B**: Complete a GER-OWCB approved advanced course with a grade of C or better

- **Quantitative Literacy, Part A**: Math Placement Test code 30 or higher, or pass Math 102, 103, 105, or 175 with a grade of C or better

- **Quantitative Literacy, Part B**: Complete a GER-QLB approved advanced course with a grade of C or better

- **Foreign Language**: Complete one of the following:
  - 2 consecutive semesters of college instruction in a single foreign language with passing grades
  - 2 consecutive years of high school instruction in a single foreign language with passing grades
  - Demonstrate language proficiency on approved exam

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**GER Distribution Requirements**

- **Arts**: Select one approved GER-A designated course
Exceptional Education Degree, MCEA Submajor Completion Requirements

- Completion of University GER;
- At least 30 program credits must be earned in residence at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, following admission to the program;
- Completion of the ePortfolio; and
- Completion of a minimum 120 degree credits.

Certification Requirements

- Demonstration of content knowledge proficiency through one of the following:
  - Achieve a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above in prescribed content courses;
  - A passing score on the PRAXIS II #5146; or
  - A Content Knowledge Portfolio.
- Passing score on the Wisconsin Foundations of Reading test;
- Passing score on the edTPA;
- Completion of ACT 31 requirement;
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 in all UWM and transfer courses; and
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 and a C or better in all professional courses.

Advance to Major

Program Admission Requirements

- At least 45 credits of Pre-Professional Coursework completed with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5;
- Minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 and a C or better in all required courses;
- Grade of C or better in CURRINS 300 or CURRINS 333 and a positive field evaluation or equivalent;
- Grade of C or better in MATH 175 and ENGLISH 102 (or placement of 4 or higher on English placement test); and
- Successful application and interview.

Benchmarks

Student Teaching

Students must complete paperwork in order to be assigned a student teaching placement. To determine your deadline (February or April), visit the Office of Clinical Experiences website at uwm.edu/education/academics/clinical-experiences/ (http://uwm.edu/education/academics/clinical-experiences).

Undergraduate Advising

Our purpose is to provide collaborative, mentoring relationships which promote educational, career, and professional development. We value a student-centered, holistic, and ethical approach to advising based on strong partnerships with students, faculty and staff, and the larger campus community. We are committed to creating a respectful and supportive environment. We encourage students to be self-reliant through informed decisions and choices based upon dissemination of accurate information. We value our own continuous professional development to enhance the quality of the advising experience.

How to Prepare for an Advising Meeting

Exceptional Education, BS: Middle Childhood - Early Adolescence

- Come prepared with questions or topics for discussion.
- Make a list of courses you think you should take.
- Investigate opportunities to prepare for the job you want.
- Keep a record of your academic progress.
- Understand you are ultimately responsible for creating your educational, life, and career plans.
- Maintain honest and open communication with your advisor.
- Take responsibility for choices you make as a student and member of the UW-Milwaukee community.

Scheduling an Appointment
Office of Student Services
Enderis Hall, Room 209
(414) 229-4721
soeinfo@uwm.edu

Walk-In Hours
Walk-in advising is for current School of Education students and is limited to 10-15 minutes. Offered weekly on Thursday from 1-4 PM, these opportunities allow for you to meet briefly with your assigned academic advisor, or an advisor familiar with your program of study.

Transfer Student Not Yet Enrolled at UWM?
If you are attending a different college or university and would like to transfer to UWM to study in the School of Education and have questions, please connect with our Transfer Advisor, Emilie Schultz, at (414) 229-6019 or emilee@uwm.edu.

Graduate Advising
If you are a School of Education graduate student, you may schedule an appointment with your faculty advisor by contacting your faculty advisor directly. Faculty contact information can be found in the People Directory (https://uwm.edu/education/people). Your faculty advisor will be listed in your PAWS account. If you are unsure who your advisor is, please contact Graduate Program Admissions Specialist Allison Hochmuth (https://uwm.edu/education/people/hochmuth-allison).

Special Education Dual Certificate Program (5th year)
In partnership with Department of Curriculum and Instruction, the fifth-year program is geared toward undergraduates who are interested in becoming special educators. After successfully completing the regular education MCEA program, students are admitted into the fifth-year special education option. Many students receive their bachelor's degrees upon completion of UWM's collaborative regular education program, while others complete the fifth-year special education option as part of a master's degree program. Please contact the Office of Student Services at 414-229-4721 or soeoss@uwm.edu (soeoss@uwm.edu) for program information and requirements.

Honors in the School of Education
Dean's Honor List
GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

Honors Degree and Honors Degree with Thesis
Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (http://catalog.uwm.edu/opportunities-resources/honors-college) section of this site.

Commencement Honors
Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. In schools and colleges in which fewer than 15% of the traditional students have a 3.500 GPA, all-university honors will be awarded to approximately the top 15% of graduating students. A criterion GPA (not lower than 3.200) for this 15% will be calculated based on statistics from the previous comparable semester. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is not rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

Final Honors
Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.