

Graduate Master of Arts in Education-Elementary Education Unified



At Ottawa University

"I love working and teaching for
Ottawa because we offer all of
the big things - lots of
programs, campuses and
options...but we also have that
hometown feel. It brings me so
much joy to see my students
blossom."

- Nancy Smith, Professor in
School of Education

This program provides the skills and knowledge necessary to:

- ▶ Practice theory in a classroom setting.
- ▶ Engage in continued professional growth.
- ▶ Enhance teaching and services to students.
- ▶ Prepare and plan for change in the schools.
- ▶ Provide students with an engaging learning environment.
- ▶ Learn aspects of learning assessment and accountability.
- ▶ Engage in applying learning strategies for ELL instruction, the science of reading, exploring creativity, and students with special needs.

The concentration in Elementary Education Unified (licensure program) will provide students who are preparing for the teaching profession with a high-quality academic and field-based experience. Program candidates will obtain a clear understanding of student need, instructional approaches, content knowledge, continued professional growth, and a commitment to creating a learning environment for all students. 12-weeks of clinical practice (aka student teaching) is required to move toward a Kansas teaching license in K-6 grades (special education or traditional education).

Education and Qualifications

The traditional route to becoming a public school teacher involves completing a bachelor's or master's degree from a teacher education program and then obtaining a certificate/license in a specific state. Those who have a college degree in other fields may meet state guidelines by completing a teacher licensure program. For supervisory or other advanced education positions, a master's degree may be required.

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Foundation Courses

EDF 7110 - Foundation of Learning Theory (3)

Evaluate key learning theories and environmental factors in relationship to student motivation; in order to advocate, nurture, and sustain the behavioral and academic success of students.

EDF 7210 - Foundation of Education (3)

Explore the historical and philosophical foundations of education in order to evaluate educational trends and create a personal philosophy of education while practicing the profession with intentionality.

EDF 7310 - Foundation of Exceptionality (3)

A comprehensive investigation concerning the identification, support, and resources necessary for supporting families and children/students with exceptionalities. Utilizing a team-based approach, candidates will construct strategies for creating programs that advocate for and sustain an instructional program conducive to student learning and staff professional growth.

EDF 7410 - Foundation of Educational Research and Assessment (3)

Evaluate the relevance of educational research to curriculum improvement, federal and state policies, systematic processes, and instructional and assessment strategies. Apply various methods within educational environments at multiple levels.

EDF 7500 - Foundation of Best Practices in Education (3)

Examine the guidelines and professional educator standards. Analyze, engage in and demonstrate aspects of reflective practice, critical perspectives, and making informed decisions. Learn about advocating for sound educational practices and policies.

EDF 8400 - Advanced Action Research and Assessment (3)

Capstone course and directly associated with student teaching experiences or teacher apprenticeship culmination. Activities may include, but not limited to, professional development in trauma informed care, ELL instruction, dyslexia, balanced assessments, life-career balance and parent-community involvement. Final teaching work sample (action research) and/or case study portfolio will be completed.

Concentration Courses

EDC 7120 - Arts and Wellness in the Elementary Classroom: Part I (2)

In this course, students will examine the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the arts (music, visual; arts, dance, and/or theatre), physical education and wellness.

EDC 7320 - Integrated Teaching in Elementary Science and Mathematics (3)

Examine the understanding and uses of scientific disciplinary core ideas, cross-cutting concepts, and science and engineering practices central concepts, tools of inquiry, and introduces the structures of mathematics. Experiences will include designing learning needs, ELL strategies, design, application of learning technologies, and intensive strategies. Field experience required.

EDC 7321 - Integrated Teaching in Elementary Social Studies, English and Language Arts (3)

Students will examine the central concepts and structures of social studies (the integrated study of history, geography, people and places, economics, civics and government) and the English/Language Arts (reading, writing, speaking, listening, language and ELL). Field experience required.

EDC 7700 - The Professional Educator: Reflection Practicum Lab (2)

Gain experience with research-based strategies, project-based instruction, collaboration, and reflective practice, which assumes use of technology and design learning. Field-based experience required to fulfill student teaching requirements.

EDC 7701 - The Professional Educator: Clinical Practicum Lab 2 (2)

Gain strategies for instruction behaviors, classroom organization, data management and student engagement. Field-based experience required to fulfill student teaching requirements.

EDC 8003 - Behavior and Classroom Management in Inclusive Elementary Settings (3)

This course examines principles and practices of effective classroom and behavior management in K-6 inclusive settings. Candidates learn to design structured, supportive, and culturally responsive environments that promote academic and behavioral success for all learners.

Full Course Description Here

EDC 8500 - Elementary English/Language Arts (ELA) Teaching Lab (3)

Practice in selected inclusive classrooms with emphasis on the ELA elementary education standards and ELL standard (including phonics, the science of reading, and language acquisition). Special seminars and continuous evaluation teaching experiences.

EDC 8501 - Elementary Unified and Mathematics Teaching Lab (3)

Practice in selected classrooms with emphasis on the mathematics elementary education standards. Special seminars and continuous evaluation of teaching experiences.