Graduate Master of Arts in Education-Elementary Education



"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

At Ottawa University

This non-licensing program provides the skills and knowledge necessary to:

- Construct opportunities for multiage learning environments
- Develop engaging intensive intervention strategies and aspects of makerspaces
- Acquire life balance skills for health and wellness of educators and students
- Learn how to effectively prepare learning engagement for the online and remote classroom, including universal design, interdisciplinary sessions, gaming activities, and virtual environments
- Apply systemic practice and theory in the classroom and with professional learning teams
- Create assessments to determine learning accountability
- Enhance learning strategies and professional skills for ELL/ELA instruction, the science of reading, exploring STEAM and creativity, and guiding students with special needs

This program provides the structured framework for augmenting knowledge and skills for teaching and learning in the K-8 environment. This degree is available for students who desire to increase their content, pedagogical, and professional knowledge through application of skill and current research. Students will develop a clear understanding of all Pre-K - 6 student learning needs, as well as create enriched framework for the classroom learning community. The degree is designed to obtain skill sets to work in professional continuing education settings, becoming an accomplished educator, assist in preparing new teachers, and/or work towards achieving Elementary National Board Certification (NBCT). **This degree prepares students for a PreK-6th grade license in the state of Kansas.**

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 certification/licensure program. For supervisory or other advanced education positions, a master's degree may be required.

Full Degree Courses Here

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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 personal growth.

EDF 7500 - Foundation of Professional 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 worksample (action research) and/or case study portfolio will be completed.

Concentration Courses

EDC 7120 - Arts and Wellness in the Elementary Classroom (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. Focus areas include Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), the Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS), Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA), and Behavior Intervention Plans (BIP) along with strategies that foster social-emotional learning and student self-determination.

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.

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Program requirements reflected herein are current at time of printing but are subject to change at the discretion of the university. Consult the catalog for any curriculum changes and additional requirements. Some required courses may be met through transfer credit as determined by the advisor in consultation with the registrar. www.ottawa.edu/coursecatalog

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