ELEMENTARY EDUCATION TRACK

The Educational Studies and Teacher Preparation Department offers a four-year Bachelor of Arts major in Curriculum and Instruction with certification for aspiring elementary educators (Pre-K–6) in the state of Connecticut. Grounded in reflective inquiry and socially responsible professional practice, this program prepares undergraduate candidates with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed to connect theory and practice meaningfully, support developmental models of human growth and learning, exercise ethical professional judgment and leadership, and advocate for quality education for all learners.

As part of an inclusive community of learners, faculty, undergraduate candidates, and educational leaders collaborate to create and sustain exemplary learning environments that empower Pre-K–6 students to become engaged, productive citizens. The program emphasizes the socio-cultural and political contexts of education, the complexities of teaching and learning, professional teaching cultures, culturally relevant approaches to human growth and development, and the responsible use of technology in schools and society.

The Elementary Education track provides candidates with the theoretical and pedagogical knowledge and skills needed for initial certification in Elementary Education (Grades Pre-K-6) within an advocacy based, culturally responsive framework.

The planned professional comprehensive program in elementary education is presented according to the format of Connecticut certification law and includes courses in the following areas:

- **Foundations of education**
  - This group includes areas such as: philosophy of education, school effectiveness, history of education, and comparative education.
- **Educational psychology**
  - This group includes areas such as: growth and development of children from birth through the lifespan, psychology of learning, child-adolescent psychology and mental hygiene.
- **Curriculum and methods of teaching**
  - This group shall include six semester hours of credit in language arts, which may include reading, writing, speaking, listening, and spelling. This group may include areas such as: effective teaching skills, teaching language arts, teaching mathematics and teaching the arts.
- **Student Teaching**
  - Supervised observation, participation, and full-time responsible student teaching in an elementary school
- **Special Education**
  - A course of study in special education which shall include study in understanding the growth and development of students with exceptional needs and abilities and students who may require special education. It shall also include methods for identifying, planning for and working effectively in inclusive classroom settings

Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
First Year Fall & Spring		
EDUC 2201	Explorations in Education	3
Sophomore Year Fall & Spring		
EDUC 2329	Philosophy of Education: An Introduction	3
EDUC 2341	Culturally Responsive Teacher	3
or SOCI 2300	Sociology of Education	
EDUC 3241	Educational Psychology	3
EDUC 3350	Special Learners in the Mainstream	3
Junior Year Fall & Spring		
EDUC 4405	Contexts of Education in the Primary Grades	3
EDUC 4437	Developmental Literacy in Elementary School: Primary Grades	3
EDUC 4431	Extending Literacy in the Elementary School: Grades 3-6	3
SPED 4565	Evidenced-Based Strategies in the Inclusive Classroom	3
Senior Year Fall & Spring		
EDTC 4401	Introduction to Educational Technology	3
EDUC 4497	Teaching Science and Social Studies in the Elementary Classroom	3
EDUC 4447	Learning Mathematics in Elementary School	3
EDUC 4499	Research for Action and Advocacy in School and Community Settings	3
EDUC 4583	Elementary Student Teaching: Immersion in a Community of Practice	6
EDUC 4584	Reflective Practice Seminar: Elementary Education	3
EDUC 6598	edTPA Portfolio	0
Total Credits		**48**