

SOCIAL STUDIES / ELEMENTARY EDUCATION / GENERAL SPECIAL EDUCATION (B.S.)

<https://cps.unh.edu/online/program/bs/social-studies-elementary-education-general-special-education>

Description

Individuals who complete this dual certification program will be eligible for the New Hampshire Department of Education teacher certification in Elementary Education (K-5) and General Special Education (K-12).

This is a field-based program for qualified participants working or volunteering in approved programs or education settings. The key components of this program include mentorship of the teacher candidates by highly skilled professionals in the field, the hands-on experience of working with children in educational settings, and the opportunity to build your teaching capacity over time. Graduates of this program will be eligible for certification in elementary education and general special education. Additionally, graduates of this program will be highly qualified in elementary education.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Minimum Credit Requirement: 120 credits

Minimum Residency Requirement: 30 credits must be taken at UNH

Minimum Cumulative GPA: 2.0 is required for conferral*

Core Curriculum Required: General Education Program

Major, Option and Elective Requirements as indicated.

*GPA: Major and any state certification GPA requirements may be higher and are indicated in program details.

A minimum grade of C- is required in all Major coursework. Students are allowed a maximum of two course overlaps. Overlaps can be used between Major, Minor, and General Education requirements with only one overlap being utilized between the Major and Minor. Please note that Option requirements are considered part of the Major. Students must complete 16 upper-level credits in majors within the College of Professional Studies, Online.

General Education Program Requirements

A minimum grade of D- is required in all General Education coursework. Students are allowed a maximum of two course overlaps. Overlaps can be used between Major, Minor and General Education requirements with only one overlap being utilized between the Major and Minor.

All General Education requirements, including CRIT 602 Advanced Critical Analysis and Strategic Thinking and IDIS 601 Interdisciplinary Seminar, must be taken prior to the capstone.

Code	Title	Credits
ENG 420	The Writing Process	4
COM 460	Interpersonal Communication and Group Dynamics	4
COM 480	Visual Communication	4
CRIT 501	Introduction to Critical Inquiry	4
Select one of the following:		
MTH 402	Math for Our World	4
MTH 504	Statistics	4
MTH 510	Pre-Calculus	4
Knowledge of Human Behavior & Social Systems: PSY 525		
Knowledge of the Physical & Natural World		
Knowledge of Human Thought & Expression		
CRIT 602	Advanced Critical Analysis and Strategic Thinking	4
IDIS 601	Interdisciplinary Seminar	4
Total Credits		40

Writing Program Requirements

All bachelor's degree candidates are required to complete four writing intensive courses as part of the University [Writing Program Requirements](#) as follows:

Code	Title	Credits
ENG 420	The Writing Process	4
One Writing Intensive course in the Major		
One Writing Intensive course at the 600-level or above		
One Additional Writing Intensive Course		

Writing Intensive courses are identified with the label "Writing Intensive Course" in the "Attributes" section of the course description and/or a W following the course number.

Major Requirements

A **minimum GPA of 3.0** is required for state certification.

Prior to capstone enrollment, students are expected to complete the majority of their required major courses along with CRIT 602 Advanced Critical Analysis and Strategic Thinking and IDIS 601 Interdisciplinary Seminar. Students should consult with their advisor regarding specific major courses that may be completed with their capstone. Academic Advisor approval is required for registration to be processed.

Code	Title	Credits
Major in Social Science, EE & GSE		
ECO 470	Principles of Economics	4
HIS 402	Great Civilizations	4
HIS 411	United States History: 1865 to the Present	4
HIS 611	Themes in World History	4
POL 450	American Government and Politics	4
POL 690	The US in World Affairs	4
SCI 470	Physical Geography	4
MTH 504	Statistics	4
Declaration of Candidacy Form Required ¹		
Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Exam Required ²		
EDC 500	Foundations of Education	4
<i>Introductory Level Education Courses</i>		
EDC 700	Introduction to Field Experience and Program Requirements	1
EDC 701	Special Education Law	4
EDC 703	The Dynamic Role of the Special Educator	4
EDC 716	Students with Disabilities	4
EDC 717	Managing Student Behavior	4
<i>Intermediate Level Education Courses</i>		
EDC 718	Transition Planning & Developing IEPs	2

EDC 721	Assessment of Students with Disabilities	4
EDC 719	Using Technology to Teach Social Studies	4
EDC 722	Strategies for Teaching Science	4
<i>Advanced Level Education Courses</i>		
EDC 723	Teaching Language Arts and Literacy	6
EDC 724	Elementary School Mathematics Methods	4
or EDC 733	Middle School Mathematics Methods	
EDC 798	Culminating Teaching Experience and Seminar	4
Total Credits		81

- ¹ Required prior to beginning the last 60 credits of degree program
- ² Passing Praxis Core Exam scores must be submitted prior to taking EDC 700 Introduction to Field Experience and Program Requirements

Electives

Open electives are courses students will need to take in addition to their general education and major requirements in order to satisfy the remaining credit totals for their programs. Open electives are defined as any credit course offered by the College not already included in the student's general education, major, option or minor. Students will need 120 credits total to graduate with a bachelor's degree from the Online Division of the College of Professional Studies.

State Certification Requirements

The following requirements must be completed in order to be recommended to the state for Teacher Certification:

- A **minimum GPA of 3.0** is required for state certification
- **Praxis Core Academic Skills For Educators Exam** required. Passing Praxis Core Exam scores must be submitted prior to taking EDC 700 Introduction to Field Experience and Program Requirements .
- **Praxis II-Multiple Subject or Middle School Content Exam** Required. Students must attempt to pass a Praxis II exam prior to taking the Culminating Teaching Experience & Seminar. Passing exam scores are required for State Certification.
- **Pearson Foundations of Reading Exam** required. Passing Pearson Foundations of Reading Exam Scores must be submitted prior to taking the Culminating Teaching Experience & Seminar.

Degree Plan

This degree plan is a sample and does not reflect the impact of transfer credit or current course offerings. UNH CPS Online undergraduate students should develop individual academic plans with their academic advisor during their first year at UNH.

Sample Course Sequence

First Year

Fall		Credits
COM 460	Interpersonal Communication and Group Dynamics	4
ENG 420	The Writing Process	4
HIS 402	Great Civilizations	4
MTH 402	Math for Our World	4
or MTH 504	or Statistics	
or MTH 510	or Pre-Calculus	
Credits		16

Spring

HIS 411	United States History: 1865 to the Present	4
COM 480	Visual Communication	4
CRIT 501	Introduction to Critical Inquiry	4
POL 450	American Government and Politics	4
Credits		16

Second Year

Fall

HIS 611	Themes in World History	4
POL 690	The US in World Affairs	4
MTH 504	Statistics	4
General Education Course		4
Credits		16

Spring

PSY 525	Human Development	4
ECO 470	Principles of Economics	4
SCI 470	Physical Geography	4
General Education Course		4
Credits		16

Third Year

Fall

CRIT 602	Advanced Critical Analysis and Strategic Thinking	4
IDIS 601	Interdisciplinary Seminar	4
EDC 500	Foundations of Education	4
EDC 700	Introduction to Field Experience and Program Requirements ^{Nonclinical; Complete CHRC Process}	1
EDC 703	The Dynamic Role of the Special Educator ^{Clinical A}	4
Credits		17

Spring

EDC 701	Special Education Law ^{Nonclinical}	4
EDC 716	Students with Disabilities ^{Nonclinical}	4
EDC 717	Managing Student Behavior ^{Clinical A}	4
EDC 719	Using Technology to Teach Social Studies ^{Clinical A}	4
Credits		16

Fourth Year

Fall

EDC 722	Strategies for Teaching Science ^{Clinical A}	4
EDC 721	Assessment of Students with Disabilities ^{Clinical B}	4
EDC 723	Teaching Language Arts and Literacy ^{Clinical A}	6
EDC 718	Transition Planning & Developing IEPs ^{Clinical B}	2
Credits		16

Spring

EDC 724	Elementary School Mathematics Methods ^{Clinical A}	4
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EDC 798	Culminating Teaching Experience and Seminar ^{Clinical A}	4
Credits		8
Total Credits		121

Note: Only 1 Clinical A course allowed per term

Student Learning Outcomes

- Develop a working understanding of current brain research and its implications for teaching and learning.
- Develop the skills to access and utilize technology as a tool to empower teaching and learning.
- Develop a solid understanding of the utilization of formative and summative assessment for program design, monitoring student progress and evaluating teaching effectiveness.
- Work with colleagues to observe, analyze and provide feedback on student progress and teaching effectiveness.
- Utilize research methods and materials, pedagogies and assessment strategies to teach for understanding and application specific to content area.