



Program of Study:

Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education

(Grades K-8) (Eligible for Credential)

Program Description

The Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (Eligible for Credential) program is designed for any individual interested in the education of children in Grades K-8, and who is seeking teacher certification. The format and courses of the state and regionally accredited program are tailored to meet the needs of the adult learner and to maximize the content knowledge that the student will possess upon graduation. Courses are taught by experts in their respective fields who share knowledge and experiences in the areas of educational psychology, reading strategies, teaching methods, assessment, classroom management, and curriculum development. All courses are directly aligned with the Arizona Professional Teacher Standards and the Interstate New Teacher Support and Assessment Consortium Standards. Opportunities are provided to apply concepts, theories, and research throughout the teacher preparation program. Assignments within many of the courses guide students through over 100 hours of observational experiences, and the final semester of the program includes a full-time, 16 week student teaching component. Graduates of the Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education program are prepared to become informed educators in public and private schools and other settings requiring a teaching credential.

Course Number	Course Title	Course Description	Credits
UNV 101	University Success	This course provides positive re-enforcement of successful learning strategies and assistance with adaptation to the academic environment.	3
COM 101	Intro to Human Communication [^]	This course focuses on how people use messages to generate meanings within and across various contexts, cultures, channels, and media. The course readings and discussions seek to increase understanding of relevant communication theories and their application in the practice of effective and ethical human communication in both personal and professional life.	3
ENG 101	Academic Writing	A course in writing academic prose, including various types of essays, arguments, and constructions. A writing intensive course. Prerequisite: UNV 105.	3
PSY 101	General Psychology [^]	A foundation course in the science of behavior. Includes a study of the origin and development of behavior patterns, motivation, emotional behavior sensory functions, perception, intelligent behavior, and adjustment. Simple experiments constitute a basic part of the course.	3
HIS 107	World Civilization Before 1500 [^]	A survey of the major events, personalities, movements, and ideas in world civilization from the prehistoric era to 1500 CE. This course focuses on the key political, intellectual, scientific, social, economic, and cultural changes that occurred in world civilization. Students will gain an understanding of the social forces and trends in social, religious, political, and philosophic thought that laid the foundations of the modern world.	3

ENG 102	Research Writing	A course exploring various types of research writing, with a focus on constructing essays, arguments, and research reports based on primary and secondary sources. A writing-intensive course. Prerequisite: ENG 101.	3
BIO 100	Biology Concepts [^]	A complete overview of the science of biology from a human perspective. Topics include cells, energetics, ecology, inheritance, evolution, embryology, anatomy, and physiology. This course does not apply toward the biology major.	3
BIO 100L	Biology Concepts Lab [^]	The one hour lab for BIO 100. Must be taken concurrently with BIO 101.	1
MAT 120	Intermediate Algebra	Topics from basic algebra: linear equations, polynomials, quadratic equations, systems of equations, and introductory conic sections. Prerequisite: MAT 100.	3

Choose one of the following courses:

INT 463	World Religions [^]	A study of the major contemporary religions of the world including both historical background and development, and current beliefs and practice with emphasis on basic religions: Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Shinto, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Islam, and Baha'i.	3
BIB 113	Old Testament History [^]	An introductory and historical survey of the Old Testament. Attention is given to the study of the Bible itself, its institutions, literature, and history of the national life of the Hebrew people from earliest times to close of the Old Testament period	3

Choose one of the following courses:

PHI 101	Introduction to Philosophy [^]	An introduction to the discipline of philosophy through a study of representative philosophic problems.	3
BIB 123	New Testament History [^]	A general historical survey of the New Testament, beginning with the inter-biblical period, with the main emphasis given to the Gospels and Acts.	3

UNV 200	Western Ideas and Aesthetics	An examination of ideas that shaped Western thought, and aesthetics. Students will have opportunities to identify and analyze instances of these ideas literature, film, and art.	4
CHM 101	Introduction to General, Organic and Biochemistry [^]	An introduction to the principles of chemistry; designed for students without a strong background in science. Topics covered include a survey of the chemical and physical properties of elements and compounds, chemical reactions, chemical energetics, acids and bases, and chemical bonding. An introduction to organic and biochemistry emphasizes the relationship between molecular structure and function.	3
CHM 101L	Introduction to General, Organic and Biochemistry Lab [^]	The one hour lab for CHM 101. Must be taken concurrently with CHM 101.	1

[^] Campus students may choose an alternative course from the Grand Experience. See the current Academic Catalog for details.

Total Grand Experience Credits: 39

Introduction Courses:

POS 300	Arizona/Federal Government	A survey of Arizona History and Government, as well as American government. Meets the teacher certification requirement for Arizona Government and American government.	3
EDU 273N	Children's Literature	All types of children's literature from outstanding authors are surveyed through synopses and actual reading of children's books to acquaint the student with the best stories and poems for use with children. Methods of using these types of literature and the techniques of storytelling are also studied.	3

Students will not be allowed to enroll in EDU 303 or their content area until GCU has received a copy of their finger print clearance.

EDU 303N	Foundations of Education	Students will study the historical, philosophical, and sociological influences which have shaped American education, the issues faced by educators today, and the challenges of the future which await persons now entering the teaching profession. The course is designed for students who have already committed themselves to a career in education or are exploring a career in education and includes a first phase observation in the K-12 classroom. A Writing-Intensive course. No Fingerprint Clearance necessary.	3
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Choose ONE content area:

English Content Area Courses:

ENG 200	Analysis of World Literature	A study of some diverse works in world literature. This course is an introduction to all advanced English course offerings.	3
ENG 201	Intermediate Grammar	A review of basic English syntax, form, and mechanics. The course also introduces principles of grammar and linguistics.	3
ENG 221	English Literature I	A survey of English Literature from the Old English Period through the Enlightenment.	3
ENG 301	Advanced Composition	A course for students who wish to develop their skills in academic and nonfiction writing.	3
ENG 341	American Literature I	A study of outstanding authors, their works, and the literary movements from the Colonial Age to Romanticism (1850).	3
ENG 413	The Novel	A study in the development of the novel which focuses primarily on the reading and discussion of 19th and 20th century British and American works.	3
ENG 421	Shakespeare	A study of major Shakespearean comedies and tragedies and of Shakespeare's development as a dramatist.	3
ENG 352	The Short Story	A study of the short story, its development, the different types, and an analysis of technique.	3

Total English Content Area Credits: 24

Math Content Area Courses:

MAT 135	Numerical Systems, Operations, Properties and Theories	A foundational course covering the structure of numeration systems and ways of representing numbers, numerical operations and properties of the real number system, and the principles of number theory.	3
PSY 363	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	This course focuses upon elementary theories of probability, distribution, and testing of statistical hypotheses. Practical experience is provided in the application of statistical methods. Prerequisite: MAT 120 or equivalent.	3
MAT 220	Finite Mathematics	Topics in finite mathematics are the focus of this course, including elementary matrix algebra, linear systems, and an introduction to probability.	3
MAT 310	College Geometry	A course in the technique of construction and the procedure of proofs of common geometric figures, particularly adapted to the needs of future teachers of high school mathematics. A brief introduction to non-Euclidean geometry is also included.	3
MAT 320	Technology in the Mathematics Curriculum	A study of the use of computers, calculators, and graphing utilities in the mathematics classroom, with an emphasis on problem solving. Educational hardware and commercial software are introduced. Applications of selected programming languages to the teaching of mathematics will be discussed.	3
MAT 410	Math Pearson/PRAxis Preparation	Arithmetic, basic algebra, geometry and measurement, functions and their graphs, data probability, statistical concepts, discrete mathematics, and problem-solving exercises are the topics covered to prepare students for the PRAxis test in Middle School Mathematics.	3
MAT 484	Mathematics in the Elementary School	Emphasis is on the development of a problem-solving process and unifying principles. Teaching strategies, examination of secondary school curricular materials, and classroom experience will be included.	3

MAT 495	Mathematics Capstone	The professional capstone project needs to reflect synthesis and integration of course content and professional practice. This course provides a structured way to organize facts, information, and ideas from the math content area. Theoretical concepts from the major will be discussed by critically analyzing and evaluating ideas relating to a practical application process.	3
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Total Math Content Area Credits: 24

Science Content Area Courses:

GLG 101	General Geology*	An introduction to physical and historical geology with an emphasis on the geology of Arizona. The relation of geology to man's culture and economic development is stressed. Three credits lecture. Prerequisite: concurrent enrollment in GLG 101L.	3
GLG 101L	General Geology: Lab*	A lab course designed to complement the topics covered in the geology lecture. One credit lab. Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in GLG 101 lecture.	1
PHY 101	Introduction to Physical Science*	A survey of physical science emphasizing applications of physical science to modern life.	3
PHY 101L	Introduction to Physical Science Lab*	A laboratory course designed to complement the physical principles covered in the PHY 101 lecture. Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in PHY 101 lecture.	1
PHY 107	Astronomy	A study of the principles and history of astronomy, the cosmos, the solar system, and celestial phenomena. Appropriate as an elective for non-science majors; designed to develop an appreciation and understanding of the natural laws of the universe.	3
PHY 107L	Astronomy: Laboratory	A laboratory course designed to complement the topics covered in the PHY 107 lecture.	1
BIO 181	General Biology I	A study of biological concepts emphasizing the interplay of structure and function, particularly at the molecular, cellular, and organismal levels of organization.	3
BIO 181L	General Biology I Lab	A laboratory course designed to complement and support the principles being learned in Biology 181 lecture. Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in BIO 181.	1
BIO 182	General Biology II	A study of the characteristics of the major groups of plant and animal life, and the ecological interaction of organisms with each other and their environment.	3
BIO 182L	General Biology II Lab	A laboratory course designed to complement and support the principles being learned in Biology 182 lecture. Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in BIO 182.	1
BIO 205	Microbiology	A study of the gross anatomy and functions of the endocrine, cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, renal, and reproductive systems. Laboratory involves the integrated use of human cadavers, animal demonstrations, and computer-assisted instruction.. No credit for Biology (general) or Environmental Biology majors. Co-Requisite: BIO 205L.	3
BIO 205	Microbiology Lab	A lab course designed to complement and support the principles being learned in Biology 205 lecture. Co-requisite: BIO 205.	1
Students may choose any four credits of Science Electives to complete their content area.			4

Total Science Content Area Credits: 24

*GLG 101, GLG 101L, PHY 101, and PHY 101L qualify as eight credits of science replacement for the Grand Experience. Students taking these courses should not take CHM 101, CHM 101L, BIO 100, and BIO 100L.

Early Childhood Content Area courses:

The 24 credits of the Early Childhood Education content area must be fulfilled by the transfer of Early Childhood Education credits from an accredited, GCU-approved institution. Grand Canyon University does not offer Early Childhood Education coursework. All students who meet the 24 credit hours for a content major will need to check with their state department to determine specific requirements for additional ECE credentialing.			
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Total Early Childhood Content Area Credits: 24

Elementary Education Core Courses:

EDU 313N	Educational Psychology	This course provides a thematically arranged study of the theories and principles of psychology that have influenced instructional practices. Behavioral and cognitive approaches to learning, motivation, and instruction are explored.	3
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EDU 363N	Instructional Technology	Emphasis is given to the selection, separation, evaluation, and utilization of various simple media elements as well as computer networking, multimedia, interactive video, and the Internet.	3
SPE 325N	Educating Learners with Diverse Needs	This course is a survey of the unique learning needs of exceptional students. Special focus will be given to the referral process, appropriate instructional modifications and accommodations for exceptional students, and IDEA law. A Writing-Intensive course. Practicum hours – 15. Prerequisites: Fingerprint Clearance and PSY 101.	3
ESL 423N	SEI English Language Teaching: Foundations and Methodologies	Through this course the historical, legal, theoretical, and sociological foundations of programs of instruction for non-English language background students are presented. The study of models, prototypes, and methodologies for ESL instruction is included. Practicum hours – 10. Prerequisites: Fingerprint Clearance.	3
ESL 433N	Advanced Methodologies of Structured English Instruction	In this course students continue to examine the fundamentals of the legal, historical, and educational foundations of Structured English Instruction and other instructional programs for English Language Learners. Theoretical principles of language acquisition and the role of culture in learning are examined. Methods of assessment are identified and analyzed. Students will identify strategies to promote English language development and improve student achievement. They will plan, deliver, and evaluate instruction for English Language Learners. Practicum hours – 15. Prerequisites: Fingerprint Clearance and ESL 423N.	3
EDU 430N	Classroom Management	Designed to allow the prospective teacher the opportunity to learn techniques involved in the successful management of a learning environment. Major emphasis is given to the establishment of a realistic discipline plan to manage student behavior and management techniques and strategies to maximize instructional time, classroom procedures, and physical space.	3
EED 323N	Curriculum and Methods: Science	This course is designed to acquaint the elementary teacher with the curriculum and effective techniques for the teaching of science. The student is involved in planning instruction, employing science programs that are currently being used in the public schools, and using instructional models. This course includes laboratory experiences. Practicum hours – 15. Prerequisites: Fingerprint Clearance; EDU 303N or EDU 313N; BIO course with a lab; and a CHM, GLG, or PHY course with a lab. EDU 363 is recommended.	3
EED 403N	Curriculum and Methods: Mathematics	The student is involved in the formulation of programs for the individual child to teach the theory and practice of elementary mathematics. Utilization of games in the classroom, manipulative materials, and mathematics curriculum in the elementary school are examined. Practicum hours – 15. Prerequisites: Fingerprint Clearance, EDU 303N, and EDU 313N.	3
EED 443N	Curriculum and Methods: Literacy: Reading/ Language Arts GR K-3	This is a school-centered practicum (to include decoding) designed to provide prospective teachers with teaching experience in reading over the length of one semester in a regular school classroom. This course will also focus on reading diagnostics, assessments, and strategies implemented with a single elementary student in a site-based reading lab. Practicum hours – 20. Prerequisites: Fingerprint Clearance and EDU 303N.	3
EED 463N	Curriculum and Methods: Social Studies	This course is designed to assist the elementary teacher with methods of instruction, unit and daily lesson plan construction, materials and resources available, and current developments in the field. Laboratory experiences will include multicultural classrooms. Practicum hours – 15. Prerequisites: Fingerprint Clearance, EDU 303N, EDU 313N, and three credits of history.	3
EED 473N	Curriculum and Methods: Literacy: Reading/ Language Arts GR 4-8	This course is designed to teach and develop a coherent approach to fostering literacy in the classroom. Emphasis is placed on planning lessons in reading comprehension, literature, phonics, writing, oral language, vocabulary, and evaluation of learning. The course includes discourse theory as it pertains to the teaching of reading and writing. Laboratory experiences will include multicultural classrooms. Practicum hours – 15. Prerequisites: Fingerprint Clearance and EDU 303N.	3

EDU 460N	Dynamics of Data-Driven Pedagogy	This course will provide participants with a wide range of assessment strategies based on instructional outcomes. Emphasis will be given to alignment of educational objectives to standards and building both formative and summative assessments including rubrics to analyze student learning. Course content is strategically planned to enable participants to make informed educational decisions about student learning based on data. This course focuses on the principles and practices involved in various models of educational assessment, evaluation, and testing. Participants will develop and implement their own authentic assessments and evaluate results. Practicum hours – 15. Prerequisites: EDU 313N EDU 363N, SPE 325N, ESL 433N, any one methods course, and Fingerprint Clearance.	3
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Student teaching must be the last course a student takes in the program.

EED 480N	Student Teaching: Elementary School	The semester includes seminars in classroom management, assessment, and professional preparation. The student is assigned to an approved school to serve as a student teacher for a semester under the supervision of an experienced teacher. Prerequisites: Successful completion of all courses in POS and content area, senior status, a 2.8 GPA, and approval and placement by Office of Field Placement and Certification. All paperwork for student teaching must be submitted by the due date the semester prior to student teaching.	12
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Total Education Major Credits: 57

Total Grand Experience Credits: 39

Total English, Mathematics, Early Childhood, and Science Content Area Credits: 24

Total Practicum Hours: 135

Total Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (Grades K-8) (Eligible for Credential) Credits: 120