The Master of Education, Elementary Education Specialization is designed as a 33-hour intensive program for students who hold a bachelor's degree and teacher certification. Successful completion of the elementary education specialization degree will prepare teacher candidates to take the Praxis II and expand their current knowledge of the field of elementary education at the graduate level. The target audience is certified elementary teachers who seek to enhance their theoretical beliefs and pedagogical knowledge of elementary education.

**Specialization Objectives**

Upon completion of the graduate M.Ed. Elementary Education Specialization, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a depth and breadth of general knowledge in the field of Elementary Education.
2. Demonstrate well-articulated theoretical beliefs and pedagogical practices relevant to K-6 classroom/school communities.
3. Demonstrate effective communication skills that can be utilized when interacting with colleagues, administrators, students, families and the community.
4. Design, implement, and assess effective instruction, with particular emphasis on integrated curriculum, creative and innovative teaching methodologies, and active learning strategies.
5. Establish a classroom environment sensitive to the cultural and linguistic needs of all students.
6. Effectively utilize technology to improve instruction and enhance the academic achievement of elementary learners.
7. Demonstrate effective leadership skills within the school environment and beyond.

**Admission Requirements**

- Bachelor’s degree with teacher certification completed before graduate study begins.
- Official copies of transcripts of college work (graduate and undergraduate). An undergraduate grade average of “B” (GPA = 3.0) or better is recommended.
- Three recommendations by individuals in relevant professional fields.
- A letter of interest describing commitment to the teaching profession, prior experiences working with elementary learners, prior experiences in schools, and a philosophy of teaching and learning.

**Exit Requirement**

- Candidates completing the M.Ed. in Education: Elementary Specialization are required to complete a Capstone Experience during their final semester in Graduate School.
M.Ed. Elementary Education Specialization
Program of Study

Professional Core (6 credit hours, online delivery)

- EDN 508: Teaching Diversity and Diverse Learners
- EDN 524: Action Research in Education OR other research options as approved

Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning in the Elementary Classroom (Online delivery)
(18 hours as approved by advisor)

- EDN 542 – The Advanced Teaching of Math
- EDN 543 – The Advanced Teaching of Social Studies
- EDN 544 – The Advanced Teaching of Science
- EDN 584 – The Advanced Teaching of Language and Literacy
- EDN 514 – The Advanced Teaching of Cultural Arts

- EDN 595 – These 4 Special Topic classes enable M.Ed. candidates to ‘customize’ their M.Ed. program by taking classes that are of individual interest or that can enhance current theoretical beliefs and pedagogical practices.

The following are a sample of Special Topics:

- Media Representation of Education and Schools: A Critical Stance
- Infusing Global Education in the Elementary Classroom
- Creative Technology Integration and New Media Pedagogy
- Informal Science Education
- Instructional Technology in the Elementary Classroom
- Innovation and Leadership in Mathematics Education in the Elementary Classroom
- Critical Literacy
- ESL for non-ESL teachers