

Elementary and Early Childhood Education-1

Elementary and Early Childhood Education

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The Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education offers two undergraduate majors: Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education. Both programs offer a sequence of course work in the theory and practice of education and provide students with field experiences. Early childhood education students who successfully complete their program are certified to teach pre-kindergarten through grade five. Elementary education students who successfully complete the elementary education program are certified to teach kindergarten through grade five. Those students who are interested in teaching grades K-2 are best served by enrolling in the Early Childhood major. All programs and all courses reflect state and national standards, with special emphasis on the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards. Any student seeking additional endorsements or teaching certificates beyond what is specifically awarded by their academic program should contact the State of New Jersey Department of Education directly for details about any additional courses or standardized tests that may be required.

For admission to the department, students must apply to The College of New Jersey and select a professional program major of either Elementary or Early Childhood Education. They must also select a second major. The choices are: art, biology, English, history, mathematics, music, psychology, sociology, Spanish, mathematics/science/technology, or women's and gender studies. [Note: psychology and sociology are not considered "teachable majors" in New Jersey.]

Elementary and early childhood teachers must have a broad academic background as well as practical understanding of the early childhood and elementary school curricula. Therefore, along with their two majors, students must take a broad range of liberal learning courses. In addition, the courses of study for both the elementary and early childhood programs include the following field experiences:

1. The Foundation Courses: Child and Adolescent Growth and Development, Literacy, Math and Science methods each include a full-day classroom practicum. Students in the Early Childhood program have an additional course that includes opportunities to visit, observe, and work in early childhood (Pre-kindergarten through grade 3) settings.
2. The Advanced Core Block (ACB) builds on the basic material offered in the Foundation courses and includes work on differentiating instruction, integrating technology, long-term curriculum planning, reading across the curriculum, and teaching for social justice. Admission to ACB occurs when a student completes specific courses, has at least a 2.50 grade point average, and is recommended by foundation course faculty members for advanced work.
3. The student teaching experience provides seniors the opportunity to participate in a full semester of supervised classroom teaching. Students generally are clustered in small groups at professional development school sites located within a 30 mile radius of the College. Students need to provide their own transportation to these sites. Global student teaching is also available. Student teaching is currently available in South Africa, Spain, Ireland, Croatia and Thailand. Global sites change often. Countries that have participated in this program in the past include Botswana, England, Germany, the Netherlands, The Gambia, and Venezuela. Global programs are available in the spring semester only. The global teaching program is jointly supervised by faculty from The College of New Jersey and the host institution.

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Early Childhood Education

Effective early childhood teachers must have a broad background of knowledge. In addition to providing the specific training for a teacher of young children, the College seeks to enable each teacher candidate to acquire a liberal education. The early childhood specialization courses are designed to increase knowledge in specific areas as well as to prepare for future teaching. Students take early childhood education courses that allow them to observe and participate in nursery schools and in elementary classrooms in rural, suburban and urban contexts. During these courses, students learn about children's literature and child and adolescent development, and develop skills in the teaching of math, science and literacy. In their junior year, they take advanced pedagogy courses in literacy, social studies/multicultural education, and integrated learning. In their senior year, they student teach under the guidance of a classroom teacher and conduct a teacher inquiry project. Some students elect to do part of their senior student teaching abroad in places as varied as Thailand and South Africa. During all course work and field experiences, students participate in activities and gain experience in planning, organizing, and directing the learning experiences of young children. Students should consult with their departmental advisors in both the education and second major departments in planning their programs. These plans should take into account requirements for the second major, liberal learning, the professional education major, and state certification. The department requires that students visit both the education advisor and the subject matter major advisor each semester. This is the responsibility of the student, as requirements and course offerings are subject to change.

Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards: Early Childhood Education

Every major program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for Early Childhood Education:

- Retention in the program is based on the following performance standards in these "critical content courses": A grade of C+ or better in ECE 201, 202, and RAL 222, and achieving the required grade in the foundations and critical content courses in the second major.
- Admission to Advanced Core Block requires a 2.5 GPA and the recommendation of the student's foundation course professors.
- Transfer into the program from another program within The College is based upon the following performance standards in these foundation courses: A grade of C+ or better in ECE 102 and ECE 202. They must also achieve a GPA of 2.5 and the required grade in the foundations and critical content courses in the subject matter major.
- Admission to student teaching requires a GPA of 2.75 and the recommendation of the student's advanced course professors.
- Graduation requires a GPA of 2.75; completion of all courses in the education major; completion of all courses and meeting all standards in the subject matter major; and fulfilling all liberal learning requirements.

The Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education maintains the right and the responsibility to dismiss students from the major who have not made satisfactory progress completing the major components of the program or fulfilling department requirements or expectations.

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Suggested First-Year Sequences: Early Childhood Education

Early Childhood Education and Art

Fall

FSP First Seminar
AFA 111/Drawing I
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
ECE 102/Multicultural Children's Literature for Early Childhood

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* MAT 106
AFA 112/Conceptual Art Studio/2D Design
AFA 113/Color Theory/2D Design
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

Early Childhood Education and Biology

Fall

FSP First Seminar
BIO 185/Themes in Biology
CHE 201/General Chemistry I
MAT 127/Calculus A*

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* U.S. History or VPA course
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment
CHE 202/General Chemistry II*
Biology Option—Organismal
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I

**If student is required to take pre-calculus (MAT 096) then ECE 102 should be taken in the fall semester in place of CHE 201, and CHE 201 should be taken in the spring semester.*

Early Childhood Education and English

Fall

FSP First Seminar
LIT/LNG English program foundation course
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

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Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* English major course by advisement
LIT/LNG English program foundation course
MAT 106/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators II
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

Early Childhood Education and History

Fall

FSP First Seminar
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
HIS 210/World History I
ECE 102/Multicultural Children's Literature for Early Childhood

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* MAT 106
HIS 220/World History II
HIS 230/The United States in World History
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

Early Childhood Education and Mathematics

Fall

FSP First Seminar
MAT 127/Calculus A
MAT 200/Discrete Mathematics
ECE 102/Multicultural Children's Literature for Early Childhood

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* Liberal Learning (gender and/or global)
MAT 128/Calculus B
STA 215/Statistical Inference
MAT 099/Orientation to Mathematics and Statistics
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences

Early Childhood Education and Mathematics, Science, and Technology

Fall

FSP First Seminar
TST 161/Creative Design
MAT 127/Calculus A
ECE 102/Multicultural Children's Literature for Early Childhood Education

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* Liberal Learning (gender and/or global)
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I (or MAT 200 for Math specialization)
Science Option by Advisement
ETE 261/Multimedia Design

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Early Childhood Education and Music

Fall

FSP First Seminar
ECE 102/Multicultural Children's Literature for Early Childhood Education
MUS 261/Musicianship I
MUS 251/Music of Our Diverse World
MUS 200-224 *or* MUS 300-324
Large Ensemble

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* free elective
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
MUS 262/Musicianship II
MUS 111/Keyboard Skills I
MUS 200-224 *or* MUS 300-324
Large Ensemble

Early Childhood Education and Psychology

Fall

FSP First Seminar
PSY 101/General Psychology
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
ECE 102/Multicultural Children's Literature for Early Childhood Education

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* free elective
PSY 121/Methods and Tools of Psychology
Psychology Foundations Course 1*
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI/104 Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

** Students should consult their Early Childhood Education advisor before choosing PSY 220 since they may want ECE 201 (which is required for the Early Childhood Education major) in place of PSY 220.*

Early Childhood Education and Sociology

Fall

FSP First Seminar
SOC 101/Introduction to Sociology
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
ECE 102/Multicultural Children's Literature for Early Childhood

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* free elective
Sociology elective
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI/104 Cancer, Genes, and the Environment
STA 115 or 215/Statistical Inference

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Early Childhood Education and Spanish

Fall

- FSP First Seminar
SPA 203 or SPA 210/Intermediate Oral Proficiency *or* Spanish for Heritage Speakers
SPA 211/Composition and Grammar Review
ECE 102/Multicultural Children's Literature for Early Childhood

Spring

- Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* MAT 105
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences
SPA 215/Spanish Phonetics
SPA 216 *or* SPA 217/Current Events in the Spanish Speaking World *or* Introduction to Hispanic Culture
ECE 202/Theories and Practices of Early Childhood Education

Early Childhood and Women's and Gender Studies (With an emphasis in History and English)

Fall

- FSP First Seminar
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
WGS 200/Women, Culture, and Society
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

Spring

- Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* free elective
WGS English elective
MAT 106/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators II
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

COURSES

Early Childhood Education

ECE 102/Multicultural Children's Literature (Early Childhood) 1 course unit

Explores the use of children's literature in literacy instruction as a vehicle to help children learn about themselves and their place in the world. Students develop skills in selecting and critiquing various genres, as well as how to incorporate children's literature in the classroom in a developmentally appropriate manner. Through this course, students will be exposed to a variety of award winning and multicultural literature.

ECE 201/Infant through Adolescent Development for Early Childhood 1 course unit

Corequisite: RAL 222

Emphasizes the educational implications and applications of research on child development, cognitive science, learning, and teaching from pre-birth through adolescence. Topics of theories of human development, process, and changes of human development with a focus on the cognitive, social, and emotional aspects and the interplay of each domain are included in the course. Additionally, the course covers topics of individual and cultural variations and adapting instruction

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to meet students' individual differences-social differences, emotional differences, and cognitive differences. Simultaneously, through the assignments designed for the course, students will develop skills of observation, application, and analysis.

ECE 202/Theories and Philosophies of Early Childhood Education **1 course unit**

Prerequisite: ECE 201

Focuses on theories and philosophies of education during the early childhood years, specifically examining the profession and programs of early childhood education, with emphasis upon developmentally appropriate practice, including anti-bias curriculum, inclusion of young children with disabilities, and developing ethical standards. Introduction to play and its impact on development along with influences of family on a child's development and education will be included in the course. Simultaneously, through the assignments designed for the course, students will develop skills of observation, application, and analysis.

MST 202/Methods of Teaching Science, Health and Technology **1 course unit**

Corequisite: MTT 202

Examines the purposes, scope, sequences, materials, and methodology of teaching science in early childhood, elementary school and middle schools. It develops skill in planning, instructing, and assessing understanding of content. It links instruction and assessment in science and covers relevant content topics in chemistry, biology, physics, and earth and space science. Instruction in the college classroom, observation of an experienced teacher, and teaching in an early childhood or elementary classroom are provided.

SOM 203/Methods of Teaching Social Studies from a Multicultural Perspective **1 course unit**

Prerequisites: ECE 201, ECE 202, MTT 202, MST 202, RAL 222

Corequisite: RAL 322, ECE 301 (in most cases)

Examines the purposes, scope, sequences, materials, and methodology of teaching social studies in the early childhood, elementary and middle school classroom. Using knowledge and data-gathering processes from history and the social sciences, appropriate and meaningful social studies experiences will be created for teacher candidates. Course content includes anthropology, economics, geography, political science, history, sociology, anti-harassment, human rights, multicultural education, international and global education. Instruction in the college classroom, observation of an experienced teacher, and teaching in an early childhood or elementary classroom are provided.

ECE 301/Integrating and Differentiating Instruction for All Learners **2 course units**

Prerequisites: ECE 201, ECE 202, MTT 202, MST 202, RAL 222

Prerequisite or Corequisite: SOM 203, RAL 322

This is the culminating teaching methods course teacher candidates take as early childhood education majors. It requires them to expand the knowledge and skills gained in previous courses and field experiences, which addressed child growth and development, discipline specific pedagogical strategies, lesson design and classroom management skills. It develops their proficiency in both integrating this prior knowledge in long-term teaching projects and in planning differentiated instruction to meet the varying needs of learners, including those with special needs. Students also plan and implement a parent involvement activity. College seminars and in-depth field experiences are provided. A 2.50 grade point average is required for entrance into ECE 301.

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ECE 490 Student Teaching

2 course units

Prerequisites: All courses in the early childhood education sequence.

Corequisite: ECE 498

Provides fourteen weeks of intensive field-based experience. Students are placed in a P-3 classroom where they are required to demonstrate their ability to teach to the New Jersey Core Curriculum standards. By the end of the semester, they are fully in charge of the classroom, teaching all day. They are observed regularly and given feedback by their cooperating teacher and a college supervisor. They meet regularly with small groups to reflect on their practice. They conduct a parent/community involvement project as well as an inquiry project designed in their capstone course. A 2.75 grade point average is required for entrance into ECE 490 and ECE 498.

ECE 498/Capstone: Inquiry into Learning

1 course unit

Prerequisites: All courses in the early childhood education sequence

Corequisite: ECE 490

Supports students in developing an open-minded, inquiring approach to their own practice as teachers and increases their awareness of the issues that affect this practice. Students conduct inquiry projects into their impact on student learning. Weekly seminars deal with issues of importance to teachers and allow students to share questions and concerns that arise in the field. The course is the culminating experience for all early childhood education majors and serves to link their existing student teaching experience with the theoretical frameworks they have studied in prior courses.

Elementary Education

Elementary school teachers must have a broad academic background as well as practical understanding of the elementary school curriculum. Therefore, they are required to take two majors: one in education and the other in a subject matter (e.g., history, English, mathematics, etc.), along with a broad range of liberal learning courses. During the first year at the College students planning to be elementary school teachers take liberal learning courses as well as courses in their second major. Beginning in their sophomore year, students take elementary education courses that allow them to observe and participate in elementary classrooms in rural, suburban and urban contexts. During these courses, students learn about child and adolescent development and develop skills in the teaching of math, science and literacy. In their junior year, they take advanced pedagogy courses in literacy, social studies/multicultural education, and integrated learning. In their senior year, they student teach under the guidance of a classroom teacher and conduct a teacher inquiry project. Some students elect to do part of their senior student teaching abroad in places as varied as Thailand and South Africa.

Students should consult with their departmental advisors in both the education and second major departments in planning their programs. These plans should take into account requirements for the second major, liberal learning, the professional education major, and state certification. The department requires that students visit both the education advisor and the subject matter major advisor each semester. This is the responsibility of the student, as requirements and course offerings are subject to change.

Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards: Elementary Education

Every major program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for Elementary Education:

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- Retention in the program is based on the following performance standards in these “critical content courses”: A grade of C+ or better in ELE 201 and RAL 221 and achieving the required grade in the foundations and critical content courses of the second major.
- Admission to the Advanced Core Block requires a 2.5 GPA and the recommendation of the student’s foundation course professors.
- Transfer into the program from another program within the College is based upon the following performance standards in these foundation courses: A grade of C+ or better in ELE 201 and RAL 221, achieving a GPA of 2.5, and the required grade in the foundations and critical content courses in the second major.
- A GPA of 2.75 is required for admittance to Student Teaching.
- Graduation requires a GPA of 2.75; completing all courses in the education major; completing all courses and meeting all standards in the second major; and fulfilling all liberal learning requirements.

The Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education maintains the right and the responsibility to dismiss students from the major who have not made satisfactory progress completing the major components of the program or fulfilling department requirements or expectations.

Suggested First-Year Sequence: Elementary Education

Elementary Education and Art

Fall

FSP First Seminar
AFA 111/Drawing I
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) or SCI 103 or 104
MAT 106/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators II
AFA 112/Conceptual Art Studio
AFA 113/Color Theory

Elementary Education and Biology

Fall

FSP First Seminar
BIO 185/Themes in Biology
CHE 201/General Chemistry I
MAT 127/Calculus A*

*If student is required to take pre-calculus (MAT 096) then MAT 105 or a Liberal Learning-Visual/Performing Arts course should be taken in the fall semester in place of CHE 201, and CHE 201 should be taken in the spring semester.

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* MAT 127 or VPA course
History Course: U.S. History
CHE 202/General Chemistry II
Biology Option—Organismal
SCI 104/Genes, Cancer, and the Environment

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Elementary Education and English

Fall

FSP First Seminar
LIT/LNG English program foundation course
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* U.S. History
LIT/LNG English program foundation course
MAT 106/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators II
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

Elementary Education and History

Fall

FSP First Seminar
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
HIS 210/World History I
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* MAT 106
HIS 220/World History II
HIS 230/The United States in World History
RAL 225/Multicultural Children's Literature

Elementary Education and Mathematics

Fall

FSP First Seminar
MAT 127/Calculus A
MAT 200/Discrete Mathematics
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences
MAT 099/Orientation to Mathematics

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* U.S. History
RAL 225/Multicultural Children's Literature
MAT 128/Calculus B
STA 215/Statistical Inference

Elementary Education and Mathematics, Science, and Technology

Fall

FSP First Seminar
TST 161/Creative Design
MAT 127/Calculus A
ETE 261/Multimedia Design

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Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* Liberal Learning (gender and/or global)
Science Option by Advisement
MAT 105*/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
MAT 128 or STAT 215/Calculus B *or* Statistical Inference
**Or MAT 200 for students with Mathematics Specialization*

Elementary Education and Music

Fall

FSP First Seminar
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
MUS 261/Musicianship I
MUS 251/Music of Our Diverse World
MUS 200-224 or MUS 300-324
Large Ensemble

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* SCI 103
MAT 106/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators II
MUS 262/Musicianship II
MUS 111/Keyboard Skills
MUS 200-224 or MUS 300-324
Large Ensemble

Elementary Education and Psychology

Fall

FSP First Seminar
PSY 101/General Psychology
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* SCI 103 or SCI 104
PSY 121/Methods and Tools of Psychology
Approved Visual and Performing Arts course
Psychology Foundations Course 1*

**Students should consult their Elementary Education advisor before choosing PSY 220 since they may count ELE 201 (which is required for the Elementary Education major) in place of PSY 220.*

Elementary Education and Sociology

Fall

FSP First Seminar
SOC 101/Introduction to Sociology
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* STA 115 or STA 215
RAL 225/Multicultural Children's Literature
Sociology elective
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

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Elementary Education and Spanish

Fall

FSP First Seminar
SPA 203 or SPA 210/Intermediate Oral Proficiency *or* Spanish for Heritage Speakers
SPA 211/Composition and Grammar Review
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) or MAT 106
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences
SPA 215/Spanish Phonetics
SPA 216 *or* SPA 217/Current Events in the Spanish Speaking World or Introduction to Hispanic Culture

Elementary Education and Women's and Gender Studies (With an emphasis in History and English)

Fall

FSP First Seminar
MAT 105/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators I
WGS 200/Women, Culture, and Society
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

Spring

Academic Writing (if not exempt) *or* free elective
WGS English Elective
MAT 106/Mathematical Structures and Algorithms for Educators II
SCI 103/Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences *or* SCI 104/ Cancer, Genes, and the Environment

COURSES

Elementary Education

ELE 201/Child and Adolescent Development 1 course unit

Corequisite: RAL 221

Emphasizes the educational implications and applications of research on child development, cognitive science, learning, and teaching from pre-birth through adolescence. It is a systematic study of children in the elementary and middle school environment focusing on the whole child. Through an analysis of child development theories and research on learning and cognition, students will gain a deeper understanding of how children and adolescents grow and learn in different cultural contexts. The course includes instruction in the college classroom plus a weekly field experience.

MST 202/Methods of Teaching Science, Health and Technology 1 course unit

Corequisite: MTT 202

Examines the purposes, scope, sequences, materials, and methodology of teaching science in early childhood, elementary school and middle schools. The course develops skill in planning, instructing, and assessing understanding of content. It links instruction and assessment in science and covers relevant content topics in chemistry, biology, physics, and earth and space science. Instruction in the college classroom, observation of an experienced teacher, and teaching in an early childhood or elementary classroom are provided.

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SOM 203/Methods of Teaching Social Studies from a Multicultural Perspective

1 course unit

Prerequisites: ELE 201, RAL 221, MST 202, MTT 202

Corequisite: RAL 321, ELE 301 (in most cases)

Examines the purposes, scope, sequences, materials, and methodology of teaching social studies in the early childhood, elementary and middle school classroom. Using knowledge and data-gathering processes from history and the social sciences, appropriate and meaningful social studies experiences will be created for the students. Course content includes anthropology, economics, geography, political science, history, sociology, anti-harassment, human rights, multicultural education, international and global education. Instruction in the college classroom, observation of an experienced teacher, and teaching in an early childhood or elementary classroom are provided.

ELE 301/Integrating and Differentiating Instruction for All Learners

2 course units

Prerequisites: ELE 201, RAL 221, MST 202, MTT 202

Prerequisite or corequisite: RAL 321, SOM 203

This advanced pedagogy course, consisting of seminars and an extensive field experience, requires teacher candidates to develop knowledge and skills that will enable them to: 1) continue developing their teaching performance skills; 2) plan long-term instructional units that use computer technology, children's literature, and the creative and performing arts as vehicles for content integration and include a parent involvement component; 3) differentiate instruction for children with different needs, including children learning English and those with learning disabilities and behavioral disorders; 4) demonstrate reflective practice by reflecting on lessons taught and designing and implementing an inquiry project. Students will have two 3-hour seminars on campus and spend 1 and 1/2 days per week for 8 weeks, and all day, every day for two weeks in an elementary classroom practicum. A 2.50 grade point average is required for entrance into ELE 301.

ELE 490/Student Teaching

2 course units

Prerequisites: All courses in the elementary education sequence

Corequisite: ELE 498

Provides fourteen weeks of intensive field-based experience. Students are placed in a K-5 classroom where they are required to demonstrate their ability to teach to the New Jersey Core Curriculum standards. By the end of the semester, they are fully in charge of the classroom, teaching all day. They are observed regularly and given feedback by their cooperating teacher and a college supervisor. They meet regularly with small groups to reflect on their practice. They conduct an inquiry project designed in their capstone course as well as a parent/community involvement project. A 2.75 GPA is required to register for ELE 490 and ELE 498.

ELE 498/Capstone: Inquiry into Learning

1 course unit

Prerequisites: All courses in the elementary education sequence

Corequisite: ELE 490

Supports teacher candidates in developing an open-minded, inquiring approach to their own practice as teachers and increases their awareness of the issues that affect this practice. Students conduct inquiry projects into their impact on student learning. Weekly seminars deal with issues of importance to teachers and allow students to share questions and concerns that arise in the field. This course is the culminating experience for all elementary and early childhood education majors and serves to link their existing student teaching experience with the theoretical frameworks they have studied in prior courses.