

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

OVERVIEW

Lewis University's College of Education prides itself on its motto, "Developing Learning Communities." To make that motto a reality, the College of Education is dedicated to preparing outstanding teachers, supervisors and administrators for public, Catholic and other private schools.

Teacher preparation at Lewis is designed to utilize talent from all departments of the University and from the public and private elementary, middle and high schools of the community. Concerned faculty members take each student's education personally, and are committed to assisting students in reaching their Elementary Education career goals. Courses of study include sequences in general education, professional education, the student's area of concentration and field experience approved by the State Teacher Certification Board.

HIGHLIGHTS

The College of Education at Lewis has earned NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education) accreditation. The Elementary Education program offers students one-on-one advising, personal attention, field experiences and student teaching placements in area schools, and endowed scholarship opportunities.

The Gladys M. Meehan Endowed Scholarship is awarded to students who are preparing for their initial teaching certification. The scholarship is named in honor of a woman who fulfilled her lifelong dream of becoming a teacher at the age of 50. Gladys Meehan went on to devote 15 years as a fourth grade teacher in a Chicago parochial school. Established in 1997 by her family, the Gladys M. Meehan Endowed Scholarship has benefited more than 10 Lewis University students.

The Dr. Shirley A. McFaul Endowed Scholarship was established in September 2002, to honor the long time faculty member of the School of Education. After a distinguished career as a teacher and college faculty member, Dr. McFaul passed away in May 2002. The scholarship was established by her family, friends and the School of Education to assist students who are furthering their careers by obtaining an undergraduate degree in elementary education.

REQUIREMENT

Note: It is required that students must successfully pass the State of Illinois Basic Skills test, have a minimum 2.75 GPA and 29 credit hours before they will be allowed to take education courses.

CONTACT

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BACHELOR OF ARTS / ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Total Credit Hours: 128

Major Credit Hours: 47

I. Professional Education for Elementary (K-9) Certification

- 05-240 Instructional Methods, K-9, with Field Experience I (25 clinical hrs.) (3)
- 05-300 Elementary Field Experience II (50 clinical hrs.) (1)
- 05-301 Educational Psychology (3)
- 05-340 Methods of Teaching Science and Health, K-9 (3)
- 55-321 Curriculum and Instruction in the Middle School (3)
- 05-352 Methods of Teaching Mathematics, K-9 (3)
- 05-353 Methods of Teaching Reading and the Integrated Language Arts, K-3 (3)
- 05-354 Methods of Teaching Social Studies and Multicultural Education, K-9 (3)
- 05-400 Elementary Field Experience III (50 Clinical hrs.) (1)
- 05-409 Child and Adolescent Literature (3)
- 05-471 Methods of Teaching Reading and the Integrated Language Arts, 4-9 (3)
- 05-480 Elementary Student Teaching (9)
- 53-304 Technology for Teaching and Learning (3)
- 53-360 History and Philosophy of Education (3)
- 54-357 Exceptional Learners in Inclusive Communities (3)

II. Highly recommended Courses for Elementary Certification

- 17-120 & 17-121 Integrated Science (3)
- 05-244 Differentiated Instruction in the Elementary Classroom
- 05-410 Classroom Assessment and Intervention
- 09-111 & 09-112 U.S. History
- 18-200 Federal Government

The state requirements for middle school endorsement are covered in Lewis' approved elementary education courses

III. Elementary education majors are required to complete an 18-hour concentration in an academic area. Some of the 18 hours may count toward the General Education requirements.

- IV. The advanced writing requirement for Elementary Education Majors is fulfilled by completion of Elementary Student Teaching (05-480).
- V. Students complete 125 hours of field experience as part of the coursework in the Elementary Education Program. Field experience courses include: Instructional Methods K-9, with Field Experience I (05-240) (25 hrs.), Elementary Field Experience II (05-300) (50 hrs.), and Elementary Field Experience III (05-400) (50 hrs.). Assignment to the field experience sites is arranged by the College of Education. Experiences are designed to include public and private school sites, and primary, intermediate and middle school experiences. Students are responsible for providing their own transportation to these sites. Field experience hours completed at other institutions will be evaluated by the Department Chair to determine whether or not the hours can be transferred.

STUDENT TEACHING

Application for admission to Elementary Student Teaching must be filed by September 15 of the year prior to the student teaching experience. Procedures and requirements for admission to student teaching are published in the College of Education's Guide for Initial Teacher Certification Program Candidates. This publication is available on the College of Education Blackboard site. Evidence of successful completion of the appropriate State of Illinois test in the content area must be received in the College of Education prior to the beginning of the student teaching semester in order to be allowed to student teach. Students are responsible for providing their own transportation to student teaching sites. Only one additional course may be taken concurrently with student teaching. Official documentation of a negative TB test must be filed prior to student teaching.