

Education

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Mission

Southwestern Adventist University Education Department is committed to inspiring knowledge, faith, and service through Christ-centered education. Our mission is to prepare effective educators who are equipped for teaching in Seventh-day Adventist schools and/or Texas public schools.

The Education Department offers an Educator Preparation Program (EPP) for individuals wanting to teach in elementary and secondary classrooms. Certification may be earned in the following areas:

Elementary Education

- Early Childhood - 6th grade (State of Texas Credential)
- Early Childhood - 8th grade (Seventh-day Adventist Credential)

Secondary Education, 7th grade to 12th grade (State of Texas & Seventh-day Adventist Credential)

- English
- History
- Life Science
- Mathematics
- Social Studies

All Level Education, Kindergarten - 12th grade (State of Texas and Seventh-day Adventist Credential)

- Music
- Physical Education

Candidates seeking Secondary and All-Level Certifications must complete all professional development courses in education in addition to their content area requirements.

Professional Development Courses for Teacher Certification

The courses below are required for Elementary Education, Secondary Education, and All-Level Music and Physical Education Certification. These courses are required in addition to Academic Foundations and any other courses required for a specific major. Admission to the Educator Preparation Program is required to take upper-division courses.

- EDUC 254 Intro to Teaching (not required for Physical Education majors)
- EDUC 312 Educational Psychology

- EDUC 326 Learners with Exceptionalities
- EDUC 350 Digital Literacy Proficiency
- EDUC 386 Philosophy of Christian Education (SDA credential)
- EDUC 418 Legal Foundations of Education
- EDUC 434 Classroom Assessment
- EDUC 386 Classroom Management
- EDUC 475/485 Directed Student Teaching*
- CERTIFICATION TEST REVIEW COURSES for State of Texas Credentials
 - EDUC 495 TExES Core Subjects EC - 6 - (Elementary Education only)
 - EDUC 496 TExES Prep Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (All State of Texas Certification levels)

Secondary and All-Level Music and Physical Education also require:

- EDUC 322 Child and Adolescent Psychology
- EDUC 450 Teaching Methods*

Seventh-Day Adventist Credential - all certification types also require:

- RELT 201 Bible Study Methods
- RELH 230 History of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church
- EDUC 386 Philosophy of Christian Education (listed above)

*A minimum of 30 hours of field-based experience is required prior to student teaching.

Academic Foundations

Those seeking certification in Early Childhood (EC) through grade eight, content areas for grades seven through twelve, All Level Physical Education and Music K-12 are required to meet general education requirements in the Core Curriculum section of this bulletin

General Education Curricula Minimum Requirements (Students who qualify for honors classes may substitute where appropriate).

English

Communication competency will be done in EDUC 275, 310, 326, 418, 475, and KINT 244

Item #	Title	credits
ENGL 121	Freshman Composition	3
ENGL 220	Research Writing	3
	ENGL 231 or ENGL 232	3

History & Social Sciences

Item #	Title	credits
HIST 111	United States History to 1865	3
HIST 112	United States History from 1865	3
HIST 242	Historical and Political Geography	3
POLS 211	National and Texas Constitutions	3

Math/Natural and Physical Science

MATH 131 Applied Math and any other College level Math (100 or above) - 6 hours

Two classes of lab Science - One Semester of physical science is required - 8 hours

Item #	Title	credits
MATH 131	Applied Mathematics	3
	Mathematics Education Option	
	Life and Physical Science General Education Requirement	8

Health & Physical Education

Item #	Title	credits
UNIV 111	Wellness for Life	2
	Kinesiology General Education Requirement	2

Religion

These specific classes are required for SDA certification only. For those seeking only state certification, it is strongly recommended that students enroll for a minimum of one course each school year. Applied religion is not to exceed 3 credits; 3 of the religion credits must be upper division. Transfer students from non-SDA schools must have 3 hours of religion credit per 30 credits taken in residence at Southwestern, with a minimum of 6 hours. Religion classes taken prior to enrollment at Southwestern will be considered for transfer, at least 3 hours must be from an SDA school, and non-SDA religion classes taken after enrolling at SWAU will not be transferred

Item #	Title	credits
RELT 101	Christian Beliefs	3
RELT 201	Bible Study Methods	3
RELH 230	History of the Seventh-day Adventist Church	3
	Religion Upper Division (see advisor)	3
Total credits:		51

Category Descriptions

ENGL 231 or ENGL 232

Credits: 3

Item #	Title	credits
ENGL 231	American Literature I	3
ENGL 232	American Literature II	3

Mathematics Education Option

Item #	Title	credits
MATH 110	College Algebra	3
MATH 180	Precalculus	4
MATH 141	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	3
MATH 181	Calculus I	4

Life and Physical Science General Education Requirement

Credits: 8

Life Science

Select one course: 4 credit hours

Item #	Title	credits
BIOL 101	Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BIOL 102	Anatomy & Physiology II	4
BIOL 103	Human Biology	4
BIOL 111	General Biology I	4
BIOL 112	General Biology II	4
BIOL 220	Microbiology and Immunology	4
BIOL 225	Field Biology	4
BIOL 345	Environment and Mankind	4

Physical Science

Select one course: 4 credit hours

Item #	Title	credits
CHEM 105	Survey of Chemistry	4
CHEM 111	General Chemistry I	4
GEOL 240	The Dinosaurs	4
PHYS 101	Introductory Physics	4
PHYS 114	Physical Science	4
PHYS 121	General Physics I	4

Kinesiology General Education Requirement

Credits: 2

Item #	Title	credits
KINA 111	Physical Fitness	1
KINA 112	Aerobics	1
KINA 115	Resistance Training	1
KINA 116	Fitness Walking	1
KINA 122	Futsal (Indoor Soccer)	1
KINA 125	Volleyball	1
KINA 131	Swimming	1
KINA 141	Badminton	1
KINA 142	Tennis	1
KINA 212	Advanced Aerobics	1
KINA 213	Pilates	1
KINA 215	Advanced Resistance Training	1
KINA 222	Soccer Team	1
KINA 224	Basketball Team	1
KINA 225	Volleyball Team	1
KINA 229	Gymnastics Team	1
KINA 231	Advanced Swimming	1
KINA 233	Water Aerobics	1
KINA 234	Lifeguard Training	1
KINA 236	Disc Golf	1
KINA 242	Advanced Tennis	1
KINA 246	Inline Hockey	1
KINA 247	Golf	1
KINA 248	Advanced Racquetball	1
KINA 255	Floorball	1
KINA 256	Advanced Floorball	1

Religion Upper Division (see advisor)

Credits: 3

Item #	Title	credits
RELB 211	Life and Teachings of Jesus	3
RELB 322	Daniel	3
RELB 323	Revelation	3
RELB 328	Survey of the Old Testament	3
RELB 335	Introduction to the New Testament	3
RELH 230	History of the Seventh-day Adventist Church	3
RELH 233	Biblical Archaeology	3
RELH 314	Origin & Development of the Bible	3
RELH 320	Ellen White Writings	3
RELH 331	History of Christianity I	3
RELH 332	History of Christianity II	3
RELT 101	Christian Beliefs	3
RELT 201	Bible Study Methods	3
RELT 212	Introduction to Christian Ethics	3
RELT 312	Christian Ethics	3
RELT 325	World Religions	3
RELT 327	Integrated Wellness Connections	3
RELT 360	Philosophy and the Christian Worldview	3
RELT 410	Biblical Conflict Resolution	3
RELT 419	Philosophy of Science	3

Education Program Information

The Education Preparation Program

The Education Preparation Program at Southwestern Adventist University provides teacher training for elementary education, content area subjects in 7th grade thru 12th grade, and K - 12 (music and physical education) certification. Students may obtain a Master of Education in Educational Leadership or Curriculum and Instruction with Literacy emphasis.

The Education program is designed to prepare students for certification with the State of Texas and the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. Preparation is accomplished through a combination of campus and field-based delivery systems.

Degrees are awarded by Southwestern Adventist University, while certification is awarded by the State of Texas and the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. A student may seek Texas certification upon completion of a state-approved teacher certification program, and the receipt of a satisfactory score on the TExES examinations. To be recommended for certification by Southwestern Adventist University, a minimum of 12 successful semester hours in residence is required.

The State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) establishes the teacher certification standards. Any change in these standards must be reflected in Southwestern Adventist University's certification requirements; therefore, any modification in the state law affecting our certification requirements takes precedence over statements in the Bulletin.

Seventh-day Adventist teacher certification may be acquired simultaneously by meeting the requirements as outlined in the North American Division Office of Education, Certification Requirements, K-12 Handbook, as revised in 2020.

Admission to the Education Preparation Program (EPP)

Admission to the University and admission to the Education Preparation Program (EPP) are separate processes. Admission to the Educator Preparation Program occurs after the successful completion of 60 credit hours and the requirements listed below. Admission to EPP is required for enrollment in upper-division education courses.

Requirements for Admission to the EPP:

1. Show evidence of an acceptable Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA) score. Required THEA scores: reading 230, math 230, and writing 220. *Exemption from THEA is an SAT minimum score (550 math & 550 verbal) OR an ACT composite of 21 with at least 19 in math and language.* Assessment (THEA) exam. THEA exam is offered multiple times during the academic year at the University testing center.
2. Complete a minimum of 60 semester hours, or enrolled in the semester that will complete 60.
3. Have a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher.
4. Have a C or higher in Applied Math, College Algebra, Freshman Composition, and Research Writing.
5. Secondary majors must have a minimum GPA of 2.75 or higher.
6. Have two letters of recommendation and a personal statement.

Application Process

Students are responsible for initiating the application to the EPP. Information and forms are available in the Office of Education. All applicants must complete the following:

1. Submit a completed application to the Education Department one semester prior to enrollment in upper-division education courses (typically at the end of the sophomore year).
2. Submit a criminal background check (\$30 fee required, completed online). Students may request a preliminary criminal history evaluation letter from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) regarding the potential ineligibility for certification due to a previous conviction, deferred adjudication, or misdemeanor offense. Previous convictions may prevent eligibility to receive a Texas certification.
3. Submit a one-page typed essay describing reasons for pursuing the teaching profession.
4. Submit contact information for two letters of recommendation (no relatives or department faculty).
5. Read and accept the Texas Code of Ethics for Educators.
6. Interview with the department faculty before full acceptance into the EPP. See Technical Standard in the Pre-Service Teacher Candidate Handbook. ***All documents must be provided to the department administrative assistant in a timely manner. All documents are required for eligibility to interview.***

Education Continuation and Progression Policies

Degree Plan

After admission, candidates will develop a degree plan with an advisor. Secondary and K-12 certification candidates will be assigned an advisor in the education department in addition to their content area advisor. Coordination between the content area advisor and education advisor is necessary throughout the program. A matrix designed for elementary and secondary is available at the front desk in the department.

Retention in the EPP

To remain in the program students must:

1. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0
2. Secondary and K-12 (music and physical education) candidates must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.75.
3. Continue to develop professional knowledge and dispositions in coursework and field experience.
4. Contribute to the program through positive and professional interactions with peers and faculty.
5. Demonstrate professional ethics as outlined in the TEA Code of Ethics.

6. Complete all education courses within a six-year timeframe.
7. Complete all TExES review components in EDUC495/496 as outlined in the matrices.
8. In order to support student success, education graduates are required to complete TEA state testing within 24 months of graduation. Graduates who fail to meet this deadline must complete an approved remediation program prior to testing approval. Remediation costs are the responsibility of the graduate.

At the end of the third year, the teacher education faculty will review each student's progress and advise each according to the findings. A student found in violation of any of the above criteria will be placed on probation for the preceding semester. Each semester thereafter, progress will be evaluated for continuance in the program.

Student Learning Outcomes for Education Preparation Program

- 1) Students demonstrate an understanding of Seventh-day Adventist beliefs, as they seek the integration of faith and learning in the classroom.
- 2) Students acquire critical content and concepts of the curriculum in their field of study and practice their teaching craft throughout the program.
- 3) Students use a variety of pedagogical approaches for instruction to assist all students in the mastery of the concepts in their field of study with the goal of creating life-long learners.
- 4) Students demonstrate skillful teaching dispositions based on current research, including the pedagogical knowledge necessary in the teaching and learning process, in their area of specialization.
- 5) Students work with others to create a positive climate that supports individual and collaborative learning that encourages positive social interaction, and active engagement in learning.
- 6) Students understand and use multiple forms of assessment to engage learners to take responsibility for their own learning and to guide the teachers and learners in the decision-making process.
- 7) Students recognize and demonstrate respect for diversity by employing effective strategies in a multicultural setting.
- 8) Students show a commitment to professional development, making connections between theory and practice in order to become reflective practitioners.
- 9) Students demonstrate a commitment to service as they participate in outreach activities organized by the department.

Clinical Teaching

Clinical teaching is a 14-week immersive teaching experience. Students are placed in a local public school, and Seventh-day Adventist schools for two seven-week placements. Candidates must apply for placement one semester prior to the start of clinical teaching. A clinical teaching orientation is provided to acquaint candidates with all roles and responsibilities of a clinical teacher. Clinical teaching requirements are outlined in the clinical teacher handbook, including attendance requirements. Consult with the student teaching coordinator for additional information.

The Texas Education Agency mandates specific requirements for clinical teaching. Substitute teaching and paraprofessional work cannot be used towards completing the clinical teaching requirement. See the eligibility requirements noted below.

Clinical teaching is completed during the final semester (except in cases of August graduation). Clinical teaching requires full-day attendance in the assigned school for a minimum of 14 consecutive weeks in accordance with the school calendar. Students may not take classes at the university during the hours they are scheduled to student teach, and they are limited to 12 credit hours during the student teaching semester. Exceptions require a written request to the department chair.

Students who do not graduate within six months of student teaching may lose credit for the course and may need to repeat student teaching. The Teacher Education Committee must review candidates who withdraw or are withdrawn from a student teaching assignment.

Application to Offer Out-of-State/U. S. Territory Field-Based Experiences, Internship, Student Teaching, Clinical Teaching

Texas Administrative Code §228.35 (d) (4)

Subject to all the requirements of this section, TEA may approve a school that is not a public school accredited by the TEA as a site for field-based experience, internship, student teaching, clinical teaching, and/or practicum. (A) All Department of Defense Education Activity (DUDE) schools, wherever located, and all schools accredited by the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission (TEPSAC) are approved by the TEA for purposes of field-based experience, internship, student teaching, clinical teaching, and/or practicum. (B) An educator preparation program may file an application with the TEA for approval subject, to periodic review, of a public school, a private school, or a school system located within any state or territory of the United States, as a site for field-based experience, or for video or other technology-based depiction of a school setting. The application shall be in a form developed by the TEA staff and shall include, at a minimum, evidence showing that the instructional standards of the school or school system align with those of the applicable Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) certification standards. An application fee is required at the time of submission. To prevent unnecessary duplication of such applications, the TEA shall maintain a list of the schools, school systems, videos, and other technology-based transmissions that have been approved by the TEA for the field-based experience. (C) An educator preparation program may file an application with the TEA for approval, subject to periodic review, of a public or private school located within any state or territory of the United States, as a site for an internship, student teaching, clinical teaching, and/or practicum required by this chapter. The application shall be in a form developed by the TEA staff and shall include at a minimum: (i) the accreditation(s) held by the school; (ii) a crosswalk comparison of the alignment of the instructional standards of the school with those of the applicable TEKS and SBEC certification standards; (iii) the certification, credentials, and training of the field supervisor(s) who will supervise candidates in the school; and (iv) the measure that will be taken by the educator preparation program to ensure that the candidate's experience will be equivalent to that of a candidate in a Texas public school accredited by the TEA. (D) An undergraduate university educator preparation program may file an application with the TEA for approval, subject to periodic review, of a public or private school located outside the United States, as a site for student teaching required by this chapter. The application shall be in a form developed by the TEA staff and shall include at a minimum, the same elements required in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph for schools located within any state or territory of the United States.

Admission to Clinical Teaching

To be eligible for clinical teaching, students must:

1. Be unconditionally admitted to the Education Preparation Program and approved for student teaching status by the Teacher Education Committee.
2. Maintain a grade of C or better in courses in the teaching field(s), or academic specialization area, with an overall grade point average of not less than 3.0.
3. Secondary Education and K-12 (music and physical education) certification candidates must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 in their major courses.
4. Complete a minimum of 30 clock hours in field experience prior to student teaching.
5. Complete all required methods courses and have senior status.
6. Complete one of the official Texas credentialing exams (PPR, Core Subjects, STR - Elementary; PPR, Content exam - Secondary and K-12 Music and PE).
7. Have a commitment to high moral and ethical standards, as defined by the Bulletin and TEA Educators' Code of Ethics.
8. Students seeking a Seventh-day Adventist certification from the North American Division Office of Education (NADOE) must complete at least one 7-week student teaching placement in an SDA school, preferably in a combination or multigrade classroom.

9. File an application for student teaching one semester prior to directed teaching. A valid graduation contract from the Registrar's Office must be in the student's file prior to student teaching placement.
10. As of September 1, 2021, all candidates must have attempted one of the TExES certification exams prior to student teaching placement.

The Education Department will review all applications to determine eligibility for clinical teaching. Admission to the EPP does not necessarily ensure acceptance into clinical teaching. Appeals to any decision must be made in writing to the Department of Education and Psychology, and if needed, to the Vice President for Academic Administration.

Dismissal from the EPP

It is never anticipated that a student will be asked to leave the education program. There are several levels of support provided for students in order to assist them through the process of teacher certification. Failure to adhere to the TEA Educators' Code of Ethics is cause for immediate removal from the program with no appeals allowed. Candidates who engage in unprofessional behavior, endanger the welfare of another person, or engage in dishonest or immoral behavior are subject to dismissal.

If a student finds it necessary to withdraw from the EPP, written notification is required. A student should speak with their assigned advisor to discuss options. If necessary, a student may be placed on a growth plan, targeting areas of deficiencies and support to address and remediate these deficiencies.

A committee will meet comprised of members familiar with the student's situation to construct a plan, including goals and a specific timeline. Failure to meet the goals in the growth plan will result in dismissal from the EPP.

Appeals:

Appeals must be submitted in writing to the Department Chair and the student's advisor. If appealing an admission or dismissal decision, the request must be provided to the department no more than 5 days after the decision is rendered.

Recommendation to the State Board for Educator Certification

To be recommended to the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) for teacher certification, a student must have successfully met the following criteria:

- All specified coursework must be completed on the degree plan or certification plan in which certification is sought.
- Candidates must apply for certification with the Texas Education Agency (fee required) and complete fingerprinting (fee required).
- Candidates seeking Texas certification must pass all appropriate state exams (limit of four retests) and apply for appropriate state certification(s) with the State Board for Educator Certification/Texas Education Agency within twelve months of the completion of their student/ clinical teaching or practicum program. If a candidate allows the twelve-month period to go by without passing all state exams and applying for certification, additional coursework and/or state exams may be required for recommendation for certification. Additional coursework will be determined by the appropriate Program Coordinator in consultation with the faculty.
- In accordance with Article 6252-13c, Texas Civil Statutes, the Texas Commissioner of Education may suspend or revoke a teaching certificate, or refuse to issue a teaching certificate, for a person who has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor for a crime that directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of the teaching profession. All applicants for Texas certificates will be screened for a record of felony or misdemeanor conviction through the Texas Department of Public Safety. Students must make an application through the SBEC website and enclose the appropriate fee required for the certificate sought. The Teacher Certification Officer will make recommendations based upon satisfactory completion of all requirements pertaining to certification.

State Certification Options in Educator Preparation Program

Elementary Certification

Core Subjects Early Childhood - 6th grade (EC - 6)

Secondary Teacher Certification, 7th grade - 12th grade

English

History

Life Science

Mathematics

Physical Science

Social Studies

All Level Teacher Certification, Kindergarten - 12th grade

Physical Education (PE)

Music

Alternative certification options are available. See Education - Alternative Certification

SDA Teaching Certification

North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists: Elementary Endorsement for Grades 1-8, Specialty Endorsement in Kindergarten, and Secondary Content Area Endorsement for Grades 7 - 12. Content areas available for Grades 7-12 are Business, English, History, Journalism, Life Science, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, and Social Studies. Students must earn a grade of C or higher for credit in all religion courses required for NAD certification.

Federal Title II Rating

Southwestern Adventist University is currently ranked in the second quartile nationally for its Title II rating. This reflects a 90% pass rate by students taking the state certification exams.

Educator Certification Examination Retake

Beginning September 1, 2015 candidates will be limited to four attempts to retake any educator certification examination. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is implementing this change to Texas Education Code §21.048 in response to HB 2205, 84th Texas Legislature, 2015. Students may request a waiver from the Texas Education Agency in order to attempt additional exam attempts beyond the maximum limit.

Education Degrees and Certificates

B.S. Elementary Education

Professional Development for Teacher Education

The following courses comprise the professional core for education. All students seeking teacher certification in elementary education, Kinder - 12th in music or physical education, and secondary education certification for content areas in 7th - 12th grades are required to complete all courses unless otherwise specified.

EDUC 254 is not required for Physical Education majors.

REL2 201 Bible Study Methods, RELH 230 History of the SDA Church, and EDUC 385 are required for a Seventh-day Adventist teaching credential, and they are not required for State of Texas teacher certification.

Item #	Title	credits
EDUC 254	Introduction to the Teaching Profession	3
EDUC 312	Educational Psychology	3
EDUC 326	Learners With Exceptionalities	3
EDUC 350	Digital Literacy Proficiency	3
EDUC 385	Philosophy of Christian Education	3
EDUC 418	Legal Foundations of Education	3
EDUC 434	Classroom Assessment	3
EDUC 436	Classroom Management	3
	EDUC 475 or EDUC 485	6
EDUC 496	TEXES Prep #2 - Pedagogy and Professionalism Responsibilities EC-12	0
PSYC 220	Human Growth & Development	3

K-12 Certification in Music or Physical Education and Secondary Education Certification also requires:

Item #	Title	credits
EDUC 322	Child and Adolescent Psychology	3
EDUC 450	Teaching Methods	3

Elementary Education Majors Early Childhood - Grade 6

Item #	Title	credits
ARTS 223	Arts/Crafts/Drama	3
EDUC 275	Multicultural Perspective	3
EDUC 310	Teaching English Language Learners	3
EDUC 364	Kindergarten Materials and Methods	3
EDUC 375	Children's Literature	3
EDUC 382	Reading and Language Arts in the Elementary School	3
EDUC 386	Mathematics in the Elementary School	3
EDUC 414	Science and Health in the Elementary School	3
EDUC 419	Social Studies in the Elementary School	3
EDUC 424	Language Arts Essential Skills in the Elementary School	3
EDUC 460	Differentiated Instruction for the Elementary Classroom	3
EDUC 495	TEXES Prep #1 - Core Subjects EC-6	0
KINT 244	Physical Education in the Elementary School	3
MUED 253	Music in the School	3
Total credits:		72

Category Descriptions

EDUC 475 or EDUC 485

Credits: 6

Item #	Title	credits
EDUC 475	Directed Teaching in Elementary School	6
EDUC 485	Directed Teaching in Secondary School	6

Content Area + Teacher Certification

Content Area Programs

B.A. History - Secondary Teaching Area

B.S. Life Science Secondary Certification

B.S. Mathematics Secondary Teaching Area

B.S. Physical Science with Chemistry Emphasis Secondary Teaching Area

B.S. Social Studies - Secondary Teaching Area

Professional Development for Teacher Education

The following courses comprise the professional core for education. All students seeking teacher certification in Kinder - 12th in music or physical education and secondary education certification for content areas in 7th - 12th grades are required to complete all courses unless otherwise specified.

EDUC 254 is not required for Physical Education majors.

RELT 201 Bible Study Methods, RELH 230 History of the SDA Church, and EDUC 385 are required for a Seventh-day Adventist teaching credential, and they are not required for State of Texas teacher certification.

Item #	Title	credits
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EDUC 326	Learners With Exceptionalities	3
EDUC 350	Digital Literacy Proficiency	3
EDUC 385	Philosophy of Christian Education	3
EDUC 418	Legal Foundations of Education	3
EDUC 434	Classroom Assessment	3
EDUC 436	Classroom Management	3
EDUC 450	Teaching Methods	3
EDUC 496	TExES Prep #2 - Pedagogy and Professionalism Responsibilities EC-12	0
PSYC 220	Human Growth & Development	3
Total credits:		33

Education Classes

EDUC 254: Introduction to the Teaching Profession

This course is designed to introduce prospective teachers to the field of education. Students will examine current and historical trends, teacher expectations, roles, and characterizations of the profession. An introduction to teaching methods, lesson planning, and student learning is included. Field experience in lower, middle, and high school classrooms is required. Students will begin the introductory steps to creating an e-portfolio to use throughout the educator preparation program.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

ENGL 121

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Spring

EDUC 275: Multicultural Perspective

A study of racial and ethnic groups in American society featuring an examination of history, cultural heritage, contributions, struggles, and hopes for the future. A strength-based analysis of diverse groups is emphasized. A primary focus is to create a deep understanding of diverse perspectives and the impact on teaching, schools, and families in the school community. Course content will guide students to be better informed and proactive in a multicultural society.

Credits: 3

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall

EDUC 298: Individual Study Topics

A study in an area of interest under the direction of a faculty member. This study may involve research, laboratory, or library work. Content and method of study must be arranged prior to registration and approved by the department chair. May be repeated for a total of 3 credits.

Credits: 1-2

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall, Spring

EDUC 299: Directed Group Study Topics

Provides academic departments an opportunity to offer courses in specialized or experimental areas, either lower or upper division, not listed in the undergraduate *Bulletin*. May be repeated for a total of 3 credits.

Credits: 1-3

Program: Education

EDUC 310: Teaching English Language Learners

This course will address theoretical and practical aspects of English language learners in the classroom. A variety of teaching strategies will be presented, along with ways to incorporate national and state standards into lesson planning and classroom activities. Socio-cultural issues of language and language acquisition will be covered. Formal and informal assessment procedures and current trends and issues will be explored.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to Education Preparation Program

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall

EDUC 312: Educational Psychology

A study of psychology as it relates to the learning processes and teaching methods. Theories of teaching, learning, and educational assessment are examined. Psychological concepts related to individual learners, group learning, and school-wide learning are explored. (Also taught as PSYC 312)

Credits: 3

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall

EDUC 322: Child and Adolescent Psychology

An overview of the physical, mental, and emotional phases of human development during childhood and adolescence. A study of the environmental and educational problems of the teenager. (Also taught as PSYC 322)

Credits: 3

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Spring

EDUC 326: Learners With Exceptionalities

A study of the 13 disability categories outlined in the Individuals with Disabilities Act of 2004. Emphasis on understanding the educational needs of students with disabilities. The study includes characteristics, causes, prevalence, and legislation regarding students with disabilities. Admission, review, and dismissal procedures for students requiring an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) or other specialized program(s) are covered. The roles and responsibilities of the classroom teacher are integrated into the study of each specific disability category. (Also taught as PSYC 326)

Credits: 3

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Spring

EDUC 350: Digital Literacy Proficiency

Explores the essential elements needed for the acquisition of knowledge and competencies to promote 21st century digital learning skills. Students will learn about the need for collaboration, communication, critical and creative thinking. Components of S.T.E.A.M., Problem-Based Learning, robotics, video/audio editing, podcasting, green screen technology, and coding will also be addressed. Meets technology requirements for the Texas Teaching Credential and the North American Division educational technology and renewal certification requirements. This course satisfies the core curriculum requirement for education majors.

Credits: 3

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Spring

EDUC 364: Kindergarten Materials and Methods

A course designed to prepare pre-service teachers for the kindergarten classroom. The study of developmentally appropriate practice in early childhood settings is central to this course. Education of the whole child is emphasized through attention to individual student needs, abilities, and interests. Areas of study include: art, dramatic play, language, literacy, math, music, movement, science, sensory centers, and social studies. Field experience is required for successful completion of the course.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to education preparation program

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall

EDUC 375: Children's Literature

A course designed to introduce the pre-service teacher to the many benefits of children's literature. A wide range of genres, authors, illustrators, and titles will be emphasized. Students will identify quality literature, award categories, and make informed book selections for the classroom. The use of children's literature for study and enjoyment will be emphasized. Connections to authentic reading experiences are provided throughout the semester.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to education preparation program

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall

EDUC 382: Reading and Language Arts in the Elementary School

A course designed to acquaint the pre-service teachers with the strategies to help all children to become effective readers through systematic, multimethod, multilevel instruction. The focus will be on the essential components of literacy acquisition, assessment, comprehension, phonics, vocabulary, strategic reading processes, and program implementation. Includes field experience. This course includes six hours of dyslexia education as required by the Texas Administrative Code (TAC). TAC Rule 228.35 (4)

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to education preparation program

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall

EDUC 385: Philosophy of Christian Education

This course is designed to prepare students to cultivate a holistic approach to a personal philosophy of Christian education. It will examine the basic schools of thought and their correlation with Biblical principles, explore different schools of philosophy and define educational aims and methods, curriculum, and the role of the teacher. A personal philosophy of Christian education will be developed to reflect the role of Seventh-day Adventist Christian Education, and its ministry to the Christian faith community, as well as to the world.

Required for students seeking a Seventh-day Adventist teaching credential.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Prerequisites: Admission to the educator preparation program.

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall

EDUC 386: Mathematics in the Elementary School

A course designed to acquaint the pre-service teacher with concepts, methods, and available materials for effective mathematics instruction in the elementary school. Creative development of materials and lesson plans are emphasized. (This course does not satisfy core curriculum mathematics requirements.) Includes field experience.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to education preparation program

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall

EDUC 414: Science and Health in the Elementary School

Pre-service candidates study how to design, implement, and evaluate standards-based science lessons including integrating content from the Texas TEKS for science and health into the science curriculum in meaningful ways. SDA ByDesign science curriculum will be addressed in the areas of healthy lifestyle choices and disease prevention. Students will have opportunities to develop teaching lessons and instruct local area elementary students in a laboratory setting. (This course does not apply to General Education science requirements.) Includes field experience.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to Education Preparation Program

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Spring

EDUC 418: Legal Foundations of Education

A study of the legal aspects of education, with emphasis on the responsibilities, duties, and existing constitutional statutory rights of agencies and individuals. Topics related to students with special needs and those from diverse populations will be covered.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to education preparation program

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall

EDUC 419: Social Studies in the Elementary School

An overview of the multicultural elementary school social studies program which incorporates proven teaching strategies such as models of teaching, cooperative learning, learning styles, and dimensions of learning. Students will have opportunity to develop thematic lesson plans in an active-learning environment. (This course does not apply to social studies requirements.) Includes field experience.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to education preparation program

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Spring

EDUC 424: Language Arts Essential Skills in the Elementary School

Designed to acquaint the pre-service teacher to implement a robust language arts program for the elementary classroom. Topics include all aspects of writing instruction including idea development, revision, mechanics, spelling, and publication. A writing workshop format will be used to engage students in developing writing lessons, writing assessment, and writing connections across the curriculum that align with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills as well as SDA Language Arts Standards. Field experience is required.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to education preparation program and successful completion of EDUC 382.

Program: Education
Semester Offered: Spring

EDUC 434: Classroom Assessment

This class prepares pre-service teacher to have a better understanding of classroom learning and assessment. Attention will be given to test construction and evaluation of test results.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to education preparation program and senior class status

Program: Education
Semester Offered: Spring

EDUC 435: Classroom Management for the Secondary School

The purpose of this course is to help pre-service teachers develop systematic strategies and techniques for organizing and managing classroom activities and students. Research and practitioner-based models for classroom management will be reviewed and explored. Emphasis will be based on real-world solutions that prepare pre-service teachers to be effective managers of their classrooms so that student learning is maximized.

Credits: 2

Prerequisites:

Admission to education preparation program and senior class status

Program: Education
Semester Offered: Spring

EDUC 436: Classroom Management

The purpose of this course is to help pre-service teachers develop systematic strategies and techniques for organizing and managing classroom activities and students. Research and practitioner-based models for classroom management will be reviewed and explored. Emphasis will be based on real-world solutions that prepare pre-service teachers to be effective managers of their classrooms so that student learning is maximized.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to teacher education preparation program and senior class status

Program: Education
Semester Offered: Spring

EDUC 450: Teaching Methods

A study of the teacher's role, teaching techniques, classroom management, and evaluation of learning experiences in schools as these affect all students, including those with special needs. This course also addresses reading in the content area. Includes field experience. Included in this course are content area reading strategies for secondary students and 6 hours of Dyslexia training as required by Texas Administrative Code (TAC). (TAC RULE §228.35 (4))

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to student teaching

Program: Education
Semester Offered: Fall

EDUC 460: Differentiated Instruction for the Elementary Classroom

This course focuses on preparing pre-service teachers for the inclusive classroom setting. Emphasis is placed on understanding how to meet the needs of the many different learners in classrooms and schools. It provides opportunities to examine the characteristics of a differentiated classroom; how to frame instruction around concepts; and some techniques for differentiating content, process, and product. Special emphasis is given to collaboration, inclusion, exceptionality (including gifted and talented), multi-grade classrooms, individual education, transition plans, effective assessment, and instructional procedures and student diversity.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites:

Admission to the Education Preparation Program.

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Spring

EDUC 475: Directed Teaching in Elementary School

This course is a 14-week clinical teaching experience. Students are required to engage in full-day teaching in an approved elementary classroom. Clinical teachers work under the guidance of a mentor teacher and a university supervisor. Available to seniors only in their final semester. Placement requires the approval of the education faculty. Pass/no pass course.

Credits: 6

Prerequisites:

The completion of all teaching methods courses is required prior to clinical teaching. Enroll in the final semester prior to graduation. Admission requires approval by department faculty.

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall, Spring

EDUC 485: Directed Teaching in Secondary School

This course is a 14-week student teaching experience. Students are required to engage in full-day teaching in an approved classroom (grades 7-12). Student teachers work under the guidance of a mentor teacher and a university supervisor. Available to seniors only in their final semester. Placement requires approval of education faculty. Pass/no pass course.

Credits: 6

Prerequisites:

Two-thirds of the professional education classes, academic specialization(s) and academic foundations, senior standing, and admission to student teaching.

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall, Spring

EDUC 495: TExES Prep #1 - Core Subjects EC-6

This course assists students in understanding the state and federal standards for their chosen certification areas. Students complete intensive reviews for Core Content EC-6 certification exams. Students must attend review classes and successfully complete Core Content EC-6 practice exams with 80% or higher as a prerequisite for permission to register with Pearson to take the state exam.

Credits: 0

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Spring

EDUC 496: TExES Prep #2 - Pedagogy and Professionalism Responsibilities EC-12

This course assists students in understanding the state and federal standards for their chosen certification areas. Students complete intensive reviews for their Pedagogy and Professionalism (PPR) certification exams. They must attend review classes and successfully complete PPR EC-12 practice exams with 80% or higher as a prerequisite for permission to register with Pearson to take the state exam.

Credits: 0

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall

EDUC 498: Individual Study Topics

A study in an area of interest under the direction of a staff member. This study may involve research, laboratory, or library work. Content and method of study must be arranged prior to registration. May be repeated for a total of 3 credits.

Credits: 1-2

Prerequisites:

Admission to education preparation program, and approval of department chair

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall, Spring

EDUC 499: Directed Group Study

A study in an area of student interest under the direction of a staff member. This study may involve research, laboratory, or library work. Content and method of study must be arranged prior to registration. May be repeated for a total of 3 credits.

Credits: 2-3

Prerequisites:

Admission to Education Preparation Program, and approval of department chair

Program: Education

Semester Offered: Fall, Spring