

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

School of Education & Graduate Studies
1.800.532.8641 Extension 7196

MAJOR

As a successful participant of the Valley City State University Elementary Education program you will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and an initial North Dakota teaching license in elementary education, grades 1-6 self-contained classrooms. During coursework and field experiences, you will master basic skills of teaching and demonstrate professional character necessary for teaching. The curriculum in elementary education is committed to learner-centered education and preparation of exemplary teachers. VCSU is **dedicated** to preparing knowledge based decision makers and highly qualified teachers who possess the ability to:

- use technology
- communicate
- solve problems
- collaborate
- demonstrate competency as citizens in a global society

STUDENT TEACHING

Elementary education majors learn content and teaching methods in a technologically enhanced environment to become effective educators for the children of their future classrooms. Education faculty members have experience in leading their own classrooms and are committed to helping VCSU students realize the demands and expectations of becoming a successful educator. Elementary education majors at VCSU are placed into schools for an introductory observation field experience, a diversity practicum, an 80-hour practicum, and a twelve-week student teaching experience completed in a location that works well for the student and university. Student teaching is the culminating experience of the program and the opportunity for students to apply all they have learned regarding their classroom preparation and field experience opportunities.

ORGANIZATIONS

- SNDEA

ACCREDITATIONS

- National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education
- International Technology Education Association

WHY SHOULD YOU MAJOR IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AT VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY?

The VCSU Elementary Education experiences provides . . .

- Technology skills beneficial in elementary schools (webpage development, WebQuests, digital video editing, PowerPoint, presentation software, software in a classroom, Smartboards, etc)
- Development of projects for use in an elementary school (games, books, units, bulletin boards, art projects, etc)
- Student involvement in Student North Dakota Education Association (SNDEA) and attendance at professional conferences (SNDEA, Reading Association, etc)
- Process for admission to Teacher Education which begins in Introduction to Education, sophomore year
- Minimum of 150 hrs in elementary classrooms prior to student teaching, the first experience occurs during the first course, Introduction to Education, sophomore year
- Preparation for successful completion of pre-professional tests (PRAXIS I during Intro to Education and PRAXIS II prior to graduation)
- Opportunity for coursework that complements Elementary Education: early childhood/kindergarten, reading, teaching English language learners (ELL) and middle school
- Recognized for exemplary practice from NCATE (national teacher accrediting agency) since 1954. VCSU graduates are recognized as great teachers

TECHNOLOGY

- Notebook computers with DVD burners and multimedia capabilities
- Digital cameras, video cameras, and other peripherals
- Blackboard online learning environments



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General Education

COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION

ENGL 110 College Composition I	3	9 Crs
ENGL 120 College Composition II -or- ENGL 125 Intro to Professional Writing	3	
COMM 110 Fund of Public Speaking - or - COMM 212 Interpersonal Communication	3	
COMM 216 Intercultural Communication		

TECHNOLOGY

CIS 170 Intro to Computer Info Systems	2	2 Crs
CSCI 127 Intro to Programming in Java	3	
CSCI 160 Intro to Structured Program I	3	

AESTHETIC ENGAGEMENT

Literacies- (select one course)	3 Crs
COMM 112 Understand Media	3
HUM 201 Civil, Thought, & Lit Heritage - or - ENGL 220, ENGL 225 Intro Film, 241, 242, 261, 262, 321, 322, SPAN 201, 202; THEA 110, 161	

Art & Music-(select one course)

ART 110 Introduction to Visual Arts	3	3 Crs
HUM 202 Fine Arts & Aesthetics - or - HUM 204 Music & Art for Elem Teachers		
MUS 100 Music Appreciation		

PROBLEM SOLVING

Mathematics	3 Crs
MATH 103 College Algebra	3
Science	8 Crs
Biology*	4
Geology*	4
Chemistry* -or- Physics*	4

*One course each in Biology, Earth Science, and Chemistry or Physical Science required

GLOBAL AWARENESS & EFFECTIVE CITIZENSHIP

HIST 103 US to 1877* - or - HIST 104 US to Present*	3	6 Crs
PSYC 111 Introduction to Psychology *	3	

WELLNESS

HPER 100 Concepts of Fitness & Wellness	2	2 Crs
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*Required

REQUIRED COURSES

EDUC 210 Creative Activities	2	22 Crs
EDUC 315 Mathematics in the Elem Sch	2	
EDUC 320 Social Studies in the Elem Sch	3	
EDUC 322 Methods of Language Arts Instruction	3	
EDUC 323 Methods of Reading in the Elem School	2	
EDUC 350 Elem School Practicum	2	
EDUC 355 Science Methods for the Elem Tchr	3	
GEOG 111 Survey of Geography	2	
MATH 277 Math for Elementary Teachers I	3	

DIRECTED ELECTIVES

ART 230 or EDUC 230 Craft Activities	2	6-8 Crs
EDUC 305 Phil & Curr of Middle Educ	3	
EDUC 313 Language and Literacy in ECC	2	
EDUC 340 Learning Disabilities	2	
EDUC 345 Emotionally Disturbed Child	2	
EDUC 375 Tchng Rdng in Content Area	2	
EDUC 430 Diagnosis & Correction Rdg Diff	3	
EDUC 435 Kindergarten Educ & Curriculum	4	
EDUC 470 Mthds of Tchng in Mid School	3	
ENGL 390 Methods of Teaching ESL	2	
HPER 210 First Aid & CPR	2	
TECH 306 Invent & Innov-Tech Ed for Child	2	
THEA 229 Fund of Creative Dramatics	3	
HUM 204 Music & Art for Elem Tchrs	3	

^ Can be counted as an elective if not used as a general education requirement

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION SEQUENCE

EDUC 240 Educating Exceptional Students	2	36-37 Crs
EDUC 250 Introduction to Education	3	
EDUC 283 Understanding Cultural Diversity	3	
EDUC 300 Educational Technology	2	
EDUC 321 Foundations of Reading Instruct	3	
EDUC 330 Children's Literature	3	
EDUC 352 Culturally Diverse Practicum -or- ENGL 464 Practicum in the ESL Classroom	1	
EDUC 400 Educational Psychology	2	
EDUC 450 Current Issues & Trends in Educ	2	
EDUC 490 Student Teaching (Elementary)	10	
MATH 278 Math for Elementary Teachers II	2	
PSYC 250 Developmental Psychology	3	

**Courses to be taken the same semester

Total General Education	36 Crs
Total Major Requirement	64-67 Crs
Total Credits Needed to Graduate	120 Crs

NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD