



**VALLEY CITY**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

# SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

ONLINE PROGRAM

# CONTACT INFO

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## BENEFITS OF THE ONLINE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAM

### Work Experience

Work in an educational setting as a paraprofessional or substitute teacher while taking courses

### Smaller Classes

Makes it easier for students to connect with each other and the instructor

### Networking Opportunities

Connect with other students in the field earning an endorsement or teaching

### Course Offerings

Large variety of online courses

### Lower overall costs

Online programs may be a more affordable option than traditional colleges. For example, there are no commuting costs, and sometimes required course materials, such as textbooks, are available online at no cost

### More comfortable learning environment

Students listen to lectures and complete assignments sent to them electronically, with no need to fight traffic, leave work early for class, or miss important family time.

### Convenience and flexibility

Online courses allow students to schedule study time around the rest of their day, instead of the other way around. Students can study and work at their convenience. Also helps students balance work and family commitments with their education

### Career advancement or continue current employment

Students can take online courses and even complete entire degrees while working, while in-between jobs, or while taking time to raise a family

### Avoid commuting

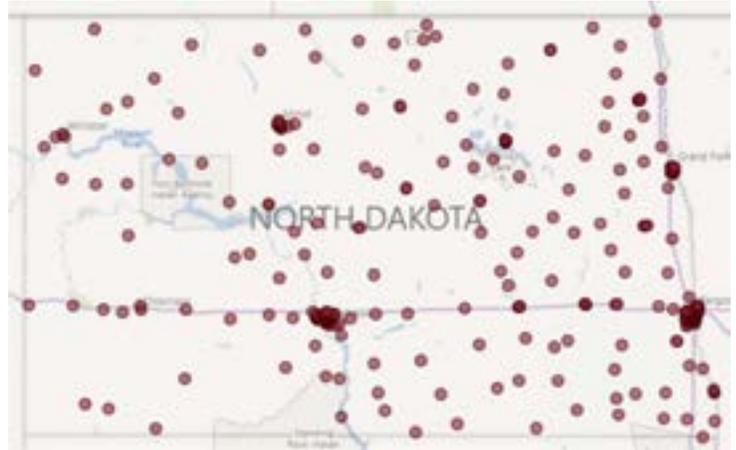
During snowstorms and thunderstorms, colleges may cancel classes to avoid putting commuting students at risk of dangerous driving conditions. Rather than miss important class sessions, students in online courses can always "attend" by participating in discussion boards or chat sessions, turning in their work on time, and watching lectures or reading materials. Many students also find substantial savings on gas costs with no commute for classes

*Source: Modified from a list provided on <https://oedb.org/illibarian/10-advantages-to-taking-online-classes/>*

# ONE OF THE PREMIERE EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN THE UNITED STATES

DELIVERING DISTINCTIVE,  
LEARNER-CENTERED  
EXPERIENCES SINCE 1890

Founded more than 125 years ago, VCSU is widely respected as having one of the finest teacher education programs in the region. Students have the opportunity to become qualified for nearly any area of K-12 education from the elementary classroom to rapidly growing areas of specialization like ELL and STEM Education. Our accredited Education Program strives to prepare teacher candidates for authentic classroom teaching by exposing them to real-world teaching experiences. Job placement after graduation is a priority at VCSU.



## EDUCATION PROGRAM MAJORS

### Elementary Education

- Minor or endorsement options in Early Childhood, ELL, Kindergarten, Middle School, Reading, Special Education and STEM

### Secondary Education

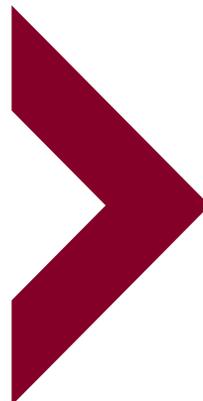
- Art, Biology, Business, Chemistry, English, Health, History, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Spanish, Social Science and Technology

# 1,526

VCSU ALUMNI SERVE AS  
TEACHERS AND SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATORS IN 349  
SCHOOLS/EDUCATION  
UNITS IN 154 NORTH  
DAKOTA COMMUNITIES

## SCAN THE QR CODE

- FOR MORE INFORMATION
- LEARN HOW TO APPLY
- VIEW ADVISING TEMPLATES



# NATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED EXCELLENCE

Ranked the Best College for Education in North Dakota by Niche.com

Valley City State University is ranked second among Midwest public regional colleges in the 2025 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges rankings. VCSU has been named a U.S. News “Best College” for 28 consecutive years.



## STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

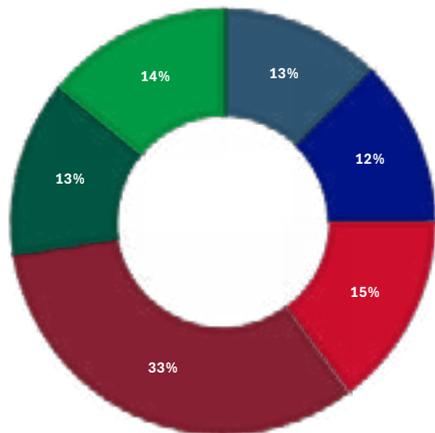


VCSU has consistently grown in the number of successful graduates in education during the past 20 years.

### 2023-2024 NORTH DAKOTA EDUCATION COMPLETIONS

Percentage of undergraduate certificates, associate degrees and bachelor's degrees awarded by institutions in the 2023-2024 academic year.

*Data compiled using North Dakota University System reporting.*



- Dickinson State University
- Mayville State University
- Minot State University
- Valley City State University
- North Dakota State University
- University of North Dakota

## PROGRAM SATISFACTION

FALL 2024 TO SPRING 2025 EXIT SURVEY RESULTS

# 100%

OF VCSU STUDENT TEACHERS SAID THEY WOULD RECOMMEND THEIR TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM TO FUTURE TEACHERS

# A DEGREE THAT CAN TAKE YOU PLACES

# MINORS, CERTIFICATES AND ENDORSEMENTS

## STEM Education- Elementary Certificate of Completion

### Required Courses

STEM ED 160 - Integrated Physical Science for Elementary Teachers (4)  
STEM ED 306 - Invent/Innov-Tech Ed for Children (3)  
STEM ED 310 - Design/Tech/Eng for Elementary (3)  
STEM ED 342 - Building Math (3)  
STEM ED 355 - STEM Curriculum & Methods for Elementary (3)

## STEM Education - Secondary Certificate of Completion

### Required Courses

STEM ED 411 - STEM Curriculum and Methods (3)

### Elective 9 hours

STEM ED 342 - Building Math (3)  
STEM ED 331 - Innovation/Engineering Design (3)  
STEM ED 431 - Design for Engineering (3)  
STEM ED 450 - Engineering the Future (3)

## Strategist Special Education Endorsement

EDUC 240 - Educating Exceptional Students (3)  
EDUC 250 - Introduction to Education (3)  
EDUC 300 - Educational Technology (2)  
EDUC 323 - Methods of Reading (3)  
EDUC 430 - Diagnosis & Correction of Reading (3)  
SPED 310 - Behavior Modification (3)  
SPED 333 - Assessment of Students with Disabilities (3)  
SPED 340 - Learning Disabilities, Emotional Disorders, Intellectual Disabilities (3)  
SPED 380 - Consultation & Collaboration; Transition & Inclusive Settings (3)  
SPED 382 - Methods & Materials of SLD (2)  
SPED 383 - Methods & Materials of ED (2)  
SPED 384 - Methods & Materials of ID (2)  
SPED 486 - Student Teaching - 6 weeks (5)

## Reading Certificate of Completion

EDUC 375 - Teaching Reading in the Content Area (2)  
EDUC 430 - Diagnosis and Correction of Reading Difficulties (3)  
EDUC 431 - Practicum in Corrective Reading (Elementary) (2)

## ND Kindergarten Endorsement

### Required Courses

EDUC 310 - Intro to Early Childhood Education (3)  
EDUC 313 - Lang & Literacy in Early Childhood Education (2)  
EDUC 337 - Pre-K Observation and Assessment (3)  
EDUC 435 - Kindergarten Education and Curriculum - (4)  
EDUC 485 - Student Teaching -or- One Yr K-1 Experience - (5)

## English Language Learners Endorsement

### Required Courses

EDUC 283 - Cultural Diversity in Education (3)  
EDUC 361 - Foundations of Bilingual and Multicultural Education (2)  
EDUC 363 - Assessing ELL Proficiency (2)  
EDUC 390 - Methods of Teaching ELL (2)  
EDUC 464 - Practicum in the ELL Classroom (2)

ENGL 309 - Linguistic and Language Acquisition (3)

ENGL 409 - Language and Culture (3)

## Library Media and Information Science Minor

### Required Courses

LMIS 250 - Introduction to Libraries and Information Science (3)  
LMIS 360 - Collection Development (3)  
LMIS 365 - The Organization of Information (3)  
LMIS 370 - Reference Sources and Services (3)  
LMIS 430 - Administration of the School Library Media Center (3)  
LMIS 445 - Standards for Effective Libraries (3)  
LMIS 470 - Current Issues in Librarianship (3)

### Electives

EDUC 330 - Children's Literature (3)  
or ENGL 350 - Young Adult Reading and Literature

ND Library Media and Credential Information Completion of the five basic courses (LMIS 250, LMIS 360, LMIS 365, LMIS 370, and LMIS 430) in the Library Minor and Teacher Certification qualifies students as Library Media Specialists at LMO3 level in ND. Completion of the Library Minor (24 hours) as as described in the catalog and ND Teacher Certification qualifies students as Library Media Specialist in ND at the LMO2 level. Total Credits - 24

## Middle Level Certificate of Completion

EDUC 305 Philosophy and Curriculum of Middle Level Education (3)  
EDUC 375 Teaching Reading in the Content Area (2)  
EDUC 470 Methods of Teaching in the Middle School (3)  
PSYC 250 - Developmental Psychology (3)

## Music Education Minor Required Courses

MUS 109 - Music Theory I (3)  
MUS 110 - Music Theory II (3)  
MUS 111 - Class Piano I (1)  
MUS 112 - Class Piano II (1)  
MUS 121 - Aural Skills I (1)  
MUS 122 - Aural Skills II (1)  
MUS 131 - Concert Choir (1)  
MUS 144 - Percussion Ensemble (1)  
MUS 152 - Voice Class (1)  
MUS 205 - Basic Conducting (2)  
MUS 326 - Guitar Methods (1)  
MUS 390 - Music in the Elementary School (3)

### Electives

(Any MUS credits)(3)

The Music Education Minor is designed to help Elementary Education majors hone their skills in music and prepare them to use music in their classrooms. It includes instruction in basic music theory and aural skills, voice, guitar, piano, and elementary music methods. Elementary Education students who complete this minor are eligible for a K-8 Music endorsement on their North Dakota Teaching License.

# TEACHER EDUCATION ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

## Teacher Education Program Requirements

- Cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher
- Comp I (ENGL 110 or ENGL 210) with C or higher
- COMP II (ENGL 120 or ENGL 125) with C or higher
- EDUC 249/250 with C or higher- These courses walk you through the admittance process
- Meet the Basic Skills Requirements
- Speech Screening Test
- Positive recommendations from two School of Education and/or content area instructors
- Positive recommendation from advisor



## BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS

Teacher candidates must provide evidence of basic skills in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Teacher candidates can demonstrate basic skills by meeting the following criteria in each basic skills area.

PRAXIS Recipient	Reading	Writing	Mathematics
Earning a letter grade of A or B in one of the following courses <b>or</b>	ENGL 231, ENGL 236, ENGL 241, ENGL 242 ENGL 261, ENGL 262 HUM 201	Comp I (ENGL 110) Comp II (ENGL 120/ENGL 125) Comp III (ENGL 210)	MATH 103, MATH 104 MATH 107, MATH 110 MATH 210, EDUC 277, EDUC 278
Praxis I: CORE <b>or</b>	(5713) Score of 156+	(5723) Score of 160+	(5733) Score of 150+
ACT <b>or</b>	Reading Score of 20+	ELA Score of 20+ or Writing Score of 6.5+	Math Score of 21+
SAT	Score of 540+	Score of 5+	Score of 530+

## PRAXIS I: CORE TEST REQUIREMENTS

PRAXIS I CORE tests	Test	Qualifying Score	Minimum Score	Recipient Code
CORE: Reading	5713	156	149	Valley City State University <i>*Scores must be sent to VCSU</i> 6480
CORE: Writing	5723	160	153	
CORE: Mathematics	5733	150	143	North Dakota Education Standards & Practices Board (ND ESPB) 7848
Composite Score	5752	466	466	

ACT Test Requirements: The ACT exam may serve as an alternative to the Praxis Core if a candidate's ACT scores meet or exceed the following requirements – ACT Composite score of 22, ELA score of 21, and Math score of 21.

# ELEMENTARY EDUCATION COURSE ROTATION

## FALL SEMESTER

### Elementary Education Required Courses

EDUC 278 - Math for Elem Teach II  
EDUC 320 - Social Studies Methods  
EDUC 321 - Foundations of Reading  
EDUC 323 - Methods of Reading  
EDUC 350 - Practicum  
EDUC 351 - Sec. Prac. & Class Mgmt  
EDUC 355 - Science Methods  
EDUC 430 - Diagnosis of Reading  
EDUC 491 - Portfolio

### Professional Education Sequence

EDUC 240 - Educating Exceptional  
EDUC 249 - Intro to VCSU  
EDUC 250 - Introduction to Education  
EDUC 283 - Cultural Diversity  
EDUC 300 - Education Technology  
EDUC 352 - Cultural Diversity Pract.  
EDUC 400 - Educational Psychology  
EDUC 450 - Trends in Assessment  
EDUC 475 - Student Teaching- Secondary  
EDUC 480 - Student Teaching- Secondary  
EDUC 490 - Student Teaching- Elementary  
PSYC 250 - Developmental Psychology

## SPRING SEMESTER

### Elementary Education Required Courses

EDUC 210 - Creative Activities  
EDUC 277 - Math for Elem Teachers I  
EDUC 315 - Math in Elementary School  
EDUC 320 - Social Studies Methods  
EDUC 321 - Foundations of Reading  
EDUC 322 - Methods of Language Arts  
EDUC 330 - Children's Literature  
EDUC 350 - Practicum  
EDUC 351 - Sec. Prac. & Class Mgmt  
EDUC 355 - Science Methods  
EDUC 430 - Diagnosis of Reading  
EDUC 491 - Portfolio

### Professional Education Sequence

EDUC 240 - Educating Exceptional  
EDUC 249 - Intro to VCSU  
EDUC 250 - Introduction to Education  
EDUC 283 - Cultural Diversity  
EDUC 300 - Educational Technology  
EDUC 352 - Cultural Diversity Pract.  
EDUC 400 - Educational Psychology  
EDUC 450 - Trends in Assessment  
EDUC 475 - Student Teaching- Secondary  
EDUC 480 - Student Teaching- Secondary  
EDUC 490 - Student Teaching- Elementary  
PSYC 250 - Developmental Psychology

## SUMMER SEMESTER

### Elementary Education Required Courses

EDUC 210 - Creative Activities  
EDUC 277 - Math for Elem Teachers I  
EDUC 278 - Math for Elem Teach II  
EDUC 315 - Math Methods  
EDUC 322 - Methods of Lang. Arts  
EDUC 323 - Methods of Reading  
EDUC 430 - Diagnosis of Reading

### Professional Education Sequence

EDUC 240 - Educating Exceptional  
EDUC 249 - Intro to VCSU  
EDUC 283 - Cultural Diversity  
EDUC 400 - Educ Psychology  
EDUC 450 - Trends in Assessment  
PSYC 250 - Developmental Psychology



# CERTIFICATE & ENDORSEMENT ROTATION

\*\* Endorsement coursework is available online and should be planned with a VCSU education advisor before starting the online elementary education program. Endorsement coursework is not required and may require additional semesters.

	FALL	SPRING	SUMMER
<b>➤ KINDERGARTEN</b>	<p>EDUC 310 (3) Intro to Early Childhood</p> <p>EDUC 337 (3) Pre-Kindergarten Observation (80-hour practicum)</p> <p>EDUC 485 (5) Kindergarten Student Teaching (6 Weeks)</p>	<p>EDUC 313 (2) Language and Literacy</p> <p>EDUC 337 (3) Pre-Kindergarten Observation (80-hour practicum)</p> <p>EDUC 435 (4) Kindergarten Education and Curriculum</p> <p>EDUC 485 (5) Kindergarten Student Teaching (6 Weeks)</p>	<p>EDUC 310 (3) Intro to Early Childhood</p> <p>EDUC 313 (2) Language and Literacy</p> <p>EDUC 337 (3) Pre-Kindergarten Observation (80-hour practicum)</p> <p>EDUC 435 (4) Kindergarten Education and Curriculum</p>
<b>➤ ENGLISH LEARNERS</b>	<p>EDUC 363 (2) Assessing ELL Proficiency</p> <p>EDUC 464 (2) Practicum in ELL</p> <p>ENGL 409 (3) Language and Culture</p>	<p>EDUC 390 (2) Methods of Teaching ELL</p> <p>EDUC 464 (2) Practicum in ELL</p>	<p>EDUC 361 (2) Foundations of Bilingual</p> <p>ENGL 309 (3) Linguistics &amp; Lang. Acquisitions</p>
<b>➤ READING CERTIFICATE</b>	<p>EDUC 375 (2) Teaching Reading Elem</p> <p>EDUC 430 (3) Diagnosis of Reading Difficulties</p> <p>EDUC 431 (2) Reading Practicum</p>	<p>EDUC 375 (2) Teaching Reading Elem</p> <p>EDUC 430 (3) Diagnosis of Reading Difficulties</p> <p>EDUC - 431 (2) Reading Practicum</p>	<p>EDUC 375 (2) Teaching Reading Elem</p> <p>EDUC 430 (3) Diagnosis of Reading Difficulties</p> <p>EDUC-431 (2) Reading Practicum</p>
<b>➤ MIDDLE SCHOOL CERTIFICATE</b>	<p>EDUC 375 (2) Teaching Reading Elem</p>	<p>EDUC 375 (2) Teaching Reading Elem</p>	<p>EDUC 375 (2) Teaching Reading Elem</p> <p>EDUC 305 (3) Philosophy &amp; Curriculum Middle School</p> <p>EDUC 470 (3) Methods of Teaching in Middle School</p>
<b>➤ SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>	<p>SPED 340 (3) Learning, Emotional &amp; Intellectual Disabilities</p> <p>SPED 380 (3) Collab, Consult, Trans &amp; Inclusion</p> <p>SPED 382 (2) Methods and Mat. SLD</p> <p>SPED 383 (2) Methods and Mat. ED</p> <p>SPED 486 - (5) Student Teaching Experience in SLD, ED, and ID (6 weeks)</p> <p>EDUC 430 (3) Diagnosis of Reading Difficulties</p>	<p>SPED 310 (3) Behavior Modification</p> <p>SPED 333 (3) Assessment of Children with Disabilities</p> <p>SPED 340 (3) Learning, Emotional &amp; Intellectual Disabilities</p> <p>SPED 383 (2) Methods and Mat. ED</p> <p>SPED 384 (2) Methods and Mat. ID</p> <p>SPED 486 - (5) Student Teaching Experience in SLD, ED, and ID (6 weeks)</p> <p>EDUC 430 (3) Diagnosis of Reading Difficulties</p>	<p>SPED 340 (3) Learning, Emotional &amp; Intellectual Disabilities</p> <p>SPED 380 (3) Collab, Consult, Trans &amp; Inclusion</p> <p>EDUC 430 (3) Diagnosis of Reading Difficulties</p>
<b>➤ STEM EDUCATION CERTIFICATE</b>	<p>STEM ED 160 (4) Integrated Physical Science for Elementary Teachers</p> <p>STEM ED 306 (3) Inventions and Innovations - Technology Education for Children</p>	<p>STEM ED 160 (4) Integrated Physical Science for Elementary Teachers</p> <p>STEM ED 310 (3) Design, Tech and Engineering for Children</p> <p>STEM ED 355 (3) Curriculum and Methods for Elementary</p>	<p>STEM ED 160 (4) Integrated Physical Science for Elementary Teachers</p> <p>STEM ED 342 (3) Building Math</p>