COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES (CLAS) ACADEMIC ADVISING CENTER 2025-2026
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INNOVATION OFFICE OF CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION

ELEMENTARY TEACHER CERTIFICATION FOR GRADES 3—6 AND K-12 SPECIAL EDUCATION

(PEDAGOGICAL CONTENT KNOWLEDGE FOR ELEMENTARY TEACHING MAJOR WITH REQUIRED SECOND MAJOR IN SPECIAL EDUCATION) BACHELOR OF SCIENCE OR BACHELOR OF ARTS

THIS IS A **GENERAL** CURRICULUM GUIDE AND IS NOT APPLICABLE TO EVERY STUDENT. IT IS IMPORTANT TO MEET WITH YOUR ADVISORS.

	Year	· One	
*MTH 126 Math for Elementary Teachers OR	2	*STA 126 Statistics for Elementary Teachers OR	2
STA 126 Statistics for Elementary Teachers		MTH 126 Math for Elementary Teachers	-
CAN DO BOTH MTH AND STA CONCURRENTLY		CAN DO BOTH MTH AND STA CONCURRENTLY	
Foundation- Writing (WRT 130 or 150)		1*WRT 130 (if WRT 120 taken in Fall) OR	3
PSY 101 Introductory Psychology	3	² PSY 301 Child Development	
EDF 115 Intro to Education: An Exploration of Schooling		MUS 128 Strum and Drum for Everyone OR	3
,	3	ART 231 Integrating Visual Arts Across Disciplines	
in America		*ENG 201 Foundations of Literacy Instruction	3
4HST 209 History and Social Studies for Elem Teachers	3	SCI 225 Integrated Life Science for PK – 3 Teachers	4
Total	14/15	Total	15
	Year	Two	
*ENG 301 Reading and Writing in the Elementary	3	PSY 310 Behavior Modification	3
Classroom		*EDR 320 Language & Literacy: Development, Assessment	3
EDF 315 Diverse Perspectives on Education	3	<u>& Instruction</u>	
HPE 267 Health/Movement Ed for Elementary Teachers	3	*MTH 226 Mathematics for PK – 6: Whole Numbers	3
PSY304 The Psychology & Education of the Exceptional Child	3	and Operations	
General Education – Philosophy and Literature - Suggest	3	SST 309 Teaching Elementary Social Studies: Grades 3 – 6	3
EDF 215 Introduction to Philosophies of Early Childhood		SCI 226 Integrated Physical Science for PK – 3 Teachers	3
Total	15	Total	15
Spring/Summer		EDS 205 Special Education Policies, Procedures, and	3
		Professional Practice	
,	Year Th	ree Will find out order of Internships during Apprenticeship Semo	ester
PSY 325 Educational Psychology	3	Special Education Apprenticeship	3
*MTH 326 Math for PK – 6: Fractions, Decimals	3	³ EDS 305 Special Education Research, Assessment, & Data-	
and Proportional Reasoning		based Decision Making	3
*ENG 355 Teaching English Learners PK – 6	3	EDS 306 Instructional Methods and Inclusive Practices for	
SCI227IntegratedLifeandEarthSciencefor3-6Teachers	3	Students with Disabilities	6
SST 311 Data Literacy for Social Studies Teachers	3	⁴ EDS332 Methods & Strategies of Special Education	
Apply for Apprenticeship		Teaching	
The state of		EDS 406 Positive Behavioral Interventions and	3
		Supports in Special Education	
Total	15	Total	15
Spring/Summer		PSY 540 Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorder	3
		(Required for ASD endorsement ONLY)	
		Four	
³EDS 405 Teaching Language/Reading to Students with Dis	3	⁴ EDI 430 Elementary Internship PK – 6	10
ENG 401 Languages, Literacies and Cultures	3	EDF 495 Capstone: Reflective Inquiry and Practice	3
EDT 476 Teaching with Technology	3	MTH 428 Teaching Math in the Elementary Grades	1
Take TWO - choice must align w/ chosen endorsement areas		J	
Autism Spectrum Disorder Emphasis			
EDS 414 Language & Communication Practices for Students	3	Note- Order of final three Internship semesters may	
w/ASD AND/OR		vary. Students will find out during Apprenticeship	
Cognitive Impairment Emphasis	3	semester.	
PSY 326 Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities AND/OR			
Emotional Impairment Emphasis	3		
EDS419 Introduction to Teaching Students w/an El AND/OR			
Specific Learning Disability Emphasis	3		
EDS 422 Introduction to Teaching Students w/ SLD			
Total	15	Total	
rotal	<u> </u>		14/3

Year Five				
Take 1st endorsement emphasis three course sequence from below Autism Spectrum Disorder Emphasis EDS 415 Instructional Practices for Students w/ ASD PSY 542 Behavior Support for Students w/ ASD 4EDS 474 Directed Teaching in ASD (capstone) OR	3 3 7	Take 2 nd endorsement emphasis three course sequence from below Autism Spectrum Disorder Emphasis EDS 415 Instructional Practices for Students w/ ASD PSY 542 Behavior Support for Students w/ ASD ⁴ EDS 474 Directed Teaching in ASD (capstone) OR	3 3 7	
Cognitive Impairment Emphasis EDS 417 Introduction to Teaching Students w/a CI EDS 418 Instructional Practices for Students w/a CI ⁴ EDS 471 Directed Teaching in CI (capstone) OR	3 3 7	Cognitive Impairment Emphasis EDS 417 Introduction to Teaching Students w/a CI EDS 418 Instructional Practices for Students w/a CI ⁴ EDS 471 Directed Teaching in CI (capstone) OR	3 3 7	
Emotional Impairment Emphasis EDS 420 Instructional Practices for Students w/ an EI EDS 421 Curriculum Implementation for Students w/ an EI ⁴ EDS 472 Directed Teaching in EI (capstone) OR	3 3 7	Emotional Impairment Emphasis EDS 420 Instructional Practices for Students w/ an EI EDS 421 Curriculum Implementation for Students w/ an EI 4EDS 472 Directed Teaching in EI (capstone) OR	3 3 7	
Specific Learning Disability Emphasis EDS 423 Instructional Practices for Students w/SLD 1 EDS 424 Instructional Practices for Students w/SLD 2 4EDS 473 Directed Teaching in SLD (capstone)	3 3 7	Specific Learning Disability Emphasis EDS 423 Instructional Practices for Students w/SLD 1 EDS 424 Instructional Practices for Students w/SLD 2 4EDS 473 Directed Teaching in SLD (capstone)	3 3 7	
Total	13	Total	13	

The block tuition rate is 12-15 credits. You will pay additional tuition for any credits over 15.

- 1 Students who self-place into WRT 120 take this course in the fall semester and then take WRT 130 in the winter semester of their first year. Students who self-place into WRT 150 should take the course in the fall semester. Students with AP/Dual Enrollment credit for WRT 150 have fulfilled this requirement. A grade of C or better is required in WRT 130 or 150 in order to satisfy the WRT requirement at GVSU.
- 2 Students who opt for the WRT 120/130 stretch writing sequence should plan to take PSY 301 during the spring/summer semester between first and second year of the program. Students must complete a total of two courses with an SWS attribute.
- ³ Clinical field experience courses require an application and prior approval.
- 4 Honors College students should consult with their Honors and CLAS Advisor. ** HNR 201 will cover HST 209, EDF 115 will cover HNR 300
- 5 Classes with an asterisk * and that are <u>underlined</u> should be taken in the suggested semester in order to stay on track for Apprenticeship in the third year Winter semester.

Degree Requirements

PCKET 3 – 6 students can pursue a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. Students who wish to obtain a BA must fulfill 3rd semester proficiency in a foreign language (201 level). The BS requirements are incorporated into the major requirements.

General Education Overlap

General Education Categories fulfilled by the Special Education/PCKET Majors:			
Arts: ART 231 or MUS 128	Historical Perspectives: HST 209		
Mathematical Sciences: MTH 126 + STA 126	Physical Sciences with Lab: SCI 226		
Life Sciences with Lab: SCI 225	Social and Behavioral Sciences: EDF 115		
Social and Behavioral Sciences: PSY 101	Global Perspectives: ENG 355		
U.S. Diversity: EDF 315	Issues 2: EDT 476		
Issues 1: SST 311	SWS 2: EDS 405		
SWS 1: EDS 305			

- -To be certified to teach K 12 special education teacher candidates must complete the PCKET major (except PCK 495) and the K 12 special education major including TWO endorsement area emphases.
- -It is imperative to meet with your faculty advisors and an advisor in the CLAS Academic Advising Center regularly. The CLAS Academic Advising Center is located in C-1-140 MAK, 616-331-8585. Online at: http://www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising
- -Admission requirements for Teacher Apprenticeship and Student Teaching Internship experiences can be found at https://www.gvsu.edu/education/undergraduate/apply-for-field-placement-4.htm. If you have any questions about the clinical experience applications, please contact the Office of Certification and Accreditation at (616) 331-6650 or email oca@gvsu.edu.

Major Declaration Process:

1. Declare the desired PCKET major 2. Declare the second K-12 special education major

Updated 3.16.23 AS 2