

# EDUCATION: ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (BA)

## Overview

Degree: Bachelor of Arts  
Major: Elementary Education  
Program Code: 3300

The Center for Teacher Education offers a comprehensive program of study that leads to licensure in Colorado. Our professors are experienced, knowledgeable, accessible, and dedicated to the improvement of public education. At Colorado Mesa University, we pride ourselves on the personal touch. Faculty offer one-on-one guidance for course selection, field placements, student teaching, and employment. Our mission is to develop *Educators as Innovators*; we are always looking to improve the quality of learning in our programs and K-12 schools.

As a student, you will gradually accumulate over 200 hours of classroom experience before beginning student teaching. School districts throughout western Colorado provide opportunities to gain experience with children of all ages and backgrounds in a variety of school settings.

The elementary licensure program provides teacher education candidates with a broad content knowledge and prepares them as teachers for grades kindergarten through six. A minimum of 60 credit hours of Essential Learning and content area coursework must be completed with a minimum GPA of 2.80 before a candidate may apply for admission to the Center for Teacher Education elementary licensure program. Please see the Teacher Education Admission Packet for further information on admissions criteria. [EDUC 115](#) and [EDUC 215](#) must be taken before applying to the program.

Important information for this program:

- Students must maintain 2.80 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework
- Must earn a grade of "C" or better in all required courses, unless otherwise noted.
- Students must pass the PRAXIS II exam in the content area prior to beginning the internship. All other coursework toward the degree must be successfully completed prior to the internship.
- The program requires [ENGL 111](#), [ENGL 112](#), [PSYC 233](#), [EDUC 115](#) and [EDUC 215](#), [MATH 105](#) and [MATH 205](#) (all with a grade of "B" or better) and formal acceptance to the Teacher Education Program.

For more information on what you can do with this major, visit Career Services' [What to Do with a Major?](#) resource.

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in specialized knowledge/applied learning, quantitative fluency, communication fluency, critical thinking, personal and social responsibility, and information literacy.

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in specialized knowledge/applied learning, quantitative fluency, communication fluency, critical thinking, personal and social responsibility, and information literacy. In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

1. Demonstrate mastery of major area's content knowledge and pedagogical strategies through fieldwork with learners in professional settings. (Specialized Knowledge/Applied Learning)
2. Design and establish a safe, inclusive, and respectful learning environment for a diverse population of students. (Specialized Knowledge/Applied Learning)
3. Plan and deliver effective instruction to students, based on research-based pedagogical practices. (Communication Literacy/Information Literacy)
4. Collect and critically analyze student assessment data and use results to inform planning and instruction. (Quantitative Fluency/Critical Thinking)
5. Demonstrate professionalism through ethical conduct, reflection, and leadership. (Personal and Social Responsibility)

## Requirements

Each section below contains details about the requirements for this program. Select a header to expand the information/requirements for that particular section of the program's requirements.

**To print or save an overview of this program's information, including the program description, learning outcomes, requirements, suggested course sequencing (if applicable), and advising and graduation information, scroll to the bottom of the left-hand navigation menu and select "Print Options."** This will give you the options to either "Send Page to Printer" or "Download PDF of This Page." The "Download PDF of This Page" option prepares a much more concise presentation of all program information. The PDF is also printable and may be preferable due to its brevity.

## Institutional Degree Requirements

The following institutional degree requirements apply to all CMU baccalaureate degrees. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- 120 semester hours minimum.
- Students must complete a minimum of 30 of the last 60 hours of credit at CMU, with at least 15 semester hours in major discipline courses numbered 300 or higher.
- 40 upper-division credits (an alternative credit limit applies to the Bachelor of Applied Science degree).
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- No more than six semester hours of independent study courses can be used toward the degree.
- Non-traditional credit, such as advanced placement, credit by examination, and credit for prior learning, is limited by the institutional residency requirements for the baccalaureate degree. Cooperative education and internship courses may be taken multiple times, up to a maximum of 15 credit hours.
- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Degree Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and degree requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.

- See "Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Certificates" in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

## Essential Learning Requirements

(31 semester hours, must earn a grade of "C" or better in each course, unless otherwise noted.)

See the current catalog for a list of courses that fulfill the requirements below. If a course is an Essential Learning option and a requirement for your major, you must use it to fulfill the major requirement and make a different selection for the Essential Learning requirement.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
<b>English</b> <sup>1</sup>		
ENGL 111	English Composition I-GTCO1	3
ENGL 112	English Composition II-GTCO2	3
<b>Mathematics</b> <sup>2</sup>		
MATH 205	Elements of Mathematics II-GTMA1	3
<b>History</b>		
Select one History course <sup>3</sup>		3
<b>Humanities</b>		
Select one Humanities Course <sup>4</sup>		3
<b>Social and Behavioral Sciences</b>		
PSYC 233	Human Growth and Development-GTSS3	3
Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course		3
<b>Fine Arts</b>		
Select one Fine Arts course		3
<b>Natural Sciences</b> <sup>5</sup>		
Select one BIOL course		3
Select corresponding BIOL lab		1
Select one GEOL course		3
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>31</b>

<sup>1</sup> Must receive a grade of "B" or better and must be completed by the time the student has 60 semester hours.

<sup>2</sup> Must be taken after MATH 105.

<sup>3</sup> HIST 131 or HIST 132 recommended.

<sup>4</sup> ENGL or HIST course recommended.

<sup>5</sup> One course must include a lab.

## Other Lower Division Requirements

Must earn a grade of "C" or better in each course, unless otherwise noted.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
<b>Wellness Requirement</b>		
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1
Select one Activity course		1
<b>Essential Learning Capstone</b> <sup>1</sup>		
ESSL 290	Maverick Milestone	3
ESSL 200	Essential Speech	1
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>6</b>

<sup>1</sup> Essential Learning Capstone must be taken after completion of the Essential Learning English and Mathematics requirements, and when a student has earned between 45 and 75 hours.

## Program Specific Degree Requirements

(83 semester hours, must earn a grade of "C" or better in each course, unless otherwise noted. Must also maintain a 2.80 cumulative GPA or higher in coursework in this area. A grade of "B" or better is required for all EDUC courses.)

- Students must pass the PRAXIS II exam in the content area prior to beginning the internship. All other coursework toward the degree must be successfully completed prior to the internship.
- The program requires ENGL 111, ENGL 112, PSYC 233, EDUC 115, EDUC 215, and MATH 105 (all with a grade of "B" or better), MATH 205 (with a grade of "C" or better), and formal acceptance to the Teacher Education Program.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
<b>Literacy and Mathematics</b>		
ENGL 210	Introduction to Literary Studies	3
ENGL 240	Children's Literature	3
ENGL 343	Language Systems and Linguistic Diversity	3
ENGL 451	Understanding and Using English Grammar	3
MATH 105	Elements of Mathematics I (Must earn a grade of "B" or better.)	3
MATH 301	Mathematics for Elementary Teachers	3
<b>Kinesiology</b>		
KINE 321	Physical Activity and Health in the Classroom	3
<b>Social Sciences</b>		
Select two of the following:		6
ANTH 202	Introduction to Anthropology-GTSS3	
ANTH 220	Principles of Archaeology-GTSS3	
or ANTH 225 North American Archaeology		
ANTH 240	Cultural Anthropology	
ECON 201	Principles of Macroeconomics-GTSS1	
ECON 202	Principles of Microeconomics-GTSS1	
HIST 101	Western Civilization I-GTHI1	
HIST 102	Western Civilization II-GTHI1	
HIST 131	United States History I-GTHI1	
HIST 132	United States History II-GTHI1	
HIST 225	History of Colorado-GTHI1	
HIST 315	Indigenous American History	
HIST 316	American Slavery	
HIST 320	The American West	
HIST 331	The 20th Century	
HIST 344	The Age of Industry in America	
HIST 342	The Early American Republic	
HIST 345	History of Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity in America	
HIST 346	The United States in the 1950s and 1960s	

HIST 347	Global America: 1970-2000
HIST 348	The History of Food in America
HIST 370	Early United States Women's History
HIST 371	20th Century United States Women's History
GEOG 102	Human Geography-GTSS2
or GEOG 103	World Regional Geography-GTSS2
POLS 101	American Government-GTSS1
POLS 151	Introduction to Political Ideas
POLS 236	State and Local Government

**Science**  
 Select two Natural Science courses from approved Essential Learning list or BIOL 209 or BIOL 210 **6**

**Art**  
 ARTD 410 Elementary Art Education Methods **3**

**Total Semester Credit Hours 36**

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
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Elementary Education Requirements <sup>1</sup>		
EDUC 115	What It Means To Be An Educator	1
EDUC 215	Teaching as a Profession	1
EDUC 341	Pedagogy and Assessment: K-6/Elementary	3
EDUC 343	Teaching to Diversity	3
EDUC 374	Exceptional and English Language Learners in the Inclusive Classroom	4
EDUC 378	Technology for K-12 Educators	1
EDUC 440	Methods of Teaching Language and Literacy: EC	3
EDUC 441	Methods of Teaching Language and Literacy: Elementary	3
EDUC 444	Methods for Teaching Writing and Spelling in the Elementary Classroom	3
EDUC 451	Methods of Teaching Mathematics: Early Childhood/Elementary	3
EDUC 471	Educational Assessment for the K-12 Educator	2
EDUC 475	Classroom Management for K-12 Educators	2
EDUC 481	Elementary Science Methods	3
EDUC 482	Elementary Social Studies Methods	3
EDUC 499C	Teaching Internship and Colloquia: Elementary	12
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>47</b>

<sup>1</sup> Must earn a grade of "B" or better in each courses. (840 field experience hours)

All EDUC prefix courses listed above must be completed with a grade of B or better to progress through the program sequence. Students must PASS the PRAXIS II exam in the content area prior to commencing the internship. Also, ALL other coursework toward the degree must be successfully completed prior to the internship.

## Suggested Course Plan

First Year		Semester Credit Hours
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
ENGL 111	English Composition I-GTC01	3
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1
BIOL 101	General Human Biology-GTSC1	3
BIOL 101L	General Human Biology Laboratory-GTSC1	1
Essential Learning Humanities (GEHU)		3
Essential Learning History (131 or 132)		3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
ENGL 112	English Composition II-GTC02	3
MATH 105	Elements of Mathematics I	3
KINA Activity		1
Essential Learning Geology		3
Essential Learning Fine Art		3
Essential Learning Social and Behavioral Sciences		3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Second Year</b>		
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
EDUC 115	What It Means To Be An Educator	1
MATH 205	Elements of Mathematics II-GTMA1	3
PSYC 233	Human Growth and Development-GTSS3	3
ENGL 210	Introduction to Literary Studies	3
Natural Science Non-Lab		3
Essential Learning Social and Behavioral Sciences (GESB)		3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
EDUC 215	Teaching as a Profession	1
MATH 301	Mathematics for Elementary Teachers	3
ESSL 200	Essential Speech	1
ESSL 290	Maverick Milestone	3
Essential Learning Social and Behavioral Sciences (GESB)		3
Nat. Sci. Non-Lab		3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>Third Year</b>		
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
EDUC 341	Pedagogy and Assessment: K-6/Elementary	3
EDUC 343	Teaching to Diversity	3
EDUC 378	Technology for K-12 Educators	1
ENGL 240	Children's Literature	3
ENGL 343	Language Systems and Linguistic Diversity	3
KINE 321	Physical Activity and Health in the Classroom	3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
EDUC 374	Exceptional and English Language Learners in the Inclusive Classroom	4
EDUC 440	Methods of Teaching Language and Literacy: EC	3
EDUC 481	Elementary Science Methods	3
ARTD 410	Elementary Art Education Methods	3
ENGL 451	Understanding and Using English Grammar	3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Fourth Year</b>		
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
EDUC 441	Methods of Teaching Language and Literacy: Elementary	3
EDUC 444	Methods for Teaching Writing and Spelling in the Elementary Classroom	3
EDUC 451	Methods of Teaching Mathematics: Early Childhood/Elementary	3
EDUC 471	Educational Assessment for the K-12 Educator	2

EDUC 475	Classroom Management for K-12 Educators	2
EDUC 482	Elementary Social Studies Methods	3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
EDUC 499C	Teaching Internship and Colloquia: Elementary	12
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>120</b>

## Advising and Graduation

### Advising Process and DegreeWorks

Documentation on the pages related to this program is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a degree. The suggested course sequencing outlines how students could finish degree requirements. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters, while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and altering the suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for their intended degree(s).

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar's Office to evaluate progress towards a degree and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar's Office.

### Graduation Process

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their degree requirements:

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the "Intent to Graduate" form to the Registrar's Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.
- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found on the [Graduation](#) web page.

If a student's petition for graduation is denied, it will be their responsibility to consult the Registrar's Office regarding next steps.