

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION: K-8 CERTIFICATION & SPECIAL EDUCATION ENDORSEMENT (BA)

Program Description

Obtaining an add-on endorsement in special education as a K–8 teacher can be a game-changer. This specialized training equips you with a deeper understanding of diverse learning needs and strategies to support students with disabilities. By acquiring this endorsement, you are better equipped to create inclusive classrooms where every child can thrive.

Entering and Completing the Major

In order to earn a degree, you must complete at least one academic major. SPU encourages students to explore various academic paths, so if you change your mind about a major, or want to include an additional program, you are able to do so, as outlined below.

Note that the University encourages you to enter your chosen major(s) as soon as you have determined it and are eligible to join it, especially by the start of your junior year. Students who transfer as juniors and seniors should enter a major within their first two quarters at SPU.

- If this is your first quarter at SPU and you identified a major in this department as your first choice on your application for admission to the University, you have gained entry to the major. To change or add a major, follow these instructions (<https://spu.atlassian.net/l/cp/a3th1keb>).
- If you are an SPU student with an SPU cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better, follow these instructions (<https://spu.atlassian.net/l/cp/a3th1keb>) to enter a major in this department.
- The University requires a grade of C- or better in all classes that apply to a major; however, programs may require higher minimum grades in specific courses. You may repeat an SPU course only once for a higher grade.
- To advance in this program, meet with your faculty advisor regularly to discuss your grades, course progression, and other indicators of satisfactory academic progress. If your grades or other factors indicate that you may not be able to successfully complete the major or minor, your faculty advisor can work with you to explore options, which may include choosing a different major.
- You must complete the major requirements that are in effect in the SPU Undergraduate Catalog for the year you enter the major.

Admission to the Division of Education

When you enroll in the Education Foundations courses, you are considered a tentative candidate for admission to the Division of Education. You will be required to prepare a formal application for full admission to the Division of Education in the year prior to Professional year. Upon the fulfillment of all required prerequisites and full admission to the Division of Education, you may take the primary sequence of courses leading to certification.

Admission to the Division of Education requires the following:

- Complete all Education Foundation courses, achieving an average with no grade lower than a 2.0 (“C”). Your prerequisite coursework must be no more than five years old.
 - *Post-baccalaureate students only:* Passing scores on the Washington state basic skills test (WEST-B), Washington state educators’ endorsement test (WEST-E/NES), and transcript evaluation by the Division of Education must be completed prior to registering for Education Foundation courses
- Receive two favorable recommendations from SPU faculty and staff. You will receive directions on this from the Certification Office prior to Professional year.
- Complete a Interview with Division of Education faculty.
- Achieve a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA or a 3.3 GPA in the last 45 credits of college or university work.
- Documentation of meeting the Division of Education preferred scores on the basic skills tests (reading, writing and math); official Washington Educator Skills Test - Basic (WEST-B) (<http://www.west.nesinc.com/>) SAT, or ACT scores are required.
- Accepted into a major.
- Take the appropriate Washington Educator Skills Test – Endorsement (WEST-E/NES) for each endorsement being earned. Taking the exams will allow you to register for Professional year; however, tests must be passed with official scores to SPU prior to September 1 of Professional year.
- Complete fingerprint and pre-residency clearance through OSPI.
- Complete a formal application for admission to the Division of Education.
- Senior standing (135 credits).
- Completion of 15 upper-division credits in student’s major.
- Maintaining a 3.0 cumulative GPA or 3.3 in the last 45 credits throughout the program.

Registration

Students will need Division of Education permission to register for most classes in the certification program. Before registering, contact the Division of Education (<https://spu.edu/academics/college-humanities-education-arts>) to confirm that you have passed the appropriate prerequisites.

Elementary Education: K-8 Certification & Special Education Endorsement (BA)

152 Credits Minimum, Including 103 Upper Division (UD)

Code	Title	Credits
Education Foundations		
EDRD 2500	Psychology of Reading and Writing	5
EDSP 3108	Teaching Students with Exceptionalities in the General Education Classroom	3
EDSP 4657	Positive Behavioral Supports and Interventions	3
EDTC 3200	Integrating Learning Technologies in the K-12 Classroom	2
EDU 2000	Introduction to Teaching	5
EDU 2300	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Education	3
EDU 2400	Mind, Brain, and Education	3
EDU 3300	Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment	3

Section Credits Required	27
Elementary Content	
English Language Arts	
COM 1101	Introduction to Interpersonal Communication 5
EDRD 3500	Teaching Elementary Writing 3
EDRD 3516	Children's Literature 3
Health & Fitness	
EDU 3000	Physical Education for P-8 5
The Arts	
ECE 3200	Creativity, Play, and Art in Young Learners 5
Mathematics	
MAT 1560	Numerical Reasoning 4
MAT 2561	Statistical and Algebraic Reasoning 4
MAT 3562	Geometric Reasoning 4
Natural Sciences	
BIO 2571	Introduction to Biology 5
BIO 2571L	Introduction to Biology Lab 0
BIO 2571F	Introduction to Biology: Field Experience 0
PHY 2573	Concepts in Physical Science for Educators 5
Social Sciences	
HIS 2502	The United States to 1876 5
HIS 3600	History of the Pacific Northwest 5
POL 1120	United States Government and Politics 5
Section Credits Required	58
Special Education Endorsement ¹	
EDSP 4642	Individual Education Programs 3
EDSP 4646	Severe Disabilities 3
EDSP 4648	Teaching Students with Emotional and Behavior Disorders 3
EDSP 4651	Special Education Assessment 3
Section Credits Required	12
Methods ²	
EDSC 4250	Teaching Science Methods: Creativity and Curiosity in Elementary Education 3
EDU 4500	Teaching Social Studies: Integrating History, Foundations, and Practice 5
Section Credits Required	8
Professional Year	
Autumn Quarter	
EDMA 4100	Math Methods: Teaching K-8 Mathematics 3
EDRD 4300	Reading & Language Arts Methods: Blending Multi-Tiered System of Supports with Literacy Instruction 3
EDU 3205	Elementary General Methods I: Planning for Instruction and Classroom Management 3
Section Credits Required	9
Winter Quarter	
EDU 4205	General Methods II: Supporting Multilingual Learners in the General Education Classroom 3
Section Credits Required	3
Spring Quarter	
EDU 4899	Teacher as Person - Capstone 3
Section Credits Required	3

Professional Learning Network		
EDU 4100	Professional Learning Network ³	1
Section Credits Required		
2		
Student Teaching Internship		
EDSP 4960	Special Education Student Teaching Internship ⁴	10
EDU 4960	Student Teaching Internship ⁴	20
Section Credits Required		
30		
Total Credits		152

- ¹ EDSP 3108 & EDSP 4657 are part of the Special Education endorsement and are already included within the major
- ² Take additional Methods courses during Professional Year
- ³ Take 1 credit in Fall and 1 credit in Winter of Professional Year
- ⁴ Take 5 credits of EDU 4960 in Fall, 10 credits of EDSP 4960 in Winter, and 15 credits of EDU 4960 in Spring of Professional Year

Suggested Course Sequence

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Variable		
BIO 2571	Introduction to Biology	5
COM 1101	Introduction to Interpersonal Communication	5
EDRD 2500	Psychology of Reading and Writing	5
EDU 2000	Introduction to Teaching	5
EDU 2400	Mind, Brain, and Education	3
HIS 2502	The United States to 1876	5
MAT 1560	Numerical Reasoning	4
MAT 2561	Statistical and Algebraic Reasoning	4
POL 1120	United States Government and Politics	5
Credits		41
Second Year		
Variable		
ECE 3200	Creativity, Play, and Art in Young Learners	5
EDRD 3500	Teaching Elementary Writing	3
EDU 2300	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Education	3
MAT 3562	Geometric Reasoning	4
PHY 2573	Concepts in Physical Science for Educators	5
Credits		20
Third Year		
Variable		
EDSP 4642	Individual Education Programs	3
EDSP 4646	Severe Disabilities	3
EDSP 4648	Teaching Students with Emotional and Behavior Disorders	3
EDSP 4651	Special Education Assessment	3
Credits		12
Autumn		
EDSP 3108	Teaching Students with Exceptionalities in the General Education Classroom	3
EDU 3000	Physical Education for P-8	5
HIS 3600	History of the Pacific Northwest	5
General Education or Year 1 & 2 Coursework		
Credits		13
Winter		
EDSP 4657	Positive Behavioral Supports and Interventions	3
EDTC 3200	Integrating Learning Technologies in the K-12 Classroom	2
General Education or Year 1 & 2 Coursework		
Credits		5
Spring		
EDRD 3516	Children's Literature	3

EDSC 4250	Teaching Science Methods: Creativity and Curiosity in Elementary Education	3
EDU 3300	Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment	3
EDU 4500	Teaching Social Studies: Integrating History, Foundations, and Practice	5
General Education or Year 1 & 2 Coursework		
Credits		14
Fourth Year		
Autumn		
EDMA 4100	Math Methods: Teaching K-8 Mathematics	3
EDRD 4300	Reading & Language Arts Methods: Blending Multi-Tiered System of Supports with Literacy Instruction	3
EDU 3205	Elementary General Methods I: Planning for Instruction and Classroom Management	3
EDU 4100	Professional Learning Network	1
EDU 4960	Student Teaching Internship	5
Credits		15
Winter		
EDU 4100	Professional Learning Network	1
EDU 4205	General Methods II: Supporting Multilingual Learners in the General Education Classroom	3
EDSP 4960	Special Education Student Teaching Internship	10
Credits		14
Spring		
EDU 4899	Teacher as Person - Capstone	3
EDU 4960	Student Teaching Internship	15
Credits		18
Total Credits		152

This major will fulfill WKA, WKH, WKSS, WKQR, WK Science, W, and CUE requirements. Be sure to fulfill Common Curriculum (<https://catalog.spu.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/baccalaureate-degree-requirements/common-curriculum/>) (FYS, WRI, TCOR and UCOR)