



# Elementary Education

## at Benedictine University

Candidates seeking a teaching career must have a sincere desire to teach, show intellectual promise and display personal, professional and academic characteristics indicative of competent teachers.

The School of Education's major goal, according to its conceptual framework, is to create effective practitioners who are committed to scholarship, lifelong inquiry, leadership and social responsibility. These enduring outcomes are developed and nurtured through the curriculum. Educators develop scholarship by acquiring a breadth and depth of knowledge in the field. As scholars, they develop lifelong inquiry by immersing themselves in a process of ongoing questioning and reflection that results in informed thinking and decision-making. They assume leadership roles in a variety of venues where they can affect change and improve practice. Their leadership is guided by a sense of social responsibility to create fair and equitable environments that support and enhance learning in order to maximize each individual's potential.

### Advantages of studying elementary education at Benedictine

- Personal attention and guidance provided by skilled academic advisor.
- The career flexibility made possible by a liberal arts degree.
- The opportunity to gain experience through off campus preclinicals and a 16-week student teaching experience under the guidance of certified professionals.
- Integration of technology into coursework.
- Quality instruction from experienced faculty who have worked extensively in both private and public schools.
- Advantage of job placement aid through the advisor Office of Career Development.
- Licensure as a teacher in Illinois.

### What are the requirements for elementary education?

The student prepares for a degree in Elementary Education that leads to an Illinois teaching license by completing courses that satisfy general education and professional education requirements, along with an 18 semester-hour concentration in Art, Language Arts, Mathematics, Computer Science, Science (Biology, Chemistry or Physics), History, Social Science or Spanish. This concentration satisfies the subject area requirements for a middle-grade endorsement. Students also receive a solid foundation in methodologies through the following experiences:

- Preclinicals: Experiences that involve observing and teaching under a professional teacher in an off-campus classroom setting.
- Micro-teaching: An opportunity to participate in and evaluate various teaching activities.
- Student Teaching: A full semester of teaching under professional guidance.

As candidates progress through their program, they will develop an understanding of the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards and the Content-Area Standards for Educators. In addition to successful completion of their coursework, they will also develop a portfolio based on the education Teacher Performance Assessment (edTPA) that demonstrates their growth in teaching and service to education as well as their understanding of the Illinois standards. Their preparedness to teach will also be demonstrated through passage of the Test of Academic Performance, Content-Area Test and Assessment of Professional Teaching Test.

### What does elementary licensure at Benedictine offer?

The program provides students with opportunities to develop strong interpersonal skills, effective communication practices and a dedicated commitment to children in an atmosphere of reflection and community.

# Recommended Program

## Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education

A grade of "C" or better is required in all coursework necessary for certification.

### FRESHMAN\*\*\*

Writing Colloquium	3
Mathematics for Elementary Teachers	4
Elective	3
Religions/Theological (QRT) course*	3
Natural Science Modes of Inquiry and Lab	4
	17
Research Writing	3
Speech Communication	3
Literary and Rhetorical (QLR) course*	3
Life Scientific (QLS) course	3
Survey of Exceptional Children	3
	15

### JUNIOR

Reading and Language Arts	3
Methods of Teaching Math-Elementary (35-hour preclinical)	3
Methods of Teaching Social Studies-Elementary	3
Philosophical (QPL) course*	3
Disciplinary Emphasis	3
	15
Diagnostic/Corrective Reading (35-hour preclinical)	3
Methods of Teaching Science-Elementary	3
Human Dignity and the Common Good (IDS 301)	3
Measurement and Evaluation	3
American History	3
Disciplinary Emphasis	3
	18

### SOPHOMORE

History and Philosophy of Education/ Preclinical (35-hour preclinical)	4
Technology for Teachers	3
Physical Scientific (QPS) course	3
Artistic and Creative (QCA) course*	3
Catholic and Benedictine Intellectual Traditions (IDS 201)	3
	16
Introduction to Education Seminar	0
Educational Psychology	3
Social Scientific I: Individuals, Organizations and Societies (QIO) course	3
American Government	3
Wellness	2
Computational, Mathematical and Analytical (QCM)	3
Mathematics for Elementary Teachers II	4
	18

### SENIOR

Professional Elective (major)**	3
Disciplinary Emphasis	3
	15
Student Teaching	12

A cumulative 2.75 and a 3.0 GPA in the major are needed for teacher education programs.

Completion of degree requires a minimum of 120 semester credit hours.

Licensure requires the above program, including an 18 semester credit hour disciplinary emphasis.

\*One course should be selected to satisfy a Multicultural/ Non-Western culture requirement.

\*\*For course options, check with your advisor.

\*\*\*Programs in education require successful completion of state licensure exams. The Test of Academic Performance must be successfully passed prior to admission into the Teacher Education Program. This exam can be taken during the freshman year.

**Changes in state licensure requirements must be met at the time they go into effect. This could change the program requirements. See your academic advisor with questions.**