

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION/ESOL B.A.

Mission Statement

The mission of Teacher Education is to provide appropriate programs for initial teacher certification as well as programs for the preparation of advanced level professional educators. The programs are designed to empower individuals to think, communicate, strategically plan, and to develop their cognitive and affective human potential in order to become exemplary educational leaders. The goal of "empowerment" supports the Division's structure, curricular design, and conceptual framework.

Student Learning Outcomes

The UWF Teacher Education graduate should be able to do the following:

Content

- Collect and use data gathered from a variety of sources, including formal and informal measures, to develop educational goals for elementary student
- Identify the cognitive, linguistic, emotional, and physical needs of elementary students and match them appropriately to instructional plans
- Draw upon human development/learning theories and concepts as the foundation for instructional planning for elementary children
- Implement a variety of strategies to motivate and help elementary students acquire knowledge and skills needed to succeed in life
- Demonstrate knowledge in relevant subject fields through integration of real world learning activities designed for elementary students
- Design and establish effective learning environments that are conducive to high achievement of elementary children

Critical Thinking

- Master performance assessment techniques to promote and measure the thinking skills of elementary student
- Develop a repertoire of realistic projects and problem solving activities that will enable elementary students to improve their life skills and creative thinking abilities

Communication

- Communicate accurately and effectively through oral presentation skills and the written word to deliver high quality education for elementary students
- Effectively collaborate with families of elementary students and colleagues to facilitate optimal educational experiences for students
- Establish high performance expectations for elementary students and communicate these expectations to colleagues, families, and students

Values/Integrity

- Engage in self-reflection regarding performance and pursue opportunities for feedback to demonstrate commitment to continuous improvement in effective goal-setting and the elementary education field
- Adhere to the Code of Ethics and Principles of Professional Conduct of the Education Profession

Project Management

- Use instructional technology to manage, evaluate, and improve instruction for elementary students
- Seek the involvement of elementary students to design effective learning experiences to meet students' needs and interests

Diversity Skills

- Practice and teach strategies of tolerance and acceptance related to individual and cultural differences
- Create educational climates that foster openness, inquiry and concern for others
- Employ suitable strategies resulting in successful conflict resolutions
- Use appropriate ESOL strategies and instructional methods to develop experiential and literary activities to effectively deliver instruction to elementary ESOL students

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

The FEAPS and ESOL Performance Indicators are grouped into UWF's domains and are broken into the smaller Student Learning Objectives seen in the Academic Learning Compact and referred to here as indicators. The indicators are integrated into individual course activities common to all sections of a particular course. As activities are completed, they are assessed through common rubrics. Progress on the FEAP indicator is entered into a database in Argus at the conclusion of the semester or in a subsequent semester as needed in the case of a student not meeting the SLO. Collective data are used to track individual student's achievement of the FEAPS/ESOL Performance Standards. An individual student's data are checked prior to graduation to be sure each student has achieved each FEAP/ESOL Performance Standard. The data are also analyzed and used in programmatic continuous improvement to affect policy, initiate broad curricular changes as needed, and to modify individual course activities and assessments.

Job Prospects for Students in Teacher Education:

Florida, with six of the 20 largest school districts in the U.S., has a tremendous need for teachers, including a critical need for the areas of middle school mathematics and science, reading, technology, and exceptional student education. State estimates indicate that a minimum of 20,000 - 50,000 teachers per year will be needed over the next several years, thereby guaranteeing jobs for graduates of state approved programs. UWF currently offers programs for:

- PreK/primary teachers who work with the social and intellectual development of children from birth through grade three;
- Elementary school teachers who teach K-6th grade children reading, language arts, mathematics, science, and social sciences, managing their behavior, and assist in the development of children's social and interpersonal skills;
- Middle school teachers who specialize in teaching grades 5-9 children the content area subjects of mathematics, science, English, social science, and reading;
- Exceptional student education teachers who work with a variety of special educational needs and teach gifted, learning disabled, behaviorally challenged, and physically handicapped children;
- Career and technical education teachers who teach students who will instruct others to prepare for jobs in the fields of manufacturing, biotechnology, electronics, drafting, transportation, technology design, energy, information technology, and communications.

Find out More about Teacher Education at UWF:

<http://uwf.edu/education>