



Post-baccalaureate in Teacher Certification Preparation (4–8)

Early Childhood and Elementary Education Department Professional and Secondary Education Department



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Post-baccalaureate in Teacher Certification Preparation (4–8) Program is designed for students who have an undergraduate degree in an area other than education and who want to pursue their PA Certification in Middle Level Education. Participants in this comprehensive program will collaborate with other professionals as they learn how to create engaging learning environments based on current research, theory, and practice. After completion of this program, students will be able to apply up to 24 graduate credits to an M.Ed. in Elementary Education or up to 12 graduate credits to an M.Ed. in Professional and Secondary Education.

COURSES

There are 58 credits required in the program, including 27 credits at the graduate level, 18 credits at the undergraduate level, and 13 credits for student teaching. The nine graduate level courses are offered online during the evenings and/or summers, so students may complete this part of the program while working. The six undergraduate courses are taught on campus during the day and/or early evening and can be taken in any order. Students are exempt from this requirement if they pass the respective PA grades 4–8 concentration test.

CONTACTS

For more information regarding program advising or program admission, please contact the individuals listed below:

Program Advising

Dr. Craig Wilson

Graduate Coordinator

Early Childhood and Elementary Education Department
cwilson@esu.edu • 570-422-3357

Dr. Beth Sockman, Graduate Coordinator

Professional and Secondary Education Department
bsockman@esu.edu • 570-422-3621

Program Admission

Kevin Quintero

Associate Director

Graduate and Extended Studies

kquintero@esu.edu • 570-422-3890

FIELDWORK

The program includes multiple field experiences in 4th–8th grade classrooms. Each of the four graduate methods courses (ELED 520, ELED 530, ELED 540, and ELED 550) requires about 30 hours of fieldwork in 4th–8th grade classrooms during the semesters that they are taken. Students who are working in a school in grades 4–8 may use those settings to satisfy the fieldwork requirements. Students will also participate in field experiences for five full days per week for 15 weeks during the student teaching semester.

COURSE SCHEDULE (Fall 2024–Spring 2027)

On the following page is a list of required courses and a suggested schedule for completion of the program. The program takes about three years to finish, but may be shortened or lengthened, depending on students' schedules. The program may be entered at any point on the schedule. Students are encouraged to contact the Graduate Coordinator for help in setting up a plan of study, based on course offerings.

FINANCIAL AID

Participants in this program who are enrolled in at least six credits of graduate coursework in a given semester are eligible for graduate level financial aid. The following courses are eligible for funding: ELED 520, ELED 530, ELED 540, ELED 550, and any four of the following—REED 521, REED 528, SPED 550, SPED 551, and REED 520. The funding level is \$20,500 per year in unsubsidized loan funds, with half being awarded for the fall and half being awarded for the spring. For more information regarding financial aid, please contact the Office of Financial Aid at fa@esu.edu.

GRADUATE COURSES

(27 credits required)

- REED 521
Reading and Language Development for Diverse Learners 3.0
- REED 528
Teaching Content Area Reading to Diverse Learners 3.0
- SPED 550
Nature and Needs of Exceptional Individuals 3.0
- SPED 551
Inclusionary Practices 3.0
- REED 520
Teaching Reading to Students with Disabilities 3.0
- ELED 520
Current Trends in Elementary Language Arts 3.0
- ELED 530
Constructivist Approaches to Teaching Science 3.0
- ELED 540
Constructivist Approaches to Teaching Math 3.0
- ELED 550
Current Trends in Elementary Social Studies 3.0

STUDENT TEACHING

(13 credits required)

- ELED 431 Student Teaching in Middle Level Education (4th–6th) 6.0
- PSED 430 Student Teaching in Middle School/Junior High School (7th–8th) 6.0
- Student Teaching Internship—
HIST 499 or ENGL 499 or PHYS 499 or MATH 499 1.0

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

Choose one of the concentrations below. **Students are exempt from this requirement if they pass the respective PA grades 4–8 concentration test.**

Concentration • English/Language Arts

- ENGL 194 African American Literature 3.0
- ENGL 203 Advanced Composition
or ENGL 208 Writing About Young Adult Literature 3.0
- ENGL 231 English Grammar 3.0
- ENGL 412 Teaching of Writing in the Secondary and Middle Schools 3.0
- ENGL 2___ Any 200 Level Literature Course 3.0
or ENGL 300___ Any 300 Level Literature Course 3.0
- PSED 406 Teaching of English in the Secondary Schools 3.0

Concentration • Social Studies

- GEOG 121 Physical Geology 3.0
- HIST 143 U.S. History Since 1877 3.0
- POLS 111 Principles of Political Science 3.0
- GEOG 110 Cultural Geography 3.0
- SOC 111 Introduction to Sociology 3.0
- PSED 458 Teaching of Social Studies in the Secondary Schools 3.0

Concentration • Science

- GEOG 121 Physical Geology 3.0
- BIOL 114 Introductory Biology I 4.0
- PHYS 131 Fundamental Physics 4.0
- CHEM 121 General Chemistry I 3.0
- CHEM 123 Lab 1.0
- PSED 446 Teaching of Science in the Secondary Schools 3.0

Concentration • Math

- MATH 140 Calculus I 4.0
- MATH 220 Discreet Math Structures 3.0
- MATH 351 Modern Geometry 3.0
- MATH 431 Teaching Math Using Technology 3.0
- Math Elective 3.0
- PSED 436 Teaching of Mathematics in the Secondary Schools 3.0

FALL 2024

- ELED 550 Current Trends in Elementary Social Studies 3.0
- *REED 528 Teaching Content Area Reading to Diverse Learners 3.0

SPRING 2025

- ELED 540 Constructivist Approaches to Teaching Math 3.0
- *REED 520 Teaching Reading to Students with Disabilities 3.0

FALL 2025

- ELED 520 Current Trends in Elementary Language Arts 3.0
- *REED 521 Reading and Language Development for Diverse Learners 3.0
- *SPED 550 Nature and Needs of Exceptional Individuals 3.0

**Students may also take these courses in the summer when available.*

***Students may also take these courses at any time along the way during the previous sessions.*

SPRING 2026

- ELED 530 Constructivist Approaches to Teaching Science 3.0
- *SPED 551 Inclusionary Practices 3.0

FALL 2026

- **Concentration Courses

SPRING 2027

- ELED 431 Student Teaching in Middle Level Education (4th–6th) 6.0
- PSED 430 Student Teaching in Middle School/Junior High School (7th–8th) 6.0
- Student Teaching Internship—
HIST 499 or ENGL 499 or PHYS 499 or MATH 499 1.0