



Master of Arts in Elementary Education

Program Overview

The faculty in the College of Education work with state and national educators through research and teaching to develop and improve the education of children.

The M.A. Elementary Education, with a Curriculum and Instruction emphasis, is designed for professionals who possess a bachelor's degree in elementary education. A professional teacher certificate in Elementary Education or eligibility for Elementary certification (a degree in the field from a state-approved program) is required for admission to this program. Students who do not hold any teaching certification should consider the Master of Arts in Teaching in Elementary Education program.

The interdisciplinary sequence of courses explores curriculum design and assessment, the social/emotional domain in learning, and new technologies for the classroom. Research skills and strategies to improve instruction are included. This program builds teachers' writing and action research skills, especially helpful for those teachers pursuing National Board Certification.

Class Meeting Times & Class Schedule

This 34-credit hour program, offered in a cohort format, may be completed in 6 semesters. Students are encouraged to begin the program in the fall. Entry in spring or summer semesters may be available but completion of the program in 6 semesters is not guaranteed and requires special advisement.

The courses are arranged in Blocks with Transition Point Projects that must be successfully completed before proceeding to the next Block. Courses are scheduled in evenings during the fall and spring semesters but may be offered in the day or evening during the summer semester.

Non-degree Seeking Entry

Applicants may take up to 12 hours of course work as a non-degree seeking student until accepted into the graduate program. No more than 12 hours of credit can be counted toward the official Master's program.

Admission Requirements

Bachelor's degree or equivalent from a regionally accredited university, professional teacher certification in Elementary Education, and one of the following:

- Earned graduate degree from a regionally accredited university *or*
- GRE score of 1000 with 2.5 GPA based on upper-level bachelor's degree coursework *or*
- Undergraduate upper level GPA of 3.0 or above

Graduate Application Instructions

Application information can be found at <http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/Students/Admissions/grad.php> . Click "Application" and follow steps to apply.

Applications should include the following:

- \$30.00 application fee. This fee is required of all applicants including USF graduates.
- GRE test scores taken within the last 5 years, if required. You may submit your application without your GRE score, but please include the date you plan to take the test.
- One (1) official transcript from all institutions of higher learning where the applicant has earned a degree; If you are applying while still completing an undergraduate degree, you must submit transcripts of at least six (6) semesters of completed undergraduate work. It is not necessary to send USF transcripts.
- Clear copy of Florida Professional Educator's Certificate.

Application Deadlines

(Spring and Summer admissions will be considered on an individual basis.)

Fall: June 1

Cost of the Program

The cost of tuition can be found at: <http://usfweb2.usf.edu/uco/cashaccounting/tuition.asp>.

Required Courses

BLOCK 1

- LAE 6315 Writing and Writers
- EDF 6736 Education, Communication and Change
- *EDF 6215 Learning Principles Applied to Instruction*
- *LAE 6316 Literature in a Diverse Society*
- Transition Point Project #2

BLOCK 2

- RED 6449 Literacy and Technology
- LIN 6932 Special Topics: Classroom Discourse
- EEC 6265 Early Childhood Advanced Curriculum Development
- EDG 6931 Moral Development & Character Education
- Transition Point Project #3

BLOCK 3

- *EDF 6481 Foundations of Educational Research*
- EEC 6204 Curriculum & Authentic Assessment
- *EDG 6935 Seminar in Curriculum Research*
- Transition Point Project #4

Note: Courses in italics are requirements and not electives. Transition Point Projects must be successfully completed after the courses listed in each Block.

Transfers: Only 8 semester hours or 3 courses may be transferred from an out-of-state university. These courses must be approved by the program advisor and the faculty advisor.

Responsibilities After Admission

- Must take at least one course during the semester of admission or file for a Deferment of Admission.
- File a Planned Program of Study in the first semester with your Program Advisor.
- Maintain a 3.0 GPA in all graduate coursework taken at USF, even outside your program.
- Attend a Transition Point Project orientation.
- Submit Application to Graduate to your Advisor during the first week of the semester you plan to graduate.
- Courses should not be older than 5 years at graduation.
- Minimum enrollment: You must be enrolled in at least 6 credits per 3 semesters. You must be enrolled in at least 2 graduate hours in the semester you submit a transition point project. You must be enrolled in at least 2 hours in the semester you graduate.

Contact Person

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Note: Changes in Florida State Teacher Preparation Programs may result in program changes. Students must closely monitor program requirements. Students are responsible for all information listed in the University graduate catalog.

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