

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND ELEMENTARY EDUCATION DUAL MAJOR (M)

There are several aspects of our early childhood and elementary education department that are truly unique to CUW. In addition to the 121-credit requirement for public education majors, we have a variety of flexible options to increase marketability and prepare preservice educators to teach in multiple settings. Concordia offers a Lutheran Teacher Diploma for members of LCMS congregations who wish to teach in Lutheran schools and Christian Education Certification for members of other Christian churches who wish to teach in Christian schools. Along with your dual major in Early Childhood and Elementary Education, we also offer a variety of minors, concentrations, and certificates, including Urban Education, Adaptive Education, Special Education, and our Compassion Care Certificate, which includes work with our Compassion Care and Comfort Dogs. Thanks to our enhanced program, most students graduate in 3.5 to 4 years, and 99+ percent of them find jobs immediately.

Our early childhood and elementary education program also offers you the opportunity to student teach internationally or outside of the immediate CUW geographical area. Another unique offering is our STREAMS of Living Water Content Integration Model—an initiative implemented to support Science, Technology, Reading/ELA, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics with a more hands-on approach to learning. Additionally, our students have field placements in area schools each semester before student teaching. This makes you more classroom-ready as you grow as a new teacher and feedback from your supervisors helps you set goals for continued improvement.

If your calling is to change a student’s life from birth through 9th grade, our calling is to help get you there.

Program Learning Outcomes

- 1. Learner Development:** The teacher understands how learners grow and develop, recognizing that patterns of learning and development vary individually within and across the cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical areas, and designs and implements developmentally appropriate and challenging learning experiences (Human Relations, Pedagogical Knowledge)
- 2. Learning Differences :** The teacher uses understanding of individual differences and diverse cultures and communities to ensure inclusive learning environments that enable each learner to meet high standards. (Human Relations, Pedagogical Knowledge)
- 3. Learning Environments:** The teacher works with others to create environments that support individual and collaborative learning, and that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation. (Teaching Practice, Human Relations)
- 4. Content Knowledge:** The teacher understands the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline(s) he or she teaches and creates learning experiences that make these aspects of the discipline accessible and meaningful for learners to assure mastery of the content. (Content Knowledge)
- 5. Application of Content:** The teacher understands how to connect concepts and use differing perspectives to engage learners in critical

thinking, creativity, and collaborative problem solving related to authentic local and global issues.

- 6. Assessment Strategies:** The teacher understands and uses multiple methods of assessment to engage learners in their own growth, to monitor learner progress, and to guide the teacher’s and learner’s decision making. (Content Knowledge, Pedagogical Knowledge)
- 7. Planning for Instruction:** The teacher plans instruction that supports every student in meeting rigorous learning goals by drawing upon knowledge of content areas, curriculum, cross-disciplinary skills, and pedagogy, as well as knowledge of learners and the community context. (Content Knowledge, Pedagogical Knowledge)
- 8. Instructional Strategies:** The teacher understands and uses a variety of instructional strategies to encourage learners to develop deep understanding of content areas and their connections, and to build skills to apply knowledge in meaningful ways. (Pedagogical Knowledge, Communication Skills, Teaching Practice)
- 9. Professional Learning and Ethical Practice:** The teacher engages in ongoing professional learning and uses evidence to continually evaluate his/her practice, particularly the effects of his/her choices and actions on others (learners, families, other professionals, and the community), and adapts practice to meet the needs of each learner.
- 10. Leadership and Collaboration:** The teacher seeks appropriate leadership roles and opportunities to take responsibility for student learning, to collaborate with learners, families, colleagues, other school professionals, and community members to ensure learner growth, and to advance the profession.
- 11. Character/Faith Development:** All teachers model a value system which emphasizes moral and ethical character. Teachers in Christian schools integrate faith and learning while modeling Christian mission and service with a biblical worldview. Lutheran teachers adhere to the doctrine and practice of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. (Human Relations, Professional Dispositions, Content Knowledge)

Curriculum

Birth to 9th Grade

Code	Title	Hours
Core Requirements (https://catalog.cuw.edu/undergraduate/university/acad-prog/trad/core/) ¹		48-51
Early Childhood and Elementary Education Majors		73-79
Total Hours		121-130

¹ For transfer students, please see the Advanced Transfer Core (<https://catalog.cuw.edu/undergraduate/university/acad-prog/trad/transfer-core/>).

NOTE: Check with the Chair of the Early Childhood Education Department for possible changes in this major.

Core Curriculum - 48-51 Credits

Concordia Common Core - 18-21 Credits

Code	Title	Hours
Theology - Public Education		
REL 100	The Bible	3
REL 110	Christian Faith	3

Code	Title	Hours
Theology - Lutheran (LTD) & Christian (CTC)		
REL 201	Old Testament	3
REL 203	New Testament	3
REL 204	Biblical Theology	3
Code Title Hours		
CCE 130	Christian Citizen	3
CCE 140	Science & Humanity	3
CCE 110	Western Culture & Worldview	3
CCE 120	Western Thought & Worldview	3
Liberal Arts Dimensions - 30 Credits		
ENG 104	Introduction to Writing	3
Communication and Language Elective		
Faith and Life Elective: Any course with REL prefix other than REL 100, 110, 201, 203, 204		
ED 1102	Foundations of Education	3
HHP 100	Stewardship of the Body	1
HHP Activity Course		
Human Creativity and Expression: Art, Music, Theater, or Graphic Design activity course		
MATH 119	Number Sense: Teaching Pre K-9	3
MATH 120	Data & Space: Teaching Pre K-9	3
SCI 110	Introduction to Life and Physical Sciences	4
ED 1103	Human Relations for Teachers	3
Note: Two writing intensive courses required for graduation. Other electives may be added to reach 120 credit minimum for graduation.		

Early Childhood & Elementary Education Curriculum

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
<i>Theoretical Component</i>		
ED 1230	Nature of the Exceptional Child	3
ED 1231	Best Practices in Engaging Children in Literacy	3
ED 1275	Human Learning	3
ED 4411	The Profession and Ethics of Teaching ²	3
<i>Experiential Component</i>		
ED 1000	Orientation Seminar	0
ED 2000	UDS Seminar	0
ED 3000	Student Teaching Seminar	0
ED 1211	Discovery Clinical	0
ED 1212	Cultural Clinical	0
ED 1213	Special Education Clinical	0
<i>Practical Component</i>		
ED 2204	The Art & Science of Teaching Reading	3
ED 2252	Best Practices in Engaging Adolescents in Literacy (OR)	3
MATH 313	Math in the Middle School	
ED 2358	Emergent Writing: Birth to Grade 3	2
ED 3401	Instruction & Assessment of Reading ²	3
<i>Practical Component: Early Childhood</i>		
ED 2327	Collaborating with Families and Professionals in a Diverse Society	3
ED 2466	Health, Safety, and Fitness for the Young Child	3
ED 3359	Curriculum and Techniques in Early Childhood ²	4

ED 3400	Creativity in Early Childhood ²	2
ED 3356	STEM: Math in Early Childhood ²	2
ED 3357	STEM: Science and Environment in Early Childhood ²	2
ED 4478	Preschool Practicum and Synthesis ²	3
ED 4479	Assessment Strategies for Diverse Learners ²	3
<i>"The Block" - Take these courses during the same semester</i>		
ED 4301	Data Driven Analysis of Classroom Practice ²	2
ED 4302	Collaborating with Families and Members of the Community ²	1
ED 4303	Language Arts Methods ²	3
ED 4304	Curriculum and Methods in Mathematics ²	3
ED 4305	Curriculum & Methods in Science & Environment ²	3
ED 4306	Curriculum and Methods in Social Studies ²	3

Student Teaching Component (Take these courses in the same semester)

ED 4412	Portfolio Completion - Elementary/Content Tests ²	1
ED 4421	Gr K-9 Student Teaching 1 ²	6
ED 4425	Early Childhood Student Teaching ²	6

Lutheran (LCMS Members) Teacher Diploma Requirements

REL 404	Lutheran Confessions	3
ED 2306	Teaching the Faith	3

Christian Teacher Certification Requirements

ED 2306	Teaching the Faith	3
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Select one of the following 3 credit courses:

REL 404	Lutheran Confessions	
REL 347	Law and Gospel in the Life of the Church	
REL 333	A Survey of Christian Thought	
PHIL 325	Christian Apologetics	
OR		
PHIL 334	Christ and Culture	

¹ SCI 110 Introduction to Life and Physical Sciences recommended

² Course requires upper division status