

# M.A.Ed. IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

The Master of Arts in Elementary Education program at WCU is designed for teachers who already have an A level elementary education teaching license. Our online-only program offers an innovative and challenging curriculum designed to prepare teachers to develop and apply research skills, expand and deepen content area knowledge, and further the understanding of child and educational psychology in order to provide opportunities for curriculum development and exploration of current methodology.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- 100% online programming totaling 30 credit hours that can be completed in as little as two years
- Versatile program allows candidates to choose between concentrations in Gifted, Creative, and Innovative Education (AIG), STEM, and Literacy which lead to Advanced Competencies licensure in Elementary Education
- The program is aligned to the National Board Teaching Standards and the North Carolina Professional Teaching Standards
- Availability of grants, scholarships, and forgivable loan programs

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- Applicants must hold (or be eligible to hold) a North Carolina Class A teaching license, or a comparable license from another state
- In addition to the Graduate School Admission requirements, applicants must submit:
  - A letter of intent describing reasons for pursuing the M.A.Ed. in Elementary Education, professional goals as a participant in the program, and possible research interests
  - Three recommendations from former instructors or employers who can judge the applicant's aptitude for graduate study

## GRADUATE COMPREHENSIVE PORTFOLIO:

Students are required to complete and present a Comprehensive Portfolio. This is a formal, organized set of documents and artifacts demonstrating the teacher's growth, as a self-directed, reflective practitioner.

## REASONS TO EARN THE M.A.Ed. IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION:

- Graduate school provides connection and camaraderie with others in the profession
- Graduate programs provide great support and resources for teachers pursuing national board certification
- Graduate programs keep professional educators connected with research and new developments in the field
- The M.A.Ed in Elementary Education is a stepping-stone to a doctoral program in education

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[GradElem.wcu.edu](http://GradElem.wcu.edu)

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**REQUIRED COURSES (30 TOTAL CREDIT HOURS):**

REQUIRED PROFESSIONAL CORE COURSES (12 HOURS):	GOALS	CREDIT HOURS
EDCI 609: Assessment of Instruction	Assessment	3
SPED 620: Education in a Diverse Society	Diversity	3
<b>-OR-</b>		
SPED 640: Universal Design for Learning		
EDCI 616: Advanced Studies in Teacher Leadership	Leadership	3
EDCI 610: Methods of Research	Research	3

REQUIRED ELEMENTARY EDUCATION CORE COURSES (6 HOURS):	CREDIT HOURS
ELMG 609: Classroom Research Design for Elementary and Middle Grades Education	3
ELMG 697: Research Seminar in Elementary and Middle Grades Education	3

REQUIRED COURSES IN AIG, LITERACY, OR STEM (CHOOSE ONE TRACK) (12 HOURS):	CREDIT HOURS
<b>AIG Courses:</b>	
SPED 500: Creative Thinking & Problem Solving*	3
SPED 571: Foundations of Gifted & Creative Education	3
SPED 575: Methods & Models of Gifted & Creative Education	3
SPED 577: Curriculum Differentiation for Gifted & Creative Learners	3
<b>Literacy Courses:</b>	
ELMG 655: Content Area Reading in the Subject Areas	3
ELMG 668: Instructional Design & Technology Literacy	3
EDRD 631: Intensive Study of Writing	3
EDRD 640: Reading Diagnosis and Instruction	3
<b>STEM Courses:</b>	
ELMG 620: Issues and Trends in STEM Education	3
ELMG 621: Methods of STEM Education	3
ELMG 622: Engineering Projects for Elementary & Middle Grades Education	3
ELMG 623: Innovative Use of Technology in STEM Education	3

\*Requires one week field experience at WCU

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