

## PRIMARY EDUCATION

Degree: Master of Education  
 Division: Teacher Education  
 Building 85, Room 125  
 (850) 474-3263  
 dted@uwf.edu  
 College: Professional Studies

The division offers a master's degree with a Primary Education Specialization within the M.Ed. Curriculum and Instruction program.

The master's degree program in Primary Education is designed to prepare broadly educated teachers who have a depth of knowledge concerning primary education to assume varied instructional leadership roles in the profession.

Major emphasis is given to teaching children in grades K-3. Students completing this program will be eligible for Florida graduate certification in primary education. By carefully designing individual programs, students may also be eligible for certification in elementary education. This individualized degree program emphasizes the development of master teachers and/or instructional leaders for nursery school through third grade.

Course descriptions are listed alphabetically by prefix in the back of this catalog.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to meeting the minimum University standards for admission to graduate studies, students must comply with the requirements for admission to Teacher Education. These requirements are listed in the graduate programs section of the catalog under Teacher Education. Students are selected for admission on the basis of the undergraduate GPA, graduate course GPA, and GRE scores.

A limited number of students not meeting the minimum requirements may be granted conditional admission.

When the student does not have an undergraduate degree or the equivalent in primary or elementary education, prerequisite course work will be required and planned for the candidate by the student's academic advisor.

When evidence indicates weakness in academic or professional skills, the candidate may be recommended for non-credit personal improvement work in these areas.

## Other Considerations

**Transfer credit:** Students may be permitted to transfer 6-10 semester hours of graduate credit with the approval of the academic advisor and chairperson.

**Use of undergraduate credit:** With prior approval of the student's academic advisor and the department chairperson, a maximum of 6 semester hours of 3000- or 4000-level course work may be applied toward the master's degree.

**Use of workshop credit:** No more than 6 semester hours of credit in workshop courses may be applied toward the master's degree.

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to general University requirements, candidates for degrees must meet the following requirements:

- A. Degree programs must include at least 36 semester hours of approved course work;
- B. At least one-half of the credit hours included in the degree program must be taken in the specialization area;
- C. At least one-half of the credit hours included in the degree program must be courses numbered 6000 or above; and
- D. Degree candidates must complete an approved degree project. The degree project will take one of three forms:
  1. A written comprehensive examination is required of all degree candidates who do not select the action research or the thesis option.
  2. The action research option requires the design, implementation, and scholarly report of an action research project.
  3. The thesis option requires the production of a scholarly report of an investigation resulting from a study based on a careful review of related literature.

Course work in each program is organized around three major components: specialization requirements, electives, and the degree project.

## Required courses (36 sh)

### **Professional Education Common Core (9 sh)**

*(taken in sequence):*

EDF 6602	Trends and Issues in Education: Social, Multicultural, Historical & Philosophical Analysis .....	3
EDF 6218	Current Issues in Student Development & Learning .....	3
EDF 6481	Educational Research .....	3

### **Specialization (12 or 18 sh)**

EEC 5265	Early Childhood Education: Analysis of Programs .....	3
EEC 6263	Curriculum Development in Early Childhood Education .....	3
EEC 6615	Problems, Issues & Trends in Early Childhood Education .....	3
	Early Childhood (EEC) electives .....	3-9

### **Degree Project (0 or 6 sh)**

The degree project will take one of three forms:

- A. A written comprehensive examination is required of degree candidates who do not select the action research or the thesis option.
- B. The action research option requires the design, implementation, and scholarly report of an action research project.
- C. The thesis option requires the production of a scholarly report of an investigation resulting from a study based on a careful review of related literature.

*Choose one:*

EEC 6911	Action Research: Early Childhood Education ..	6
	Course offered as 1-6 sh per semester	
EEC 6971	Thesis .....	6
	Course offered as 1-6 sh per semester	
	Comprehensive exam .....	0

**Substantive Area Courses (9 sh)**

Selected from defined area of special interest.