

# Elementary Education

## Bachelor of Science

Elementary educators—those teachers who specialize in the early academic years of children—provide the care, nurturing, and leadership young people need to develop into young students. The elementary education program provides teacher candidates with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to be outstanding teachers. The program also provides a strong course of study that promotes positive and holistic development of teachers within the framework of teacher as reflective practitioner. This framework, which serves as the philosophy of the program, guides students and faculty alike to incorporate the best practices in elementary education and make personal reflections into their motivations and effectiveness in the classroom. It is expected that students who complete the Elementary Education program and become licensed teachers will be individuals who have a distinct knowledge about the practice and theory of teaching as well as a balanced sense of personal values, integrity, and moral worth. It is also expected that students who complete the program will become teachers who reflect on all aspects of the teaching/learning process, and will mentor their own students. They will possess professional dedication to working with students, parents, public school faculty and administration, and their local community.

The LMC elementary education program online is designed for traditional, non-traditional, and adult students alike who wish to become licensed elementary classroom teachers (K-6) in the state of North Carolina. Lees-McRae offers the junior and senior years of a 4-year teacher education in an online format. This arrangement allows students to complete their 4-year degree, and at the same time offers students with transfer coursework from other institutions (including a Bachelor's degree) the opportunity to complete their teacher education coursework for state licensure.

Courses in the elementary education major are designed to meet the learning outcomes identified as being crucial for the preparation of elementary school teachers. They form an appropriate balance of knowledge, philosophy, and theory with methods and practice. The courses are based on Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC), North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) competencies and the teaching of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study (NCSCS). The Elementary Education program is accredited by TEAC/CAEP, and therefore, affords graduates opportunities for licensure and employment.

### Special Requirements for Online Teacher Education Cohorts

Due to the hands-on nature of classroom teaching, online cohort members will be required to do the following:

- Attend a pre-admission interview on main campus or one of the extended campus site locations
- The online model is delivered primarily through online instruction. Candidates should have consistent access to reliable high-speed internet services. A web-cam (either external or built-in) is required, as well as video recording capabilities.
- All candidates are required to participate in one advising session per semester (fall/spring). These may take place face-to-face, via the internet, or by phone.
- All field experiences must be completed during the day in a public school in the current Lees-McRae service area. The student teaching semester is a full-time internship requiring student teachers to report and remain for the entire teacher workday every day for the full 16-week semester.
- All field placements are facilitated by the Director of Education. You will be asked to request a school system and a public school in the Lees-McRae service area closest to your home where you would like to be placed for your field work. School district personnel determine policies for placing interns and student teachers.

### Elementary Education Requirements:

- General Education Requirements
- Admission to the Lees-McRae Teacher Education Program
- Completion of an associate degree in Elementary Education

- Major Requirements
- Electives
- Licensure Only
- Additional Information

## Total Credit Hours | 60

### General Education Requirements

For online learning students, this requirement can be met with:

1. The transfer of an Associate in Arts degree from a regionally accredited school
2. The transfer of 60 semester credit hours from [an] accredited school(s) that meet the North Carolina Transfer Module.

### Admission to the Lees-McRae Teacher Education Program

Admission to the Teacher Education Program is separate from the Lees-McRae College admission process. Acceptance into the Teacher Education Program at Lees-McRae is a process that occurs over your first semester beginning with instruction and evaluation on the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary for effective early childhood classroom teaching.

Students will be asked to formally make application to the Teacher Education Program by:

1. Completing the Application for the Lees-McRae College Teacher Education Program
2. Gathering two supportive Lees-McRae College education faculty recommendations
3. Writing an essay on their professional dispositions for teaching. Applications will be approved by the Admissions Subcommittee of the Lees-McRae College Teacher Education Committee.

Pursuant to State Board of Education policy, students who have not been formally admitted into the Teacher Education Program may not continue taking classes in the Teacher Education Program.

### Completion of an Associate Degree

Each student must complete an associate degree at an accredited community college. Meet the minimum standards for admission to the Lees-McRae Teacher Education Program as indicated in this catalog.

### Required Major Courses | 60 Credit Hours

Class Name	Credit Hours
EDU 321 Educational Psychology	3 credit hours
EDU 322 Foundations of American Education	3 credit hours
EDU 323 Assessment of Student Learning	3 credit hours
EDU 324 Managing Environments for Diverse Learners	3 credit hours
EDU 325 Reflective Teaching	3 credit hours
EDU 327 Math and Science Strategies for Elementary School	3 credit hours
EDU 328 Beginning Literacy and Social Studies Strategies	3 credit hours
EDU 329 Teacher as Researcher	3 credit hours
EDU 351 Literature for Children	3 credit hours
EDU 381 Computer/Media Applications in Education	3 credit hours

Class Name	Credit Hours
EDU 417 Math and Science Methods for Elementary School	4 credit hours
EDU 418 English Language Arts and Social Studies Methods for Elementary School	4 credit hours
EDU 419 Creative Methods and Materials	4 credit hours
EDU 473 Field Experience and Seminar	3 credit hours
EDU 491 Directed Teaching and Seminar	12 credit hours
EDU 499 Senior Research Seminar	3 credit hours

## Electives

Students are required to complete enough courses to reach a total of 120 credit hours.

## Sample Two-Year Plan

Class Name	Credit Hours
<b>First Semester Junior Year</b>	
EDU 321 Educational Psychology	3 credit hours
EDU 324 Managing Environ. For Diverse	3 credit hours
EDU 325 Reflective Teaching/Classroom Mgt.	3 credit hours
EDU 351 Literature for Children	3 credit hours
<b>Summer</b>	
EDU 322 Foundations of American Education	3 credit hours
EDU 329 Teacher as Researcher	3 credit hours
<b>Second Semester Junior Year</b>	
EDU 323 Assessment of Student Learning	3 credit hours
EDU 327 Math and Science Strategies for Elem Sch.	3 credit hours
EDU 328 Beg. Literacy and Soc. Studies Strategies	3 credit hours
EDU 381 Computer/Media Applications in Education	3 credit hours
<b>First Semester Senior Year</b>	
EDU 417 Math and Science Methods for Elementary School	4 credit hours
EDU 418 English Language Arts and Soc. Studies Method	4 credit hours
EDU 419 Creative Methods and Materials	4 credit hours
EDU 473 Elementary Field Experience	3 credit hours
<b>Summer</b>	
EDU 491 Directed Teaching	12 credit hours
EDU 499 Senior Research Seminar	3 credit hours

## Licensure Only Policy

Transfer and/or non-traditional students seeking teacher licensure will have their transcripts and field experiences evaluated by the dean or designee. Those candidates found to be lacking competencies for licensure will be required to complete those components of the general education core and/or education major as deemed necessary to meet state and national accreditations.

## Course Equivalencies

LMC Coursework	SCC Equivalent Coursework
<b>Liberal Arts Core: Communications (6 Credit Hours)</b>	
RHE 101 Rhetoric and Composition I (3)	ENG 111 Expository Writing (3)
RHE 102 Rhetoric and Composition II (3)	ENG 112 Argument-Based Research (3)
RHE 102 Rhetoric and Composition II (3)	ENG 113 Literature-Based Research (3)
<b>Liberal Arts Core: Humanities/Fine Arts (12 hours)</b>	
SPA 111 Spanish Conversation and Latino Culture I (3)	SPA 111 Elementary Spanish 1 (3)
SPA 112 Spanish Conversation and Latino Culture II (3)	SPA 112 Elementary Spanish II (3)
COM 111 Communication Art & Design Theory (3) <b>OR</b> COM 188 Special Topics (3)	COM 110 Introduction to Comm. (3) <b>OR</b> COM 231 Public Speaking (3)
<b>Choose one:</b>	
LIT XXX (Literature Course) (3)	ENG 231 American Literature I (3)
	ENG 232 American Literature II (3)
	ENG 241 British Literature I (3)
	ENG 242 British Literature II (3)
	ENG 251 World Literature I (3)
	ENG 252 World Literature II (3)
<b>Liberal Arts Core: Social and Behavioral Sciences (12 Credit Hours)</b>	
HIS 115 Foundations of World Civilization (3)	HIS 111 World Civilization I (3)
HIS 188 Special Topics (3)	HIS 112 World Civilization II (3)
PSY 133 General Psychology (3)	PSY 150 General Psychology (3)
<b>Choose one:</b>	
SOC 236 Principles of Sociology (3)	SOC 210 Introduction to Sociology (3)
SOC 335 Race and Ethnicity (3)	SOC 225 Social Diversity (3)
Or any Transfer Module Social/Behavioral Science Course	
<b>Liberal Arts Core: Science/Math/Computer Science (14 Credit Hours)</b>	
BUS 188 Special Topics (3)	CIS 110 Introduction to Computers (3)
<b>Choose at least one:</b>	

LMC Coursework	SCC Equivalent Coursework
MAT 111 College Mathematics (3)	MAT 143 Quantitative Literacy (3)
MAT 112 College Algebra (3)	MAT 161 College Algebra (3)
Or any Transfer Module MAT Course	
<b>Choose at least one:</b>	
BIO 101 Issues in Human Biology (3)	BIO 110 Principles of Biology (4)
BIO 102 Environmental Biology (3)	BIO 140 Environmental Biology (4)
BIO 188 Special Topics (3)	BIO 111 General Biology (4)
Or any Transfer Module BIO Course	
<b>Choose at least one:</b>	
CHM 101 Descriptive Chemistry (3)	CHM 131 Introduction to Chemistry (4)
CHM 111 General Chemistry (4)	CHM 151 General Chemistry I (4)
PHY 101 Descriptive Biomechanics (3)	PHY 110 Conceptual Physics (4)
PHY 111 General Physics I (4)	PHY 151 College Physics (4)
SCI 188 Special Topics (3)	GEL 120 Geology (4)
SCI 188 Special Topics (3)	AST 111 Astronomy (4)
Or any Transfer Module SCI Course	
<b>Arts Appreciation (12 Credit Hours)</b>	
THEA 188 Special Topics (3)	DRA 126 Storytelling (3)
EDU 188 Special Topics (3)	ART 113 Art Materials & Methods (3)
<b>Choose one:</b>	
ART 241 Art and Society (3)	ART 111 Art Appreciation (3)
THEA 188 Special Topics (3)	MUS 110 Music Appreciation (3)
THEA 206 Appreciation of Modern Perf. Arts (3)	DRA 111 Theatre Appreciation (3)
<b>Choose one:</b>	
THEA 363 History of Theatre I (3)	DRA 112 Literature for the Theatre (3)
THEA 256 Children's Theatre (3)	DRA 128 Children's Theatre (3)
<b>Elementary Education (5 Credit Hours)</b>	
PSY 253 Child Development (3)	PSY 243 Child Psychology (3)
LHF 188 Special Topics (2)	PED 110 Fitness and Wellness for Life (2)

## Additional Information

### Considerations For Students Transferring To Lees-McRae

Since the Lees-McRae College elementary education program online serves as the last two years of a four-year degree in elementary education, there are certain pre-admissions requirements. These requirements are equivalent to the achievements of the first two years of a traditional four-year degree program. These requirements also ensure that students can successfully meet their academic goals and all licensure requirements as developed by the State Board of Education, State Legislature, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, and the Lees-McRae College Teacher Education Program.

## Pre-Admissions Requirements

Students must have a 2.7 cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 scale) on all previous coursework.

Students must have completed an Associate of Arts Degree from a regionally accredited school; OR Students must have 60 semester credit hours that meet the Lees-McRae College General Education Core. Students who have not completed their Associate of Arts degree, but who are within one semester of doing so, may be admitted at the discretion of the Division on a conditional basis.

By the end of the first semester of enrollment in the program students must take all three tests (reading, writing, and mathematics) of the PRAXIS Core: Academic Skills for Educators. Ideally students will have taken PRAXIS Core and made a composite score or at least 468 prior to enrolling at Lees-McRae College. Students with a BA/BS degree with a 2.7 or higher grade point average (GPA) are exempt from this requirement, but will need to take PRAXIS II upon program completion as all students must do.

Content area courses from a student's Associate of Arts Degree graded below "C" will not fulfill a Lees-McRae requirement.

Each person who is interested in the program will be given a transcript analysis to determine if there are any prerequisite courses they need to take prior to starting the program. If a student already has an accredited AA, AS, BA or BS degree, or has 60 semester credit hours that meet the Lees-McRae College General Education Core or the North Carolina Transfer Module, they will not have to take additional courses prior to starting the program. However, it is expected that all students will have completed EDU 216, MAT 171 or higher, and PSY 243 or comparable courses as prerequisites to entering the program. Students without one of these degrees will be given a detailed listing of the courses they need to take, and advice on efficient ways to meet those prerequisites course requirements.

## Application and Admission Process for the Elementary Education Program online

Applications for admission to Lees-McRae College are available from the program coordinator, and come with detailed instructions on completing the admissions process. Qualified applicants will be notified by the Director of Admissions of acceptance to Lees-McRae College.

Since the Elementary Education Program is a sequenced two-year program of study (four full-time [12-15 hour] semesters and one [6 hour] summer session), entry students must begin their program with a new cohort (group), and continue full-time through the two-year course of study. New cohorts will begin each August.

## Admission to Lees-McRae College

Providing qualified teachers for our classrooms is a national priority. The public demands that we hold beginning teachers to the highest professional standards. Educators at all levels see the challenge: To establish a teacher licensing program which is national in scope, yet tailored to suit the evolving needs of individual states. One vital component of such a program is a system of thorough, fair, and carefully validated assessments designed to evaluate each teacher candidate's basic academic skills, subject knowledge, and classroom performance. Thirty-five states rely on The PRAXIS Series: Professional Assessments for Beginning Teacher.

The PRAXIS Series assessments are nationally administered and continually updated and improved to provide the valid, reliable information states need. The series incorporates the latest technology in computer-based assessments and instruction. Each assessment meets the exacting standards set by Educational Testing Service (ETS). The three categories of assessments in The PRAXIS Series correspond to the three milestones in teacher development:

Teacher Development	Milestone
Prior to entering a teacher training program	PRAXIS Core: Academic Skills for Educators
Before graduation from an elementary teacher training program	North Carolina Foundations of Reading and General Curriculum Test

PRAXIS Core: Academic Skills for Educators is designed to be taken early in the student's college career to measure reading, writing, and mathematics skills. The assessments are given in a computer-based format.

The State of North Carolina requires passing scores on tests for all pre-professional teachers to be recommended for licensure following their teacher education program. North Carolina State Board of Education policies dictate that all students entering the program must have taken all three parts of PRAXIS Core and make a composite score of at least 468 prior to admission to Lees-McRae College's Teacher Education Program. Students who have not already passed PRAXIS Core prior to admission to Lees-McRae College must take PRAXIS Core during their first semester of enrollment at Lees-McRae. Students who have already earned a BA or BS degree with a GPA of 2.7 or higher prior to program admission are exempt from this requirement. To support this policy, Praxis and NCEL Test Preparation Seminars are given during the annual Junior and Senior Day workshops each fall.

The North Carolina Foundations of Reading and General Curriculum Test is taken during a student's senior year, and must be passed before a teacher candidate can be recommended for licensure.