The Department of Education prepares candidates for degrees or certification necessary to teach in Oklahoma public schools.

The Department of Education serves the university in three essential functions:

1. Prepares students in the three areas of specialization the department offers at the undergraduate level: Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, and Special Education. The areas of specialization lead to teacher licensure and certification in Oklahoma.
2. Provides professional education courses which develop competent educators in all of the teacher education programs at the University.
3. Offers six options at the master’s level (see section on School of Graduate Studies). The graduate program prepares individuals for a variety of occupations in public schools, as well as related positions in institutions, businesses, industry, or hospitals. Additionally, a Post Master’s Certificate for School Superintendents is offered. School Counseling, School Psychometrist and School Psychologist programs are now located in the Psychology department.

Bachelor’s Degree Options
- Elementary Education
- Special Education
- Early Childhood Education

Master’s Degree Options
- Educational Leadership (online)
- Library Media (online)
- Educational Technology (online)
- Sports Administration (online)
- Secondary Education - Academic Discipline

Flexible Education
The ECU Department of Education offers courses in the evening and on weekends for students working toward master’s degrees. We also offer a number of courses online and many others are offered in a blended format.

21st Century Technology Skills
The Department of Education integrates technology throughout the program to ensure that all teacher education graduates have the technology skills necessary to teach today’s P-12 students.

Show Me the Money!
Graduates with an education degree typically earn between $34,000 and $41,000 for entry level jobs. As a college graduate, you can earn an average of 75% more than those with only a high school degree, per The Chicago Tribune! (NACE 2018 Salary Report)
**Department of Education**

**> DEGREE OPTIONS**

**Early Childhood Teacher Certification**
Students who major in Early Childhood Education complete courses concentrating on the development and education of young children. This program leads to state certification for teaching children in nursery school, kindergarten, and grades one, two, and three. The study focuses students on (a) developing an understanding of the unique characteristics and needs of pre-primary and primary level children, (b) learning to assess emerging skills, and (c) planning and executing learning activities appropriate for young learners at various stages of development. Early Childhood majors complete twelve semester hours in each of these areas: science, mathematics, social studies, and language arts. The student who majors in Early Childhood Education will gain practical experiences with pre-kindergarten through third grade children before and during the student teaching experience.

**Elementary Education Teacher Certification**
Elementary Education majors develop skill and competency in educating children in grades one through eight. The student acquires an academic foundation in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies by completing at least twelve semester hours in each of these content areas. Elementary Education majors expand their teaching knowledge and skills in the use of teaching methods, materials, various assessment instruments, and appropriate technologies toward meeting the educational needs of elementary students. They develop perspective and skills in planning, organizing, implementing and evaluating learning activities and lessons. Students also learn appropriate classroom management skills that provide a setting and climate conducive to learning and growth.

**Special Education Teacher Certification**
Special Education majors prepare to understand the unique learning, psychological, and when appropriate, physical characteristics of children with disabilities. They study teaching methods and materials and explore various technologies to meet the educational needs of these students. Legal requirements and ethical considerations are explored regarding the student with disabilities. Practicum experiences with children who are at various levels of academic functioning are completed before student teaching. Special Education majors complete twelve semester hours in each of these areas: science, mathematics, social studies, and language arts. This program leads to state certification for teaching children with mild/moderate disabilities from preschool through high school.

**Master of Education**
- Educational Leadership
- Library Media Specialist
- Secondary Education - Academic Discipline
- Secondary Education - Educational Technology
- Secondary Education - Sports Administration
- Special Education

**Certification Program**
- Superintendent

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