

Master of Education in Elementary Education

Early Childhood Education Emphasis

The *Master of Education in Elementary Education* degree program provides a range of opportunities for practicing teachers and other educators to develop their unique skills in order to increase teachers' impact on students. This degree has been developed to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and understanding for *dedicated experienced professionals*. This program is founded on a deep respect for practicing educators and is committed to strengthening and renewing their teaching through a process of increasing knowledge and professional capacity, self-evaluation and reflection on their own practice. We seek to foster teachers who care deeply about students, create appropriate learning environments, and develop their own skills in order to nurture the greatest human potential in each learner. The graduate of this program will have a deep commitment to the professional education community, a focused association with the school community and a strong connection to educational research.

This program offers:

- Flexible scheduling for full or part time study
- Non-traditional study options organized around real school issues
- Opportunities to explore areas of interest within program guidelines
- Core courses investigating current, crucial issues of schooling
- Opportunities to demonstrate mastery of teaching skills
- Specialization areas

Learning to teach requires *ongoing authentic interactions* between the developing teacher and the sociopolitical community of students, academic content, and school context. The uniqueness of each element determines the personal, professional development pattern and process that stimulates continuous change in the teacher. Responding, initiating and reflecting in and about this learning context develops a teacher who can become a *leader* in the school community influencing not only students, but other leaders, teachers, and parents. A teacher's learning in the classroom needs to be complemented and deepened by engaging and exploring research and practice that emerge from all areas of the educational profession.

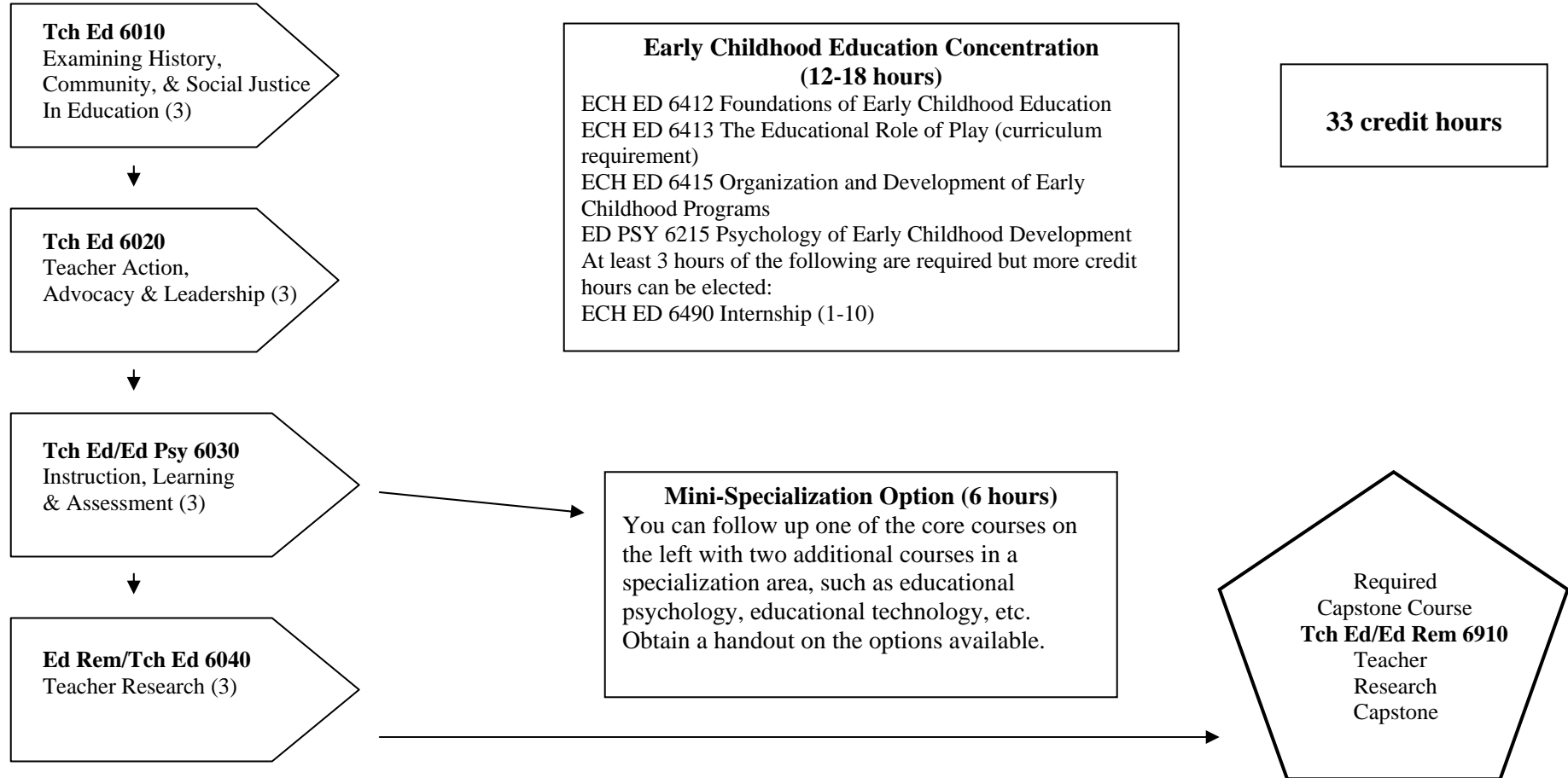
Program Goals

1. Enhance the depth of knowledge relating to the teaching and learning processes.
2. Further develop the tools of inquiry and knowledge of research methods necessary to improve their practice throughout their career.
3. Critically examine professional practice from the standpoint of effectiveness with all students.
4. Refine and develop capacity for critical thinking and investigation.
5. Construct dynamic processes and resources that promote the development of quality learning programs for all learners.
6. Develop interpersonal qualities that engage a wide range of learners and personally connect to individual students.
7. Examine and refine professional ethics so as to influence the community toward social justice and increased equity for all students.
8. Increase professional resilience and proficiency in teaching to become an accomplished teacher.

The College of Education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), 2010 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 466-7496. This accreditation covers initial teacher preparation programs and advanced educator preparation programs. The College of Education is accredited by the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

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Required Core Below:



For more information, call the Graduate Education Office at 314-516-5483, come to 123 So. Campus Classroom Building on the UM-St. Louis South Campus, or e-mail gradeduc@umsl.edu. You can apply online by going to www.umsl.edu/admission/ then clicking under “Graduate Students.” To contact faculty about the courses in this curriculum, call the Teaching & Learning Division, 369 Marillac Hall, at 314-516-5791. For a good choice of class times, apply and have transcripts sent by May 1st for the summer session, July 1st for the fall semester, and December 1st for spring semester.