

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION/ EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Chair	Secretary	Location	Department Phone
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Department Web Site URL (<https://www.sru.edu/academics/colleges-and-departments/coe/departments/elementary-education/-early-childhood/>)

Department Fact Sheet URL (<https://www.sru.edu/documents/programs/factsheets/undergraduate/eled-fs.pdf>)

The Rock Difference

The Department of Elementary/Early Childhood Education's mission statement is aligned with and reflective of the College mission, but is designed to specify the particular goals of the program. The goal of the Elementary Education/Early Childhood Department is to equip our graduates to meet the professional challenges of classrooms and school communities for the 21st century.

The Department of Elementary Education/Early Childhood offers an undergraduate certification program in Early Childhood Education (PK-4). Prospective early childhood teachers take balanced course work that provides a broad educational experience. Included are rock studies courses as well as both professional and elementary/early childhood education courses. Students (in this certification area) are required to complete field observation hours within course context with young children in a diverse setting. This early experience is followed by numerous field experiences in early childhood and elementary classrooms at the sophomore and junior year as well as student teaching during the senior year. Students are offered the opportunity to complete part of their student teaching in an international or urban setting. The primary objective of the elementary/early childhood education program is to develop competent, caring and effective state-of-the-art teachers, prepared to teach each child to high standards.

Multiple Certification Programs

While not required, it is strongly recommended that students complete a second area of certification, a minor, or an area of concentration in addition to elementary education. Our students have completed additional certifications in early childhood education, special education, environmental education and modern languages. Students have also minored in many areas including dance, history, math and Spanish. Students seeking multiple certifications should declare their intent as early as possible in their academic career and recognize that this may require additional credits beyond those required for the baccalaureate degree. Students seeking multiple certifications may expect to complete student teaching experiences in each of the certification areas. We also offer a Letter of Completion for teaching online and an international concentration. Specific requirements for additional certification, minors, and areas of concentration are available from advisers and the Department of Elementary Education/Early Childhood office, room 104

McKay Education Building. Students are encouraged to work closely with their academic adviser in choosing and declaring these other options.

Post-Baccalaureate Programs

Persons possessing a bachelor's degree may apply for admission to the post-baccalaureate program leading to early childhood education certification. This program is designed for those who have completed degree requirements in a non-education major or who desire a second certification after graduation.

The post-baccalaureate program includes up to 80 credits of coursework for non-licensed applications, with an accelerated program for middle-level or special education certified applicants and a required practicum. The practicum must be completed in an elementary/early childhood classroom under the supervision of a university faculty member, even if the student is certified in another area.