



# Elementary Education

## OVERVIEW

The human development and family science/ elementary education dual degree program is designed to provide additional knowledge in all aspects of child development to prepare elementary teachers to be advocates for young children and extend their knowledge about how children learn, what they learn, and the techniques that facilitate such learning.

Through this curriculum, students are concurrently enrolled in the human development and family science (HDFS) major (child development option) through North Dakota State University and the elementary education major through Valley City State University (VCSU). The culmination of these requirements leads to a bachelor's degree from NDSU (human development and family science major/child development option) as well as a bachelor's degree from VCSU (elementary education major).

Under a cooperative agreement, students remain on the NDSU campus to complete all coursework for the dual degree. The courses specific to the elementary education major (VCSU) are offered on the NDSU campus by VCSU faculty. Students are certified to teach elementary education in public schools and may, with additional course work and an additional student teaching experience, be certified to teach kindergarten as well.

## STUDENT TEACHING

Student teaching is the culmination of the teaching program. Students have the opportunity to apply skills acquired in college courses under the supervision of an experienced educator.

## CERTIFICATION

Upon completing this program, students are eligible for certification to teach grades 1-8.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Students may enhance their involvement by participating in groups such as the HDFS Club, the Elementary Education Club, the North Dakota Association for the Education of Young Children, the North Dakota Family and Consumer Sciences Association and the North Dakota Education Association.

## CAREER OUTCOMES



*This report is based on responses from 91% of the 2,629 students who graduated in the class of 2024. For detailed career outcomes by specific program, visit <https://career-advising.ndsu.edu/career-outcomes-report>*

# Career Paths

## WHERE COULD I GO AFTER GRADUATION?

DEGREE TYPE

Major  
On campus

- Kindergarten Teacher
- 1st-6th Grade Teacher
- Middle School Teacher
- English Language Learner Specialist
- Reading Specialist
- Special Education Strategist
- STEM Specialist
- School Counselor\*
- School Administrator
- Extension Agent/Community Outreach
- Community and Human Services
- Parent Education/Support
- Non-profit Agency Director
- Consultant in Human Development
- Child Advocate
- Business Professional

\* Some careers may require additional training



## ACCREDITATION

The program is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

## SAMPLE COURSES

**IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER:** A Sample Program Guide provides an unofficial guide of program requirements and should be used by prospective students who are considering attending NDSU in the future. It is NOT an official curriculum and should NOT be used by current NDSU students for official degree planning purposes. Note that the official curriculum used by current NDSU students can vary from the Sample Program Guide due to a variety of factors such as, but not limited to, start year, education goals, transfer credit and course availability. To ensure proper program completion, enrolled students should utilize Degree Map and Schedule Planner in Campus Connection and consult regularly with their academic advisor.

**FIRST YEAR** Introduction to Psychology; Life Span Development; College Composition I & II; Fundamentals of Public Speaking; Finite Mathematics; Physical Geology or The Earth Through Time; Introduction to Research Methods in Human Development and Family Science; Couples; Marriages and Families; Gen Ed Science & Technology and Lab

**SECOND YEAR** Diversity and Multiculturalism in Individual and Family Life; U.S. to 1877 or U.S. Since 1877; Child Development; Children; Families and Public Policy; Human Development and Family Science Elective; Exceptional Students; Introduction to Education; Math for Elementary; Gen Ed Humanities & Fine Arts; Education: Creative Activities; Science

**THIRD YEAR** Career Development; Human Development and Family Science Electives; Educational Technology; Understanding Cultural Diversity; Math for Elementary II; Social Studies Methods; Foundation of Reading; Language Arts Methods; Children's Literature; Educational Psychology; Assessment & Education Issues; Geography

**FOURTH YEAR** Advanced Writing Course; Math Methods; Reading Methods; Elementary Education Practicum; Science Methods; Capstone Portfolio; Student Teaching; Field Experience



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EQUIVALENCIES