

DEPARTMENT OF

ELEMENTARY, EARLY, AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

Introduction

President David O. McKay taught, “No greater responsibility can rest upon any man [or woman], than to be a teacher of God’s children.” (Conference Report, Oct. 1916, 57)

We believe in programs that integrate educational theory and best practice. Such programs are rigorous academic programs balanced with a strong theoretical knowledge base and extensive practical experiences in public school classrooms. The Elementary, Early, and Special Education Department offers degrees in Early Childhood Education/Early Childhood Special Education (ECE/ECSE), Elementary Education, and Special Education (K-12). Secondary Education programs are assigned to content-area departments across campus with core education courses provided by the Teacher Preparation programs. All teacher education programs include a continuance process to ensure that minimum standards are met to advance in the program. Minimum standards include basic proficiency skills assessments, minimum course grade and GPA requirements, demonstration of professional dispositions, etc.

See <http://www.byui.edu/teacher-education> for a description of the continuance process, course prerequisites, and recommended course sequencing in each major.

What BYU-I has to offer you

BYU-Idaho is student focused by design. Students participate in smaller class sizes, experience more one-on-one time with instructors, and engage with peers that share the same values. Teachers at BYU-Idaho are focused on helping each student realize their full potential through academics and personal growth. Students graduate from the university prepared personally and professionally for the real world.



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DEPARTMENT CHAIR

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Early Childhood Education / Early Childhood Special Education

Career Opportunities

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Early Childhood Education/Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) degree offers a specific skill set that provides the knowledge and license to teach and help young children in general education and special education classes as well as home-based settings. To help students gain real-world experience, they will participate in seven different supervised intervention/teaching experiences with a partnered school district, on-campus lab, home, or center.

- Work with families and infants (birth to age 3) in an early intervention setting
- Teach general or special education preschool for children ages 3-5 years
- Teach general or special education grades K-3 in an elementary school
- Business training
- Education product sales
- Curriculum development

KEY PROGRAM FEATURES

- Obtain excellent applied training in working with infants, toddlers, preschool, and elementary children grades K-3.
- Learn to assess student needs using a variety of assessment tools.
- Gain abilities and practice in planning instruction for a wide range of learners.
- Learn to collaborate with parents, therapists, case workers, etc.
- Receive knowledge and training that will prepare you for applying for graduate school in a variety of fields including occupational therapy, speech and language pathology, habilitative intervention etc.

Highlighted Courses

ED 245 | Early Practicum

- Regularly visit an elementary school classroom early in your college career and teach students one-on-one, in small groups, and in entire class settings.

ECSE 341 | Principle and Practices of Early Intervention

- In this course students will be introduced to the field of Early Intervention focusing on supporting families with a child(ren), ages 6 to 17 months. The course focuses on principles and practices of early intervention, current research, shared insights from families and professionals in the field, and real case study experiences.

ECSE 350L | Infant / Toddler Lab

- Learn to collaborate with families and professionals in meeting and developing toddlers' needs through play-based learning in this hands-on lab experience working with children aged 18-36 months.

EC 360L | Preschool Lab

- Focus on teaching reading collaboration, cooperation, child guidance, and other essential skills during this hands-on experience while working with preschool-aged children.

ED 346 E | Literacy Practicum

- Work directly with elementary students in assessing reading abilities and planning instruction to improve their reading skills.

SPED 435 | Senior Practicum

- Gain real-life experience as you work alongside a mentor teacher and acquire skills in managing a classroom, designing curriculum, and collaborating with peers and professionals work in Special ED classes for 7 weeks and Gen ED classes for 7 weeks.

ED 492 | Student Teaching

- Adventure to one of our in-state/out-of-state partner schools and work in a public classroom as a student teacher in both general and special classrooms.

Career Opportunities

- Teach elementary grades K-6
- Teach middle school (6-9) in a chosen field such as English, Math, and other content areas.
- Online Educator
- Curriculum Development
- Education Product Sales
- Business Training
- Developmental Therapist

Highlighted Courses

ED 245 | Early Practicum

- Regularly visit an elementary school classroom early in your college career and teach students one-on-one, in small groups, and entire class settings.

ED 346 | Literacy Practicum

- Work directly with elementary students in assessing reading abilities and planning instruction to improve their reading skills.

ED 347 | Middle School Practicum

- Teach in a middle school classroom in your chosen endorsement area, improving teaching strategies and classroom management skills.

ED 449 | Senior Practicum

- Work with mentor teachers to improve your teaching skills and ability to manage a classroom.

ED 492 | Student Teaching

- Adventure to an in-state/out-of-state partner school to work Monday–Friday teacher’s hours.

Elementary Education

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

At BYU-Idaho, a teacher candidate has multiple hands-on experiences in local schools and classrooms, may participate in various conferences and occasional trips, and will interview to complete student teaching with a specific partner school district either locally or out-of-state. With this degree, teacher-candidates are ready to make a difference as professional teachers.

KEY PROGRAM FEATURES

- Work with a mentor teacher to instruct students in whole-group, small-group, and one-on-one settings
- Teacher candidates choose one middle school endorsement area such as Literacy, Special Education, Math, and TESOL.

Special Education

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Special Education program prepares students to work with people with special needs from kindergarten through age 21. Students can choose between four areas of emphasis to fit their career goals: 1) elementary, 2) secondary math, 3) secondary language arts, and 4) generalists. Students will demonstrate knowledge, understanding, and application of skills during seven supervised practicum teaching experiences within partnered schools.

KEY PROGRAM FEATURES

- Obtain excellent applied training in working with students K-12 in a special education setting
- Learn to assess student needs using a variety of assessment tools
- Gain abilities and practice in planning instruction for a wide range of learners
- Learn to collaborate with parents, therapists, case workers, etc.
- Receive knowledge and training that will prepare you for graduate school in a variety of fields including occupational therapy, speech and language pathology, etc.

Highlighted Courses

ED 245 | Early Practicum

- Regularly visit an elementary school classroom early in your college career and teach students one-on-one, in small groups, and entire class settings.

ED 346E | Elementary Literacy Practicum

- Work directly with elementary students in assessing reading abilities and planning instruction to improve their reading skills.

SPED 435 | Special Education Elementary Practicum

- Receive firsthand experience by working with a special education teacher in an elementary school setting (K–8). Learn to build an individualized curriculum for students.

ED 492 | Student Teaching

- Adventure to one of our in-state/out-of-state partner schools and work in a public classroom as a student teacher in both general and special classrooms.

Career Opportunities

- Work with students and families (K–12) in intervention settings
- Teach in elementary, middle, junior, or high school special education classes
- Behavioral Interventions
- Education product sales
- Curriculum development

For additional information about [Secondary Education](#), follow the link. We're excited to have you here!

BYU-Idaho Campus Map

Teacher Education courses are primarily held in the Hinkley building.

