

Overview

The Elementary Education program at Governors State University, recognized nationally by the Association of Teacher Educators as a Program of Excellence, prepares teachers to foster the high academic achievement of elementary students in grades 1 through 6 from diverse racial, cultural, linguistic, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Elementary Education candidates learn to recognize how their own backgrounds and experiences can affect their attitudes and behaviors, to reflect upon curriculum and classroom practices, and to create and use differentiated, research-based instructional practices to help each student achieve to the level of his or her potential. Elementary Education candidates also learn about the relationships among race, class, and power in our educational system, developing a commitment to equity and social justice that results in our graduates becoming the kinds of teachers who make lasting impacts on the lives of their students and the communities in which they teach.

Program Structure

The Elementary Education program in the NCATE accredited College of Education at Governors State University is a field experience-based Bachelor of Arts degree, aligned with the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards (IPTS), the Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (InTASC) Standards, and the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) Standards. The Elementary Education program consists of the following elements:

- Broad academic preparation in General Education (49-51 credit hours);
- In-depth study in an area of Teaching Specialization (18-19 credit hours in English, General Science, History, Mathematics, or Social Science);
- Focus in the junior and senior years on field experience-based Professional Education coursework (65 credit hours);
- Capstone experience in the final semester of the senior year of 12 weeks of Student Teaching.

Total Credit Hours – 123-129

For more information on the Elementary Education program please refer to the College of Education's website at www.govst.edu/coe

For Information, contact:

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