



Discipline: Elementary Education

This Montana transfer pathway outlines the knowledge and skills that are essential for students to complete during their first two years of study for a major in Elementary Education. The coursework described below will meet degree requirements at all Montana University System campuses offering majors in Elementary Education. If you complete this coursework successfully, you will be well-positioned to finish your degree with an additional two years of full-time study at your transfer college.

Lower-Division Major Requirements

The courses below are specifically related to your field of study and are a part of the requirements for graduation in your major:

Take EDU 201 Introduction to Education

Take the following education core courses:

- HTH 201 Health Issues for Educators
- EDU 222 Educational Psychology and Child Development
- EDU 231 Literature and Literacy for Children

Take the following social science courses:

- PSCI 210 Introduction to American Government
- HSTA 101 American History II OR HSTA 102 American History II
- GPHY 121 Human Geography OR GPHY 141 Geography of World Regions
- HSTA 255 Montana History
- NASX 105 Introduction to Native American Studies

Take the following natural science courses:

- BIOB 101 Discover Biology with lab
- GEO 101 Introduction to Physical Geology with lab
- CHMY 121 Introduction to General Chemistry with lab OR any introductory PHSX course with lab (acceptable PHSX courses include PHSX 103, PHSX 105, PHSX 205, PHSX 215, PHSX 220, PHSX 226, and PHSX 234)

Take the following math courses:

- M 132 Numbers and Operations for K-8 Teachers
- M 133 Geometry and Geometric Measurement for K-8 Teachers
- M 234 Higher Math for K-8 Teachers

Lower-Division Major Requirements (cont.)

Arts/Humanities Courses:

- Take WRIT 101 College Writing I
- Take one of the following for Humanities: Expressive Art
 - ◊ ARTZ 101 Art Fundamentals
 - ◊ ARTZ 105 Visual Language: Drawing
 - ◊ ARTZ 106 Visual Language – 2D Foundations
 - ◊ Any 200 level ARTZ course
 - ◊ THTR 101 Introduction to Theatre
 - ◊ THTR 239 Creative Drama/Dance K-8
 - ◊ EDU 204 Arts and Lifelong Learning
- Take one of the following for Humanities: Literary & Artistic Studies
 - ◊ Any 100 or 200 level LIT course
 - ◊ ARTH 160 Global Visual Culture
 - ◊ ARTH 200 Art of World Civilization I
 - ◊ ARTH 201 Art of World Civilization II
 - ◊ COMX 217 Oral Interpretation
 - ◊ MUSI 130 History of Jazz
 - ◊ MUSI 132 History of Rock and Roll
 - ◊ MUSI 201 Introduction to Music History
 - ◊ MUSI 202 Introduction to Music Literature
 - ◊ PHL 101 Introduction to Philosophy: Reason and Reality
 - ◊ PHL 110 Introduction to Ethics
 - ◊ PHL 241 History & Philosophy of Science

Campus Specific Requirements

Students who intend to transfer to the University of Montana Western:

- Need not take NASX 105
- Are encouraged to take HEE 233 Health Issues of Children and Adolescents if it is offered

Students who intend to transfer to the Montana State University Bozeman:

- Need not take EDU 201
- Need not take HSTA 255 Montana History. An additional Science or Math course is recommended instead.

Students who intend to transfer to the University of Montana Missoula:

- Need not take EDU 201
- Should take two courses from the Humanities: Expressive Arts list

Advising Notes

Educator preparatory programs often have enrollment limitations or additional acceptance requirements. Please consult individual educator preparatory programs for their admissions requirements.

Additionally, Montana's Office of Public Instruction requires a 2.75 GPA, no grade below a C, and a clean background check for teachers pursuing licensure.

General Education Requirements

To be well positioned to graduate on time after transfer, it is vital you finish your general education core before you transfer.

Students attending Montana University System campuses have three options for transferring general education core requirements: (1) complete all lower-division general education requirements for one specific campus, (2) complete the Montana University System Core transferrable general education curriculum, or (3) obtain an A.A. or A.S. transferrable degree.

OPTION 1: Complete a specific campus's lower-division general education requirements

Students complete all lower-division coursework (100- or 200-level courses) in a campus-specific general education program; when transferring, this block of courses substitutes for comparable general education program requirements at any other MUS campus. The student may still be required to take additional general education coursework at the upper-division level at the new campus, but not at the lower-division level. Each MUS campus has designated specific requirements for its [general education program](#).

OPTION 2: Complete the MUS Core general education curriculum

Students can complete a set of courses known as the [MUS Core transferrable gen ed curriculum](#) (MUS Core), consisting of 30 lower-division credits distributed across six categories. Each campus in the MUS has identified a set of classes that will satisfy the MUS Core requirements. As with Option 1, students may still be required to take additional general education coursework at the upper-division level.

This option comes with an important bonus.

Students who have not completed the entire 30-credit MUS Core general education curriculum may still use it to transfer if they have completed at least 20 of the required credits. If the student has earned at least 20 MUS Core credits, they can work with their advisor to determine whether they will complete the remaining MUS Core requirements at the new campus or if they will roll their 20 MUS Core credits into the new campus' general education program. If the student has earned less than 20 MUS Core credits, they must complete the new campus' general education program, but the MUS Core courses will be reviewed for possible transfer credit towards the new campus' general education program.

OPTION 3: Obtain an AA or AS degree

An Associate of Arts (A.A.) or an Associate of Science (A.S.) degree indicates that students have completed the general education program of their specific two-year campus—thus satisfying Option 1. These credentials are often referred to as "[transfer degrees](#)" for this reason. Some specialized associate's degrees, such as the Associate of Science in Nursing, may not include the necessary number of general education credits to meet the expectations stated in Option 3.