M.A.Ed. in ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
Fact Sheet

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- 100% online programming totaling 30 credit hours
- Versatile program allows candidates to choose between concentrations in Academically and Intellectually Gifted (AIG) instruction and Literacy

COURSEWORK

- Core coursework (12 credit hours) focused on Assessment, Diversity, Leadership, and Research
- Literacy concentration coursework (12 credit hours) prepares candidates to serve as lead teachers and be recognized as literacy specialists at the school and district levels.
- AIG concentration coursework (12 credit hours) prepares candidates to work the AIG population at the K-6 level and includes courses focused on curriculum differentiation, creative thinking and problem solving, and methods for gifted instruction
- Action Research Capstone course work (6 credit hours) focused on research planning, design, implementation, and reporting.

FAST FACTS

- Total Credits Required: 30
- Both AIG and Literacy Concentrations lead to recommendation for Master’s level licensure in Elementary Education.
- AIG concentration also enables candidates to apply for recommendation for initial, add-on licensure in AIG
- Program can be completed in as little as two years and is aligned to the National Board Teaching Standards and the North Carolina Professional Teaching Standards
- In addition to the Graduate School Admission requirements, applicants must submit:
  - A letter of intent describing reasons for pursuing a masters’ degree in education, professional goals as a participant in the program, and possible research interests.
  - Three recommendations from former instructors or employers who can judge the applicant’s aptitude for graduate study.
- Applicants must hold a North Carolina Class A teaching license, or a comparable license from another state.

ACCREDITATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

- College of Education and Allied Professions
  - National Distinguished Program in Teacher Education Award Recipient
  - National Christa McAuliffe Award for Excellence in Teacher Education
- School of Teaching and Learning
  - SACS (Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools)
  - National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)/Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
stl.wcu.edu or graduate.wcu.edu
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LAST UPDATED: 06/2015
Overall requirements:
30 total credit hours (completely online)

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<tr>
<th>Required Core (12 credit hours):</th>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Credit hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDCI 609: Assessment of Instruction</td>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
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Choose one of the following:
- SPED 620: Education in a Diverse Society
- SPED 640: Universal Design for Learning

| EDCI 616: Advanced Studies in Teacher Leadership | Leadership | 3 |
| EDRS 602: Methods of Research | Research | 3 |

Required ELMG Capstone Courses (6 credit hours):
- ELMG 609: Classroom Research Design for Elementary and Middle Grades Education
- ELMG 697: Research Seminar in Elementary and Middle Grades Education

Required Courses in Optional Tracks (12 credit hours): Must choose AIG OR Literacy

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<tr>
<th>AIG Courses (12 credit hours):</th>
<th>Literacy Courses (12 credit hours):</th>
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| • SPED 500: Creative Thinking and Problem Solving  
  • SPED 571: Introduction to Gifted Education  
  • SPED 575: Models and Methods of Gifted Education  
  • SPED 577: Curriculum Differentiation for Gifted Learners | • ELMG 655: Content Area Reading in the Subject Areas  
  • ELMG 668: Instructional Design & Technology Literacy  
  • EDRD 631: Intensive Study of Writing  
  • EDRD 640: Reading Diagnosis and Instruction |

Course rotation: Courses are not required to be taken at this pace, but this rotation assures 2 year completion.