


Specialist in Education

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

ADVANCED TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

 Online



Mercer University is an institution built on achieving meaningful outcomes to change lives and impact communities around the world. As a leader in innovative, enriching curricula, Mercer provides relevant, timely professional learning for Georgia's teachers.

Mercer offers the **Specialist in Education (Ed.S.) in Elementary Education** for educators currently certified at the master's level in Birth-Kindergarten, Elementary Education, or Special Education General Curriculum/Elementary who are seeking to develop greater depth, specialization, and sophistication to provide better support in the classroom for young learners. Successful completion of the program leads to eligibility for an upgrade to Level 6 certification.

Through Mercer's Ed.S. in Elementary Education, students are prepared to become accomplished teachers by establishing actionable knowledge relating to issues of diversity, assessment, curriculum development, theory and research, instructional technology, content, and pedagogy. Students gain the advanced knowledge to support the practice of teaching and life-long learning.

Why Mercer's Ed.S.?

Mercer University has been teaching Georgia's teachers and educational leaders for over 100 years and is widely recognized for its highly individualized, student-centered approach to education. Blending theory with practice and critical thinking, the supportive faculty at Mercer are committed to the pursuit of excellence in every aspect of educator preparation.

Earning an Ed.S. in Elementary Education from Mercer allows teachers to sharpen their skills in key performance areas, enhancing the classroom experience for their students and enabling more effective advocacy for young children, their families, and the community. The Ed.S. in Elementary Education curriculum is approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC).

Delivery Format

Coursework for the Ed.S. in Elementary Education is completed online using the University's learning management system. Students will have the opportunity to schedule optional phone or face-to-face meetings with faculty at one of Mercer's locations. Courses are scheduled in eight-week terms.

Beyond The Classroom

Mercer University is committed to serving the needs of schools and communities. We partner with peer institutions and school districts to provide support and opportunities for continuous professional development.

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PROGRAM OF STUDY

Ed.S. in Elementary Education

Offered: Online

EDUC 728	Socio-Political Influences in Education
EDUC 731	Research for the Accomplished Teacher
EDUC 735	Trends and Issues in Elementary Education
EDUC 740	Connecting Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment in Elementary Education
EDUC 742	Elementary Curriculum and Assessment for Students with Disabilities
EDUC 750	Advanced Seminar in Elementary Education
EDUC 755	Play-based Learning in Elementary Environments
EDUC 760	Advanced Professional and Ethical Practices in Elementary Education

With advisor approval, students will select a nine-hour endorsement as part of their 31-hour degree program. Credit by prior learning assessment and course transfer may be possible for up to six credit hours. For additional information, consult the University catalog.

Total 31 hours

Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking admission must hold a master's degree from a regionally accredited institution with a minimum graduate-level cumulative GPA of 3.0 and be certified teachers who hold a valid Level 5 or higher Elementary Education, Elementary Education/Special Education General Curriculum, or Birth-Kindergarten teaching certificate. The program enrolls students twice per year in May and August.

Required Application Materials Include:

- Completed application for admission
- \$30 non-refundable application fee
- Official transcripts from each college/university attended

International applicants should consult the University catalog for additional requirements.

A Top-Ranked Leader in Education

Founded in 1833, Mercer University is one of America's most distinctive universities. *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked Mercer among the leading universities in the nation—including a **"Best Value"**—and The Princeton Review consistently ranks us in the **Top 15%** of colleges and universities nationwide. The University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

Mercer University prepares more educators and educational leaders than any other private institution in Georgia, and our graduates are highly sought after and asked for by name. Our students develop the knowledge and experience to teach, lead, and transform schools, districts, and communities, and our graduates are frequently recognized for their commitment to excellence. The College of Education is widely known for our highly individualized, student-centered approach to education. We collaborate with teachers, principals, human resource officials, and other community leaders to ensure that our teacher education and educational leadership programs remain relevant and align with our philosophy that students learn best when engaged in hands-on experiences.

A hallmark of the College of Education experience, our vision of **"The Transforming Educator"** is the foundation for all of Mercer's teacher education and educational leadership programs. To become a "Transforming Educator," an individual seeks to continually and thoughtfully change one's self in order to serve as an advocate for all learners.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Office of Admissions

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education.mercer.edu

