Program Description

The Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education degree qualifies the student for an Oklahoma elementary teaching certificate (grades 1-8). The program is intended to provide students with (1) a breadth of knowledge reflecting the broad traditions of general education, and (2) a depth of knowledge in the area of specialization. The degree includes four field experiences, culminating in a full-semester clinical internship, through which students work in diverse school settings and demonstrate and strengthen their pedagogical knowledge.

This degree is offered on both the Stillwater and Tulsa campuses, and Tulsa students have an opportunity to participate in the Urban Education Program, a cooperative effort between OSU and Tulsa Public Schools. Stillwater students can apply to the ExCEL program, providing site-based course work in one of two Stillwater elementary schools for the final two semesters of enrollment.

The culminating clinical internship placement opportunities include placement through the Urban Education Program, placement in accredited schools in Stillwater and the surrounding area, or international placement. All students complete a Professional Portfolio with three separate submissions. It should be noted that all previous course work must be successfully completed prior to participation in the final two semesters. Oklahoma certification also mandates the Certification Examinations for Oklahoma Educators.

Job Description

Teach students basic academic, social, and other formative skills in public or private schools at the elementary level.

Similar Occupations

Career and Technical Education Teachers
Childcare Workers
Elementary and Middle School Principals
High School Teachers
Instructional Coordinators
Librarians
Middle School Teachers
Postsecondary Teachers
Preschool Teachers
School and Career Counselors
Social Workers
Special Education Teachers
Teacher Assistants
ExCEL Program

Excellence in Collaborative and Experiential Learning (ExCEL) - a collaborative partnership between the College of Education and Stillwater Public Schools features a three-day per week full day internship in a public school classroom in which teacher candidates are partnered with expert classroom teachers.

International Student Teaching

Students may perform their clinical internship (student teaching) abroad in either Costa Rica or England. This program has been offered for several years. To learn more about the program go to http://education.okstate.edu/is/abroad

Urban Teaching Program

OSU and TPS (Tulsa Public Schools) have formed a partnership to prepare teachers for the urban classroom. Students complete field experiences in TPS partner schools and participate in TPS professional development alongside TPS teachers, then student teach in the TPS school district. Successful program graduates will be given priority-hiring status. For more information on the application process go to http://education.okstate.edu/peu/tps

Master of Science in Special Education

Elementary Education students have the option to pursue a master's degree in Special Education through an accelerated program, allowing them to obtain a bachelor's and master's degree in five years. The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) nationally recognized master's degree in Teaching, Learning, and Leadership is designed to prepare educators to work effectively with children and youth with mild to moderate disabilities. The master's program provides students with a structured capstone experience to apply special education knowledge in a research or classroom setting. The program encompasses two primary pathways: Advanced Educator and Initial Certification. Classes are scheduled during evenings and weekends, and can be taken on a part-time or full-time basis. Classes include both classroom interaction and on-line learning. To be eligible for state certification students must pass Teacher Certification Examinations.

Program of Accreditation

The Elementary Education program is nationally approved by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation.