

**Degree Guidance Sheet**  
**Special Education Pk-12 & Middle Grades Preparation—Grades 4 through 8**  
**(Variable Credits: 141 - 163)**

**GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

**I. Academic Foundations (19 credits) (6 credit overlap with IV. Content Areas)**

English Composition I <b>WRT 120</b> (3)	First Year Experience Course <b>FYE 100</b> (4)
English Composition II <b>WRT 200, 204, 205, 206, 208 or 220</b> (3)	Diverse Communities Course <b>^LAN 382</b> (3) (J) Teaching English Language Learners (ELLs) PK-12
Mathematics <b>MAT 101</b> (3) Utilized for 4-8 certification math requirement.	Interdisciplinary Course <b>ESS 102</b> (3), <b>SCB 102</b> (3), or <b>SCB 210</b> (3) Utilized for 4-8 certification science requirement.

**II. General Education Distributive Requirements (21 credits) (15 credit overlap with IV. Content Areas)**

Sciences (6 credits)	Behavioral and Social Sciences (6 credits)	Humanities (6 credits)	Arts (3 credits)
<b>SCI 101</b> <b>BIO 110 or BIO 100</b> Please see reverse for options that can be utilized for 4-8 certification science requirements.	<b>GEO 101</b> <b>PSC 100</b> GEO 101 and PSC 100 are utilized for 4-8 certification social-studies requirements.	<b>LIT 220</b> Children’s Literature <b>HIS 150 or 151 (if social studies concentration)</b> See reverse for HIS options for 4-8 certification social-studies requirements.	<b>MDA 240</b>

**III. General Education Electives (9 credits)**

Nine credits of general-education electives are required for graduation. Students wishing to be eligible for grades 4-8 certification and special education Pk-12 certification must utilize their electives to complete their chosen area(s) of concentration. See reverse.

**IV. Writing Emphasis Courses**

**The following program requirements will meet the writing emphasis requirement:** MGP220, MGP 335, EDR 306  
 Three writing emphasis courses are required for students with 0-39 transfer credits; two for students with 40-70 transfer credits; one for students with more than 70 transfer credits. One must be at the 300 level.

**PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION FOR GRADES 4-8 AND SPECIAL EDUCATION PK-12 TEACHER CERTIFICATION**

**I. Candidacy and Testing Requirements**

**Candidacy Requirements:** 48 earned college level credits; 2.9 cumulative GPA; Passing scores on Basic Skills tests (see WCU COE website for options); 6 earned credits in college-level English composition and literature taught in English; 6 earned credits in college-level mathematics; Departmental approval. *Submit Declaration of Concentrations with candidacy application.*

**Testing Requirements:**

**BASIC SKILLS TESTING:** PAPA (Pearson): Complete before earning 48 credits. 3 modules: Reading, Mathematics, & Writing (see WCU COE website for SAT/ACT/CORE alternative passing option)

**Praxis for all EDA students:** Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications (5354);

**Praxis II for all MGP students:** PA Grades 4-8 Core Assessment (5152);

**Praxis II tests for concentrations:** PA G 4-8 SC: English Language Arts (5156); PA G 4-8 SC: Mathematics (5158); PA G 4-8 SC: Science (5159); PA G 4-8 SC: Social Studies (5157)

**II. Middle Level Core--required of all students wishing to obtain grades 4-8 certification (21 credits)**

	<b>^+ERM 354</b> Assessment for Learning—Middle Grades (3) (MGP 220) (E)
<b>^EDP 250</b> Educational Psychology (3)	<b>^+SCE 330</b> Science Methods for Middle Level (4-8) Education (3)
<b>^ EDP 201</b> Young Adolescent/Adolescent Development and Learning Theories (3)	<b>^+MGP 335</b> Teaching Social Studies in Middle Grades (3) (MGP 220) <b>W</b>
<b>^ MGP 220</b> Field Experiences and the Middle-Level Environment (3) (EDP 200, EDP 201) <b>W</b>	<b>EDR 347</b> Literacy Development and Secondary Students with Disabilities in Inclusive Classrooms (3) (EDR 306 and EDR 308)

**Special Education Core – required of all students wishing to obtain special education certification (35 credits)**

<b>EDA 103</b> Foundations of Special Education (3)	<b>EDA 325</b> - Culturally Responsive Practices for Diverse Exceptional Learners (3) (Prereq. 103) <b>J</b>
<b>^EDA 203</b> Special Ed. Seminar and Field (3) (Prereq. EDA 103) <b>W</b>	<b>+EDA 327</b> Educating Students with Significant and Complex Support Needs (2) (Prereqs. EDA 103, 203, 321)
<b>EDA 314</b> Curriculum and Instruction I (3) (Prereqs. EDA 103, EDA 203)	<b>+EDA 361</b> Assessment and Special Education (3) (Prereqs. EDA 103, EDA 203)
<b>^EDA 321</b> Behavior Management and Field (6) (Prereqs. EDA 103, EDA 203)	<b>+EDA 380</b> Pk-12 Transition for Individuals with Disabilities (3) (Prereqs. EDA 103, EDA 203)
<b>EDA 324</b> - Trauma Informed Education (3) (Prereq. EDA 103)	<b>^+EDA 421</b> Curriculum and Instruction II (6) (Prereqs. EDA 314, EDA 361)

**Key:** ^course with field component, clearances needed: PA Criminal Background, PA Child Abuse, FBI Fingerprinting, and tuberculosis test results; **Review class notes for required field times, and consult Department materials regarding placements and special conditions for field course sections; Follow procedures for scanning field clearances to remain enrolled in field classes; Review course pacing guide for field sequences + course requires Candidacy; J**=Diversity course; E = Ethics Course; S = Speaking Emphasis Course; I =Interdisciplinary course; **W**=Writing Emphasis; ( ) courses listed in parentheses are prerequisites

**III. Academic Content Area Concentrations (54 credits)**

Students wishing to obtain certification to teach in grades 4-8 must complete a minimum of 54 credits from the academic content areas.

- 12 credit hours of “generalist” coursework in two of four academic content areas: Mathematics, Reading/Language Arts, Science and Social Studies.
- 9 credit hours of “generalist” coursework in one of two academic content areas: History or Science
- 21 credit hours of concentration area coursework in one of the four academic areas
- Degree requirements can be completed within 141 credits, depending on track of interest.

**For degree completion, students must complete one of the following content area concentration options:**

**A. Language Arts Concentration**

1. 21 credits Language Arts
2. 12 credits Science
3. 9 credits Social Studies
4. 12 credits Mathematics

**B. Science Concentration**

1. 12 credits Language Arts
2. 21 credits Science
3. 9 credits Social Studies
4. 12 credits Mathematics

**C. Social Studies Concentration**

1. 12 credits Language Arts
2. 9 credits Science
3. 21 credits Social Studies
4. 12 credits Mathematics

**D. Mathematics Concentration**

1. 12 credits Language Arts
2. 12 credits Science
3. 9 credits Social Studies
4. 21 credits Mathematics

## Reading/Language Arts

All students must complete the generalist 12 credits. See course catalog for prerequisite courses.		
12 credit generalist area	21 credit concentration	30 credit concentration
EDR 306 (3) Teaching Language Arts 4-8 <b>W (S)</b> (EDP 201) EDR 308 (3) Foundations in Reading 4-8 (EDP 201) ^+EDR 318 (6) Reading Instruction and Practicum (MGP 220, EDR 306 & 308)	<b>12 credit generalist area plus:</b> EDR 420 (3) Content Area Reading +SED 391 (3) Teaching Writing in the Middle School LIT 398 (3) Young Adult Literature (LIT 220)	<b>21 credit concentration plus:</b> ENG 201 (3) <i>and</i> one of the following: EDR 422 (3) or EDR 200 (J) (3), or LIT 360 (3) <i>and</i> one of the following: EDR 321 (3) or LIN/ENG 230 (3)

## Sciences

All students must complete a minimum of 12 generalist credits*, nine of which are general education and "I". Students choosing a science concentration must plan generalist credits that serve as prerequisites to upper-level science classes. *Students taking the Social Studies concentration will complete a minimum of nine generalist science courses.		
12 credit generalist area	21 credit concentration	30 credit concentration
All students must complete: ESS 102 (3), or SCB 102 (3), or SCB 210 (3) Select three courses in three of the five areas below: SCIENCE CONCENTRATORS SEE NOTE IN 21 CREDIT LIST [ <i>BIO &amp; ESS Recommended</i> ]  1. ESS 101 (3) (gives access to courses in 21 cr) 2. BIO 110 (4) <i>or</i> BIO 100 (3)-see note in 21 cr. 3. CHE 107 & CRL 107 (5) <i>or</i> CHE 103 (3) & CRL 103 (1) 4. PHY 130 (4) 5. <b>SCI 102 (3) – Required of double majors</b>	<b>12 credits from generalist area plus:</b> 9 advanced credits chosen from courses below. PREREQUISITES MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANCED COURSES  1. ESS 201, 204, 301, 307, 330, 331, 370 2. BIO 204, 214, 215, 217 (Prereq. BIO 110 <i>or</i> BIO 100 with an A or A- <i>Students are encouraged to take BIO 110</i> ) 3. CHE 230 <i>or</i> CHE 104 & CRL 104 4. PHY 140	<b>12 credits from generalist area plus:</b>  PREREQUISITES MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANCED COURSES  ESS 111 <i>or</i> PHY 105 <i>and</i> 15 advanced credits chosen from advanced courses listed under 21 credit option.

## Social Studies

All students must complete a minimum of 9 credits, all of which are general education. Students completing the 21-credit social studies concentration coursework will take 9-credits in the Science generalist area.		
9 credit generalist area	21 credit concentration	30 credit concentration
HIS 150 (3) (soc. st concentrators -HIS 151) GEO 101 (3) PSC 100 (3)	<b>GEO 101, PSC 100, from 9 credit generalist plus:</b> HIS 151 HIS 152 (HIS 151) HIS 101 (GEO 101) ECO 111 (HIS 151) HIS 344	<b>21 credit concentration plus:</b>  HIS 102 (HIS 101) ANT 102 PSC 371 (PSC 100)

## Mathematics

All students must complete the generalist 12 credits, three of which are general education.		
12 credit generalist area	21 credit concentration	30 credit concentration
MAT 101 (3) Math for Teachers of Children I MAT 102 (3) Math for Teachers of Children II (MAT 101) MAT 351 (3) <i>plus</i> ^+MAT 352 (3) <u>OR</u> ^+MAT 353 (3) (for Math Concentration)	<b>12 credit generalist area plus:</b> MAT 121 Statistics I MAT 312 Algebra for Teachers, Grade 4-8 MAT 313 Geometry for Teachers, Grade 4-8	<b>21 credit concentration plus:</b> MAT 115 (3) Algebra/Trig <i>and</i> MAT 145 Calculus for Life Sciences (3) <i>or</i> MAT 131 (3) Pre-Calculus <i>and</i> MAT 161 (4) Calculus I <i>plus</i> MAT 390 Seminar in Mathematics Ed.

## IV. Student Teaching (12 credits) Students attend pre-registration meetings scheduled one year before student teaching.

<b>^+MGP 410/411 and EDA 416/417 Student Teaching (12) (S)</b>
Prereqs: Students must have completed all the Middle Level Core requirements listed in II above; all Special Education Core requirements in III above; all generalist coursework and all requirements for one, 21-credit concentrations listed in IV above; attempted all required PA Certification tests.

Middle Grades Preparation (MGP) Academic Content Area Concentrations

**Reading/Language Arts**

*All students complete 12 generalist credits:*

EDR 306 Teaching Language Arts 4-8

EDR 308 Foundations in Reading 4-8

EDR 318 Reading Instruction and Practicum 4-8

*Students choosing a 21-credit concentration complete:*

12 generalist credits, plus

EDR 420 Content Area Reading

SED 391 Teaching Writing in the Middle School

LIT 398 Young Adult Literature

*Students choosing a 30-credit concentration complete (adds 9 extra credits to program 144):*

21 credit concentration, plus

ENG 201 Introduction to English Studies

EDR 422 Seminar in Reading or LIT 360 Special Topics in Children's/Young Adult Literature or

EDR 200 Literacy, Diversity, and Equity in K-12 Classrooms (J)

EDR 321 Assessment and Instructional Interventions in Reading and Language Arts or

LIN/ENG 230 Introduction to Linguistics

**Sciences- Students who choose to concentrate in science must carefully check pre-requisites before choosing science courses**

*All students complete 12 generalist credits (unless student completes social studies concentration – reduces science to 9 credit generalist);*

SCB or ESS 102 Humans and the Environment or SCB 210 The Origins of Life and the Universe plus three courses in three of the five areas below:

1. ESS 101 Introduction to Geology

2. BIO 110 General Biology or BIO 100 Basic Biological Science

3. CHE 107 and CRL 107 General Chemistry (and lab) for Allied Health Sciences or CHE 103 and CRL 103 General Chemistry I (and lab)

4. PHY 130 General Physics I

5. SCI 101 The Carbon Cycle or SCI 102 Electricity with Physical and Biological Applications

*If concentrating in science, select from areas 1-4 (BIO, CHE, ESS, PHY)*

**Students who choose to concentrate in science must carefully check pre-requisites before choosing science courses. BIO and ESS are recommended for science concentrators.**

*Students choosing a 21-credit concentration complete:*

12 generalist credits, plus three additional courses from the following:

ESS 201 Fundamentals of Techniques in Geology, ESS 204 Historical Geology, ESS 301 Environmental Geochemistry, ESS 307 Geology of

the Solar System, ESS 330 Introduction to Oceanography, ESS 331 Introduction to Paleontology, ESS 370 Introduction to Meteorology

BIO 204 Introductory Microbiology, BIO 214 General Microbiology, BIO 215 General Botany, BIO 217 General Zoology

CHE 104 and CRL 104 General Chemistry (and lab) II or CHE 230 Introduction to Organic and Biological Chemistry

PHY 140 General Physics II

*Students choosing a 30-credit concentration complete (adds 9 extra credits to program 144):*

21 credit concentration, plus

ESS 111 General Astronomy or PHY 105 Structure of the Universe

and 6 additional credits listed as options in 21 credit concentration

**Social Studies**

*All students complete 9 generalist credits:*

GEO 101 World Geography

PSC 100 American Government and Politics

HIS 344 History of Pennsylvania

HIS 150 The American Experience (*for students who intend to complete only the 12-credit generalist area*) OR

HIS 151: *History of United States I* (*for students concentrating in social studies*)

*Students choosing a 21-credit concentration complete (and reduce science concentration to 9 credits):*

12 generalist credits, plus

HIS 152 History of United States II

HIS 101 History of Civilization I

ECO 111 Principles of Economics I

HIS 344 History of Pennsylvania

*Students choosing a 30-credit concentration complete:*

21 credit concentration, plus

HIS 102 History of Civilization II

ANT 102 Introduction to Anthropology: Cultural

PSC 371 State and Local Government

**Mathematics**

*All students complete 12 generalist credits:*

MAT 101 Mathematics for Teachers of Children I

MAT 102 Mathematics for Teachers of Children II

MAT 351 Methods for Teaching Children Mathematics I

MAT 352 Methods for Teaching Children Mathematics II or MAT 353 if selecting Mathematics Concentration

*Students choosing a 21-credit concentration complete:*

12 generalist credits, plus

MAT 121 Statistics I

MAT 312 Algebra for Teachers in Grades 4-8

MAT 313 Geometry for Teachers in Grades 4-8

*Students choosing a 30-credit concentration complete:*

21 credit concentration, plus

MAT 115 College Algebra and Trigonometry and MAT 145 Calculus for Life Sciences

MAT 131 Precalculus and MAT 161 Calculus

MAT 390 Seminar in Mathematics Education