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Elementary Education

What does an elementary education major study?

The elementary education program prepares candidates to meet the educational requirements for South Carolina licensure in elementary education (grades 2-6). Students pursuing a degree in elementary education develop their knowledge, skills, and dispositions through challenging, inquiry-based learning experiences; these include study in the core areas of English, mathematics, science, and social studies as well as art, music, health, and physical education. Together with an in-depth study of child growth and development, educational psychology, teaching methodology, instructional technology, and focused, off-campus clinical experiences, the Elementary Education Program at Coastal Carolina University offers students a program rich in practicality, relevance, and professional growth opportunities.

Why study elementary education at Coastal Carolina University?

- The Spadoni College of Education is nationally accredited by NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education) as well as the South Carolina Board of Education.
- Horry County is the third largest school district in the state; many Coastal Carolina University education graduates land teaching positions with Horry County Schools.
- Students who earn a degree from Coastal Carolina University and who are granted licensure by the state of South Carolina are eligible for reciprocal licensure in every other state.
- The elementary education program includes extensive clinical experiences in area schools. This field work begins in a candidate's first education course and culminates with a semester-long student teaching internship during a candidate's senior year. Initial field work includes interviews with teachers and guided observation and documentation of classroom events; this work is followed by expectations for candidates to conduct individual, small group and whole-class instruction.
- Coastal Carolina University offers two student organizations for education majors: Education Club and the national education honor society, Kappa Delta Pi.

How are students admitted to the program?

Candidates may complete a formal application for admission to the professional program in teacher education (PPTE) when they have completed at least 60 hours of college level coursework and have met the following requirements:

- Earn at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA;
- Earn a "C" or better in ENGL 101, ENGL 102 or 211, EDUC 111, and EDUC 204; Physical Education majors must also pass EDPE 131; Early Childhood Education majors must pass EDUC 276);
- Pass all three areas of Praxis I or meet the exemption policy;
- Successfully clear a criminal background check; and
- Complete a Professional Behavior and Dispositions Self-Evaluation submitted in Live Text.

(Candidates are reviewed for acceptance into the Professional Program in Teacher Education by the Portal I Faculty Committee.)

What kind of courses do elementary education majors take?

EDEL 341	Elementary School Curriculum & Organization	EDEL 388	Teaching of Science & Mathematics
EDEL 472	Classroom Management for Diverse Settings	EDEL 471	Assessment & Evaluation of Literacy

Whom can I contact for more information?

- Richard Costner, Ph.D., coordinator of elementary education, 843-349-3461 or rcostner@coastal.edu
- You can also find more information at www.coastal.edu/education.

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