

**PROPOSED CHANGES FOR BA in ELEMENTARY EDUCATION  
AND ELEMENTARY POST-BAC COURSES (primarily internship year courses)**

Proposed changes would be effective **FALL 2013**

Course Number	Course Title	Current # of Credits	Proposed # of Credits	Distribution of Course (i.e., Lecture) & Internship Credit (2,400 minutes of work — 3 hours/week for 14 weeks = 1 credit)
Ed 411	Reading, Writing, Language Arts: Methods	3	3 (same)	(2.5 + 0 + 1.5)
ED 412W	Integrated Social Studies & Lang Arts: Methods and Curriculum Development	3	3 (same)	(2 + 0 + 3)
ED 414	Art, Music, Drama in Elementary Classrooms	2	3 (add 1)	(1.5 + 0 + 4.5)
ED 417	Physical & Health Education for Elem Teachers	2	3 (add 1)	(1.5 + 0 + 4.5)
ED 466	Internship & Collaborative Student Teaching	3	3 (same)	(1 + 0 + 6)
ED 467	Synthesizing the Standards I	1	2 (add 1)	(1 + 0 + 3)
ED 468 (0)	Internship and Student Teaching	6	4 (drop 2)	(1 + 0 + 9)
ED 478/678	Mathematics Methods & Curr Development	2	3 (add 1)	(2 + 0 + 3)
ED 469	Synthesizing the Standards II	2	2 (same)	(1 + 0 + 3)
ED 476	Assessment of Literacy Development	0	1 (currently, a component of ED 468)	(0.5 + 0 + 1.5)
ED 479/688	Science Methods & Curriculum Development	2	3 (add 1)	(2.5 + 0 + 1.5)

**Additional Changes**

- Change course number and name for EDSE 482 “Inclusive Classrooms for all Children” to 300 level and change title to “Introduction to Special Education”
- Develop a new course to replace EDSE 422/622 “Curriculum & Strategies II: High Incidence.” Course content will be the same as the Spring 2012 semester’s EDSE 422/622 but it will have a new name and it will be a 300 level course. EDSE 422/622 will continue as a special ed course designed specifically for Secondary students and Post-Bac/Grad level special ed students. The course that will replace EDSE 422 for elementary students will be called “*Adapting & Accommodating Instruction for Students with Disabilities*” and it will need to be offered as a special topics course for fall 2012 and spring 2013. It will become a new, and required, course on July 1, 2013.
- Drop PSY 101 Introduction to Psychology, and add one additional pre-requisite course for ED/PSY 245 Child Development (already approved by Psychology)
- Drop requirement for 5<sup>th</sup> English course (i.e., a course chosen from a wide selection of literature-focused courses). The English Department has been notified and agreed that this was appropriate.

**Summary of Proposed Changes**

- Increase credits for internship year — for BAE and post-bac students — to 30 credits per academic year to reflect current practice and to assure that students funded with the new Alaska Teacher Scholarship Program are eligible for continued funding during their senior year.

- Drop requirement for additional upper division ENGL course with focus on literature (3 credits) and drop requirement for PSY 101 (3 credits)
- Total number of credits for BA in Elementary Education would decrease by 2 — from 130 credits to 128 credits
- Total number of credits that post-bac students would have toward M.Ed. degree, after completion of licensure program, would be 15 instead of 13. This would allow M.Ed. students to take one less course during their subsequent M.Ed. program requirements.

**Note to Curriculum Affairs Committee:** A new internship calendar is developed every year for both on- and off-campus interns. This calendar provides specific information that includes the times that university courses meet and the times for the required in-school internship. A copy of the 2011-2012 on-campus Internship Year Calendar is attached as an example. These calendars cannot be developed ahead of time because our course and internship requirements must align with the calendars of the school districts in which our interns are placed in Fairbanks and in school districts throughout the State.

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## **JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION REQUESTED**

The purpose of the department and campus-wide curriculum committees is to scrutinize program/degree change applications to make sure that the quality of UAF education is not lowered as a result of the proposed change. Please address this in your response. This section needs to be self-explanatory. If you drop a course, is it because the material is covered elsewhere? Use as much space as needed to fully justify the proposed change and explain what has been done to ensure that the quality of the program is not compromised as a result.

*Teacher education programs are under a great deal of scrutiny to assure policy makers and the general public that future elementary teachers have sufficient content knowledge and skills in the areas in which they have teaching responsibilities and that they have clearly defined coursework to assure that they also have opportunities to acquire the methods needed to successfully teach and develop meaningful curriculum in multiple content areas.*

*UAF elementary teacher education interns (i.e., students in their senior year of the BA in Elementary Education degree and elementary post-baccalaureate students completing their year-long internship) currently DO have these opportunities and requirements but this has not been accurately reflected in the current distribution of credits during their internship year. As an artifact of the process of development of the original BAE degree, the number of hours that interns spend in their elementary classroom placements and in their university methods and curriculum development courses has never been accurately reflected in the course credit allocations.*

*It is important that we correct these inaccuracies now for the following reasons:*

- 1. External agencies (political entities and accreditation groups) now want more specific evidence that elementary teacher education students have dedicated coursework and internship requirements to prepare them to teach reading, writing, math, science, PE/Health and the Arts. This evidence needs to be reflected more directly and more accurately on our program requirements than it has been. Some of the work currently completed by students as part of ED 468 (a 6 credit course currently co-taught by 4 instructors) is being distributed to other courses so that the content of the courses is more clearly evident to reviewers.*
- 2. To be eligible for the newly created Alaska Performance Scholarship, university students must be enrolled in 30 credits per academic year. The intern year requirements in the current BA in Elementary Education degree include only 26 credits. These 26 credits are not an accurate representation of the amount of coursework and fieldwork that students actually complete.*

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*UAF elementary faculty have made no major revisions to BAE degree requirements since the degree was designed in 2000 in collaboration with faculty from CLA and CNSM and with elementary teacher education colleagues at UAA and UAS. Over the past few years, however, faculty and academic advisors have done a careful review of BAE degree requirements in an effort to decrease the total number of credits in the BA in Elementary Education degree.*

*Based on our analysis and our experiences with students and assessments over the past 12 years, we feel confident that our students will continue to be fully prepared as elementary teachers without completing Psychology 101 and without completing a 5<sup>th</sup> English course. We believe that Psychology 245 “Child Development” is the psychology course that is most appropriate and essential for future elementary teachers and several of our required education courses, particularly the six credits in special education, focus on many of the components described in the PSY 101 course description.*

*We feel certain that BAE students will continue to demonstrate competence in English through their successful completion of ENGL 111, ENGL 211/213, ENGL 200X, and one of the following English courses. We know of no other elementary teacher education program that requires 15 credits of English.*

- ENGL 271 – Intro to Creative Writing - Fiction*
- ENGL 272 – Intro to Creative Writing - Poetry*

- *ENGL 314 (W, O/2) – Technical Writing*
  - *JRN 311 (W) – Magazine Article Writing*
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**E. IMPACTS ON PROGRAMS/DEPTS:**

What programs/departments will be affected by this proposed action?

Include information on the Programs/Departments contacted (e.g., email, memo)

*Dr. Carol Barnhardt, chair of the Elementary Teacher Education Department, has notified the Psychology Department that BA in Elementary Education students will no longer be required to complete Psychology 101 and she has also notified Dr. Carr, the English Department chair that BAE students will not be required to complete an additional upper division English course. Since Psychology 101 has several sections and very large enrollments, this will not have a major impact on the Psychology department. Since BA in Elem Ed students can enroll in one of several upper division English courses, this action will not have a major impact on any individual course offering in the English Department. The notifications were made in person and confirmed through e-mail.*

**F. IF MAJOR CHANGE - ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRAM**

Description of the student learning outcomes assessment process.)

*This will not have a major impact on the BAE outcomes assessment plan or process. In addition to meeting instructor and program assessments, BAE students must also have passing scores in reading, writing and mathematics on the on the ETS developed Praxis I exam and passing scores in English, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science on the Praxis II exam. BA in Elementary Education students at UAF score very well on these external exams.*

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*\*\*\* Addition of ED 201 as a pre-requisite to ED/PSY 245 is also being submitted to the Curriculum Review Committee*