

**ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
AND
ELEMENTARY/SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**TRANSFER GUIDE
2007-2009**

MSUB
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BILLINGS



INTRODUCTION TO THE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Congratulations on your interest in the Elementary Education or Special/Elementary Education major at Montana State University Billings. This major leads to Montana Class 2 Certification with an elementary education certification to teach elementary education grades K-8 in Montana (and a K-12 special education endorsement for double majors).

Degree requirements are divided into four groups. You do not have to complete groups in order, but will take courses from various areas each semester. The attached transfer worksheet lists equivalent courses for MSU Billings.

The **Academic Foundation Requirements** include classes from many areas in the liberal and fine arts and sciences. The curriculum was designed to give you strong basic knowledge about the world around you and your interactions with it. The Academic Foundation Requirements are divided in sub-categories, marked with capital letters on the worksheets. You must complete each sub-category requirement before graduation.

The **Professional Core** consists of courses dealing mainly with areas of education theory and human development. The first five Professional Core courses are required for admission to the Teacher Education Program.

The **Elementary Education major** includes the methods courses where you will learn how to instruct elementary and middle school students in a variety of subjects. Classes in this group will be taken at MSU Billings after you have been admitted to the Teacher Education Program.

Finally, all students majoring in Elementary Education who are not working toward a second major in an approved area must complete an **approved minor or concentration**. A list of acceptable minor areas and their requirements can be found in the General Bulletin. It is okay if you do not know what your minor or concentration will be, but you should make this decision upon transfer.

By following the worksheet closely, you can obtain an Associate of Arts or an Associate of Science degree at MSU COT Great Falls and begin taking junior-level classes at MSU Billings without loss of credit. Your last semester at MSU Billings will consist of student teaching. You may apply to student teach close to home if you wish. Please speak with a Field Placement Officer regarding that possibility.

You will work with your MSU COT Great Falls and MSU Billings advisors before and during your transfer. Eventually, you will be assigned a faculty advisor at MSU Billings for ongoing mentoring.

Do you have further questions? Call 406-657-2240 to speak to the education advisor. Be sure to ask about visits to your campus by representatives of MSU Billings.

Best wishes for your success at Montana State University Billings!



ADVISING WORKSHEET
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION
BROADFIELD MAJOR IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
GENERAL BULLETIN 2007-2009



Montana State University Billings
 Advising Center
 Phone: 406-657-2240
 Fax: 406-657-2280
 advising@msubillings.edu
www.msubillings.edu

Name _____

Student ID # _____

ACADEMIC FOUNDATIONS REQUIREMENTS – SEE NEXT PAGE FOR SPECIFIC COURSES

Academic Foundations Category	Course #	Credits	Grade	Semester	MSU COT GF Equivalent
Category I: Global Academic Skills (12 credits) A. Mathematics (3 credits) B. English (6 credits) C. Information Literacy (3 credits)	# MATH 202				MATH 121
	# ENGL 150				ENGL 121
	ENGL 226				ENGL 122
	# COMT 130				COMM 130
Category II: Natural Sciences (7 credits) 2 lectures (6 credits) & 1 lab (1 credit) (1 life science & 1 physical science & 1 lab)	# PSSC 101				PHYS 130 / PHYS 110
	PSSC 102				LAB WITH PHYSICAL SCIENCE OR BIOLOGY
	BIOL 101				BIO 103
Category III: Social Sciences (6 credits) Courses must be from separate prefixes	PSYC 101				PSY 101
	POLS 101 or 212				POLS 206
Category IV: History & Cultural Diversity (6 credits) A. History (3 credits) B. Cultural Diversity (3 credits)	# HIST 204 or 205				HIST 103 OR 104
	# NAMS 181 or 211				NAS 201
Category V: Arts & Humanities (6 credits) A. Arts (3 credits) B. Humanities (3 credits)	MUSC 100				MUS 210
					ENGL 114 OR PHIL 232

A minimum grade of "C" required in all Academic Foundations courses.

Students should consult with their advisor to determine if specific courses are necessary in order to satisfy the Academic Foundations requirements within this program.

Certain courses in this program have prerequisites; students should check the course descriptions for required prerequisites.

Required for Admission to the Teacher Education Program

Category I: Global Academic Skills 12 CREDITS

Subcategory A - Mathematics **3 credits**

MATH 202 Fundamentals of Mathematics II 3

Subcategory B - English **6 credits**

ENGL 150 *College Composition* 3

ENGL 226 Research Writing 3

Subcategory C - Information Literacy **3 credits**

COMT 130 Introduction to Public Speaking 3

Category II: Natural Sciences 6 CR. LECTURE & 1 CR. LAB

Students are required to take one course from each subcategory and at least one corresponding lab or SCIN 101, 102, 103 & 104

Subcategory A – Life Sciences

BIOL 101 Survey of Biology 3

BIOL 115 Survey of Biology Lab 1

SUBCATEGORY B – PHYSICAL SCIENCES

PSSC 101 Physical World Around Us 3

PSSC 102 Physical World Around Us Lab 1

Subcategories A and B – Integrated Sciences

SCIN 101, 102, 103 & 104 Integrated Sciences 3, ½, 3, ½

Category III: Social Sciences 6 CREDITS

TWO COURSES FROM SEPARATE PREFIXES

POLS 101 Introduction to Government 3

POLS 212 United States Government 3

PSYC 101 General Psychology 3

Category IV: History & Cultural Diversity 6 CREDITS

Subcategory A - History **3 credits**

HIST 204 United States History to 1877 3

HIST 205 United States History Since 1877 3

Subcategory B - Cultural Diversity **3 credits**

NAMS 181 Introduction to Native American Studies 3

NAMS 211 Social Issues of the Native American 3

Category V: Arts & Humanities 6 CREDITS

Subcategory A - Arts **3 credits**

MUSC 100 Music Appreciation 3

Subcategory B - Humanities **3 credits**

ART 132 Art History Survey 3

ENGL 160 Reading and Responding to Literature 3

ENGL/PHIL 240 The Bible as Literature 3

HON 181 The Ancient and Medieval Worlds 3

HON 182 The Renaissance and Modern Worlds 3

PHIL 115 Ethics 3

PHIL 117 Philosophies of Life 3

Please note Elementary Education requires specific courses for Academic Foundations requirements, as listed above. This list does not reflect all approved Academic Foundations courses.

Course			Credits	Grade	Semester	MSU COT GF Equivalent
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Professional Core for Elementary Education

#EDF	120	Society Schools and Teachers	3			EDUC 201
#EDF	225	Human Development in Education	3			PSYC 109 *
#EDF	250	Educational Psychology	3			EDPY 220
#SPED	260	Introduction to Teaching Exceptional Learners	3			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent
#HHP	201	Core Concepts in Health	3			HHD 106
EDCI	300	Curriculum Theory and Design	3			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent
EDCI	385	Junior Field Experience	2			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent
EDCI	485	Student Teaching	12			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent
EDF	450	Philosophical, Legal and Ethical Issues in Education	3			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent

* May still need 40 hr practicum

#Required for Admission to the Teacher Education Program

Content Cognate

ART	101	Fundamentals of Art for Elementary Teachers	2			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent
MATH	201	Fundamentals of Mathematics I	3			MATH 120
GEOG	120	Environment and Culture				No MSU COT GF Equivalent
OR						
HIST	105	The West and the World since 1648	3			HIST 107

Required Elementary Education Courses

EDCI	301	Teaching Language Arts/Children's Literature and Reading in the Elementary School	4			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent
EDCI	302	Teaching Social Studies in the Elementary School	3			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent
EDCI	303	Teaching Mathematics in the Elementary School	3			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent
EDCI	304	Teaching Science in the Elementary School	3			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent
EDCI	305	Teaching Art in the Elementary School	3			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent
EDCI	306	Teaching Music in the Elementary School	3			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent
HHP	314	Health Enhancement Strategies in the Elementary School K-8	3			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent
RD	401	Reflective Practice in Reading/Language Arts	4			NO MSU COT GF Equivalent

Teaching Minor or Area of Concentration

**CHECKLIST FOR ADMISSION TO TEACHER EDUCATION
Elementary or Elementary/Special Education Majors**

I. COURSES REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION INTO TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

ACADEMIC FOUNDATION COURSES (MINIMUM GRADE OF "C" REQUIRED IN EACH COURSE)				
COURSE	TERM	CREDITS	GRADE	POINTS
ENGL 150				
COMT 130				
MATH 202				
BIOLOGY OR PHYSICAL SCIENCE				
HIST 204 or 205				
NAMS 181 or 211				
TOTAL				

GPA FOR ABOVE COURSES (2.65 GPA REQUIRED): _____

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATIONAL CORE COURSES (MINIMUM GRADE OF "C" REQUIRED IN EACH COURSE)				
COURSE	TERM	CREDITS	GRADE	POINTS
EDF 100 OR 120				
EDF 225 WITH LAB				
EDF 250				
SPED 260				
HHP 201				
TOTAL				

GPA FOR ABOVE COURSES (2.65 GPA REQUIRED): _____

**II. CUMULATIVE GPA REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION INTO TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM
- 2.65 GPA REQUIRED**

For more information on how to calculate a GPA go to <http://www.msubillings.edu/catalog/pg050.htm>.

III. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – IMPORTANT!!!

- a. An application is required for admission into the Teacher Education Program. For a copy of the application please go to www.msubillings.edu/opp.
- b. Additional information may be required for admission into the Teacher Education Program (i.e. an essay on your teaching philosophy, portfolio, etc). You will want to visit with your faculty advisor, once one is assigned, on the specific requirements needed. A faculty advisor is assigned to you once you are about ready for admission into the Teacher Education Program, this is around the time that you have completed the above courses and have a GPA of at least a 2.65.

TRANSFER STUDENT CHECKLIST

First Semester- Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls

- Meet with your Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls advisor to discuss your plan of study and intent to transfer.
- When advisor from Montana State University Billings visits Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls campus, meet to discuss your intent to transfer.

Second Semester- Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls

- Meet with Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls advisor for ongoing guidance.
- When advisor from MSU Billings visits Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls campus, meet to discuss plan of study.

Third Semester-Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls

- If born after December 31, 1956, provide proof of immunization to MSU Billings Student Health Services.
- Begin working on essay for application to the Teacher Education Program.
- Obtain admission application from MSU Billings Office of Admissions. Complete and return with official Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls transcripts.

Fourth Semester- Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls

- Obtain Financial Aid and Scholarship forms from MSU Billings Office of Financial Aid. Submit the forms by February 1 for top consideration.
- Complete MSU Billings housing application if desired.
- Contact academic advisor at MSU Billings and arrange for evaluation of transfer credits.
- Apply for admission to the Teacher Education Program, if eligible.
- Attend Transfer Student Orientation. (Contact MSU Billings Office of Admissions for Orientation dates.)
- Register for classes during pre-registration, usually late-March for fall semester or early-November for spring semester.
- Obtain your Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls advisor's signature on your completed teacher education essay. Keep a copy with your advising papers.

Fifth Semester- Montana State University Billings

- Pay any outstanding fees or sign payment agreement by end of first day of classes.
- Buy books.
- By end of first month of classes, meet with your advisor for progress check and class planning.
- Contact Multicultural Student Services and Student Opportunity Services (SOS) if you are interested in these programs.
- At end of semester, apply for admission to the Teacher Education Program if eligible and not already admitted.

Sixth Semester + at Montana State University Billings

After admission to the Teacher Education Program, you will complete any remaining general education requirements, courses in your major and minor, and courses from the Professional Core. Your last semester will be spent student teaching.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

As mentioned previously, transferring from one college to another can be an intimidating prospect. Getting here is only part of the challenge; making social and academic adjustments after transfer is usually a longer and more difficult task. Fortunately, there are people at MSU Billings who are able to help. Check out Multicultural Student Services and Student Opportunity Services:

Multicultural Student Services

Quentin Gilham, Coordinator

Student Union Building 228, 657-2182

The Multicultural Student Services office helps all students, especially American Indian, Black-American, Asian-American and Hispanic, to make academic, cultural and social adjustments to Montana State University Billings.

This campus recognizes and has a commitment to cultural diversity; therefore, Multicultural Student Services provides advocacy for students, referral to other MSU Billings programs including Native American Studies, and liaison contact with tribal education representatives and community organizations.

Intertribal Indian Club is open to any full-time student. The Intertribal Indian Club is a student organization established to assist Native American students with their adjustment to college life, to promote scholastic ability, and to foster pride in the cultural heritage of the Native American. The Club sponsors an annual Pow Wow, the largest student-sponsored campus event.

Student Opportunity Services (SOS)

Monica Powers, Director

Library 141, 657-2162

This federally-funded program is designed to help students who qualify for services to remain in school and to graduate. Students who are from a low-income background, are physically and/or learning disabled, or are first-generation college students (neither parent earned a bachelor's degree) are eligible for assistance. SOS services include:

- academic and financial aid advice
- tutoring
- supplemental instruction courses
- mentor program
- Return to Learn program
- workshops
- note-takers
- personal and group counseling
- cultural enrichment activities
- coordination with other student affairs programs

ANSWERS TO COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Do I have to earn my Associates degree before I can transfer?

No. There is no minimum number of credit hours or specific courses that you must complete to be admitted to Montana State University Billings. The transfer student checklist provided in this packet includes two years at Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls because most students wish to stay in Great Falls as long as possible. This is not a requirement, however.

2. Can I transfer if my grade point average is less than 2.65?

Yes. Transfer students must have a GPA of at least 2.00 for admission to the University; however, a 2.65 GPA must be earned before a student can be considered for admission to the Teacher Education Program.

3. Is there a maximum number of credits that I can transfer?

No, but a minimum of 30 credits must be completed in residence to graduate from MSU Billings. In addition, at least 36 semester credits must be in upper division courses (numbered 300 or above), and at least 10 semester credits of these upper division credits must be in the subject major program.

4. When I am admitted to the University, am I also admitted to the Teacher Education Program?

No. Admission to the University and to the Teacher Education Program are two separate processes. You may be able to complete all program prerequisites at Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls, or you may have at least one semester to complete at MSU Billings before seeking admission to the Teacher Education Program.

5. What is the essay on teaching?

The essay, a required part of your application to Teacher Education Program, is a two- to three-page narrative that explains why you are choosing teaching as a career. It should be thoughtful, original, and free of spelling and grammatical errors. This is a project that you will share with your faculty advisor, who may have additional criteria. You must have your advisor sign your essay before submitting it with your application to the Teacher Education Program. If you have not completed this essay before you transfer, you will be assigned a faculty advisor at MSU Billings who can help you.

6. May I take upper-division classes at MSU Billings if I am not admitted to the Teacher Education Program?

Under some circumstances, students may apply to take upper-division classes before being admitted to the Teacher Education Program. This is called a program waiver and is available to students one time only. Ask the MSU Billings advisor if you are eligible for a waiver.

7. How long will it take me to complete my degree after I transfer?

The answer to this question depends entirely on which classes you have taken before you transfer and how many credits you take each semester. You may be able to finish sooner by attending full-time and by taking summer courses. Your advisor at MSU Billings will be glad to evaluate your transcript and give you an estimate of the number of credits remaining.

8. Does MSU Billings offer housing assistance or daycare?

MSU Billings does have a childcare and enrichment center. For more information, please contact them directly at 896-5820. For students seeking off-campus housing, the Office of Housing and Residential Life keeps a bulletin board where housing openings are posted. Some students have reported trouble finding a place to live in Billings, but most are able to find affordable and convenient housing. There is a Fair Housing Authority Office located in Billings to assist you if you feel you have been a victim of discriminatory housing practices.

9. Are there any clubs or professional organizations that are active at MSU Billings?

Yes! There are organizations focusing on all sorts of personal and professional interests, and you are invited to check them out! You will find descriptions of these clubs in the Student Affairs Handbook, available through the Office of Student Affairs (406/657-2308). Also see the page in this transfer guide regarding Multicultural Students Services and Student Opportunity Services.

10. Does certification to teach in Montana transfer to other states?

No, not automatically. It is usually not a problem to get certified in other states, however. Generally, a state will issue provisional certification to someone holding an out-of-state certificate. The individual may then apply for teaching positions, and has a period of time (usually about three years) to complete any additional requirements of the state, which are usually very few.

The Department of Education of the state in which you are interested in teaching can provide you with more information. Please call the Certification Officer at MSU Billings at 406-657-2336 if you have concerns or questions.

11. Do I have to do my field experiences in Montana?

Yes and no. Students have more choices concerning their Junior Field Experience placement sites, but these are usually in the Billings area as well. When it is time to student teach, we will try to place you anywhere you want to go, including other states. A placement is not guaranteed, however, because it is dependent upon availability of schools and supervisors. In addition, you may be required to contribute toward any additional supervision costs if you request a long-distance placement. The Office of Certification and Field Experience (406/657-2336) can give you more information.

12. Will I be able to get a job?

No one can guarantee you a job in your field, and many regions have extremely competitive markets. Overall, however, MSU Billings has an excellent track record in employment for graduates, boasting a 90% placement rate for elementary education graduates and 80-100% rate for areas of secondary education last year. Adding endorsements to your certificate through additional majors or minors may be helpful, as will being flexible in your job search target areas. The MSU Billings Career Services Center (406/657-2168) can be of great help in your search for employment, assisting you to prepare as early as your first year in college.

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

Montana State University College of Technology-Great Falls

For general information, dial "406-771-4300" or dial 1-800-446-2698.

Admissions	771-4420
Business Office	771-4315
Student Services/Transcripts.....	771-4423
Student Services/Counselors	771-4414
Financial Aid	771-4334

MSU Billings 800-565-MSUB (6782)

All numbers have area code "406"

Academic Support Center	657-1641
Admissions/Registrar	657-2158
<i>Fax Number</i>	657-2302
Advising Center	657-2240
<i>Fax Number</i>	657-2280
Associated Students of MSU B.....	657-2365
Athletics	657-2369
Beezer's (Campus book store).....	657-2121
Business Operations (IDs, meal plans)	657-2023
Campus Operator	657-2011
Career Services and Cooperative Education	657-2168
Certification and Field Experience Office	657-2336
College of Education and Human Services (Dean's Office)	657-2285
Disability Support Services.....	657-2283
Education Theory and Practice Department	657-2315
Financial Aid and Scholarships	657-2188
<i>Fax Number</i>	657-2302
Health, Human Performance, and Rehabilitation Department.....	657-2370
Health Services, Student	657-2153
<i>Fax Number</i>	657-2145
Housing/Residential Life	657-2333
Multicultural Student Services.....	657-2182
Special Education, Counseling, Reading and Early Childhood Department	657-2338
Student Opportunity Services/TRIO.....	657-2162