Master of Arts in Education
Early Childhood and Elementary Education Concentration

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM
This program prepares you for effective instruction and advocacy in the care and education of young children. Emphasis is on reflective practice and the study of current research perspectives.

PROGRAM OPTIONS
If you are a Master of Arts degree in Education student in Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching, you are encouraged to take the General Education Core courses first.

General Education Core
- EDU 5003 Research Methods in Education
- EDU 5103 Advanced Foundations of Education
- EDP 5003 Psychological Basis for Learning
- C&I 5003 Theory of Curriculum & Instruction

Early Childhood and Elementary Education Core
- ECE 5133 Language and Discourse Development in Preschool-Primary Children
- ECE 5503 Theoretical Foundations of Early Childhood and Elementary Education
- ECE 6453 Assessment and Evaluation in Early Childhood and Elementary Education
- ECE 6473 Seminar in Early Childhood and Elementary Education
  or
- ECE 6653 Action Research in Childhood Settings

This program is flexible within six focus areas, or you may design an individualized program with the approval of an advisor. The areas are:

Early Literacy – This focus is on designing effective instructional strategies to develop literacy in areas such as reading, writing, social studies, math, sciences, fine arts and more. Students will have opportunities to develop their expertise in individual and/or multiple early illiteracies.

Family Studies – This option offers graduate students an opportunity to develop research and practical skills for working with families in urban settings.

Early Childhood Leadership and Advocacy – This focus meets the needs of caregivers and educators with career goals that include leadership and advocacy roles in the education and care of young children. Emphasis is on the leader’s role as a change agent and as a professional.

Inclusive Education – Typical classrooms and early care settings today are increasingly diverse and often include children with special needs. You will discover how to promote the learning of all children in diverse classrooms. You will also acquire a variety of teaching strategies to differentiate instruction and provide an effective social learning environment for all children.

Child Development – This interdisciplinary specialization examines the interaction of biological, psychological and socio-cultural influences on human development from infancy through adolescence. Students develop expertise in applied research on the impact of context, culture and institutions on child rearing and development, particularly as it relates to cross-cultural and cross-linguistic contexts.

Teaching – This program offers an EC-6 certification, which can be obtained along with the M.A. in Education. This option is 39 hours and includes student teaching. Your program advisor can provide more details.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
Students in this concentration will be qualified to work in a variety of settings as classroom teachers, elementary education curriculum specialists, and childcare directors and advocates. They can also serve with non-profit organizations, government agencies and community agencies.
Admission Requirements

• A baccalaureate degree
• A 3.0 GPA in the last 60 hours of coursework
• Be in good standing at the last institution attended
• Completion of 18 undergraduate credit hours in education or related field (including 12 upper-division level hours)

How to Apply
Apply through the UTSA Graduate School at http://www.utsa.edu/graduate.
Please send all USPS mail (transcripts, etc.) to the attention of The Graduate School at:
The University of Texas at San Antonio
Attn: The Graduate School
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, TX 78249

Financial Aid and Scholarships
To apply, complete the FASFA (Free Application for Federal Student Assistance) at http://www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Graduate assistantship positions available within the College average 19 hours per week. Doctoral students also may be eligible for fellowships.

Graduate student scholarships are located at:
http://www.graduateschool.utsa.edu
http://www.utsa.edu/scholarships
http://coehd.utsa.edu