

UGS0173 revised 4-10-12

SOUTHERN DELAWARE ELEMENTARY TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM
ASSOCIATE IN ARTS DEGREE

General Program Information

Introduction and Program History

The Associate in Arts Degree in Elementary Teacher Education is a unique program offered in southern Delaware on the Georgetown campus. It serves this community in preparing students interested in education who wish to earn a University of Delaware degree.

The Associate in Arts Degree in Elementary Teacher Education has been a program on the Georgetown campus since 2006. However, prior to 2006, an education program has been part of that campus since the mid-1990s and as early as the 1970s as part of the University of Delaware's Parallel Program. Students could take some courses on the Georgetown campus and then transition to the Newark campus to complete their degree. When the University of Delaware/ Milford Professional Development School opened in 2000, more education courses and BSED required courses were offered in Georgetown through the Parallel Program so that students could complete their BSED Degree in Elementary Teacher Education in southern Delaware with the first two years offered through the Parallel Program and the final two years offered at the UD/Milford PDS. In 2002, the University's Parallel Program came to an end and the Associate in Arts Degree Program began. The Georgetown education students were encouraged to enroll in that program rather than the BSED program strictly for financial reasons. At that time the State of Delaware began to offer eligible students the Delaware SEED (Student Excellence Equals Degree) Scholarship which offered free tuition to students in an AA program. AA students not eligible for this scholarship would still receive lower tuition if they were in an AA program rather than a BS program.

Education students began to enroll in the AA program even though the required courses were not compatible between the two programs. Students were able to complete the first two years of the BSED program in Georgetown, but were not able to complete an AA degree. In 2004, the administrators of the UST AA program became concerned that so many of their AA students were not completing the AA degree. The education students were successfully moving to a BSED degree in Milford or Newark for their junior and senior years, but the data looked like they were unable to complete an AA degree. It was requested that the education students no longer be enrolled in the UST AA degree. This situation was unique to the Georgetown campus because it was, and remains today, the only campus outside of Newark that offers education courses.

To meet the needs of the students in southern Delaware who wanted to earn their University degree in southern Delaware and participate in an AA program to earn that degree, and to be eligible for the SEED Scholarship or lower tuition, the College of Education, Human Services and Public Policy decided to create their own AA program tailored for elementary teacher education majors. Basically, it would encompass the first two years of the BSED degree,

allowing students to earn an AA degree and be prepared to begin their junior year in Milford or Newark. This program was granted provisional approval in 2006. The ETE AA program continues to offer this degree in southern Delaware, allowing students to complete their freshmen and sophomore years in southern Delaware and earn their AA degree and then transition to our Newark campus to complete their BSED degree.

Program Compatibility with Academic Priorities of the University

According to the Instructional Program Policy at the University of Delaware (2006), the “objective of the University to foster the total intellectual, cultural, and ethical development of its students as citizens, scholars, and professionals” (Conduct of Academic Programs, para. 1)¹. The ETE AA program as part of the School of Education and along with all education programs at the University, adhere to the University of Delaware Conceptual Framework as the guiding principal for instruction and service learning. Specifically this program prepares students to be reflective practitioners serving diverse communities of learners as scholars, problem solvers and partners. The students in the ETE AA program are introduced to this framework during EDUC 100: Introduction to Elementary and Middle School Education during their first semester. This framework guides all of our education courses, performance tasks and field experiences required of students in this program.

Program and the Ten General Education Goals

The ETE AA program was designed to mirror the first two years of the BSED in Elementary Teacher Education program. The only difference in the first two years of courses is that the ETE AA program is located in Georgetown and the BSED program is located on the Newark campus. No changes were made to course requirements or program accreditation requirements. Basically it is not a new or different program, but a different way of offering a current program. Therefore, no additional courses or requirements were needed for this program in order for it to meet the Ten General Education Goals.

Curriculum Requirements

This program requires the same courses as those required in the Bachelor of Science in Education Degree for Elementary Teacher Education students during the freshman and sophomore years. The following is a detailed list of these courses:

University Requirements – 3 credits

ENGL 110 – Critical Reading and Writing	3 credits
Multicultural Requirements (Can be met with EDUC 247, EDUC 258, or LING 101, which will also count under Professional Studies or English.)	

English – 6 credits

ENGL literature course	3 credits
LING 101 – Introduction to Linguistics	

¹University of Delaware (2006). Faculty handbook: Conduct of academic programs. Retrieved from <http://www.udel.edu/provost/fachb/III-instruction.html>

or	
ENGL 390 English Linguistics	3 credits
<u>Science – 12 credits</u>	
BISC 104 – General Biology	
or	
BISC 207 – Introduction to Biology 1	4 credits
GEOL 113 – Earth Science	4 credits
SCEN 102 Physical Science	4 credits
<u>Mathematics – 9 credits</u>	
MATH 251 – Mathematics for K-8 Teachers: Numbers and Operations	3 credits
MATH 252 – Mathematics for K-8 Teachers: Rational Numbers and Probability	3 credits
MATH 253 – Mathematics for K-8 Teachers: Geometry, Algebra, and Measurement	3 credits
<u>Social Sciences – 12 credits</u>	
HIST 103, 104, 205, or 206 – World or U.S. History	3 credits
POSC/ECON 102 – Civics & Economics for Teachers	
or	
POSC 150 – American Political Systems	3 credits
POSC/ECON102 – Civics & Economics for Teachers	
or	
ECON 100 – Economic Issues & Policies	
or	
ECON 151 – Introduction to Microeconomics	3 credits
GEOG 102, 120, 203, or 210 Human, World Regional, Cultural, or Economic Geography	3 credits
<u>Fine Arts – 3 credits</u>	
Any course from the departments of: ART, ARTH, DANC, MUED, MUSC, or THEA	3 credits
<u>Professional Studies – 17 credits</u>	
EDUC 100 – Introduction to Elementary and Middle School Education	1 credit
EDUC 205 – Human Development Grades K-8	3 credits
EDUC 210 – Beginning Literacy Instruction	3 credits
EDUC 230 – Introduction to Exceptional Children	3 credits
EDUC 240 – Legal and Ethical Issues in American Education	
or	
EDUC 247 – The History of Education in America	3 credits
EDUC 258 – Cultural Diversity, Schooling, and the Teacher	3 credits
EDUC 286 – Educational Technology: Professional Tools	1 credit

TOTAL CREDITS

62 credits

Assessment of Program Quality

The assessments used to measure the quality of this program are assessments designed by the Elementary Teacher Education Program as part of the NCATE accreditation process and the Unit's assessment system. Assessments at this level include student grades in a variety of education and general University courses required of students in the freshmen and sophomore years. These courses include EDUC 210, ENGL 110, LING 101 or ENGL 390, BISC 104 or 207, GEOL 113, SCEN 102, MATH 251, MATH 252, MATH 253, ECON 100, 102, or 151, GEOG 102, 120, 203 or 210, HIST 103, 104, 205, or 206, POSC 102 or 150, and a fine arts course. In addition to looking at the range of grades for these courses, a comparison of the grades between Newark campus students and ETE AA students are examined to compare the assessments results of this program with the results obtained by students on the Newark campus. Tables 1-4 look at the results of these assessments for the Georgetown and Newark students for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010.

Table 1
Candidates' Grades in Required Courses – ETE AA Program Georgetown
Results of 2008-2009 Graduates

Course	Mean Grade	Range of Grades	% Meeting Expectations (C-)
EDUC 210	3.25	2.67-4	100%
ENGL 110	3.39	2.67-4	100%
LING 101 or ENGL 390	3.33	2.67-4	100%
BISC 104 or 207	3.29	2-4	100%
GEOL 113	3.38	2.67-3.67	100%
SCEN 102	3.29	2-4	100%
MATH 251	3.04	2-4	100%
MATH 252	3.29	2.67-4	100%
MATH 253	3.19	1.67-4	100%
ECON 151	2.75	1.67-3.67	100%
GEOG 102, 120, 203, or 210	3.00	1.67-4	100%
HIST 103, 104, 205, or 206	2.60	1.67-3.33	100%
POSC 150	2.58	2-3.67	100%
Fine Arts course	2.95	1.67-3.33	100%

Table 2
Candidates' Grades in Required Courses – ETE AA Program Georgetown
Results of 2009-2010 Graduates

Course	Mean Grade	Range of Grades	% Meeting Expectations (C-)
EDUC 210	3.75	3-4	100%
ENGL 110	3.29	2.33-4	100%
LING 101 or ENGL 390	3.37	2-4	100%
BISC 104 or 207	3.58	2.67-4	100%
GEOL 113	3.50	2.33-4	100%
SCEN 102	3.33	2.67-4	100%
MATH 251	3.33	1.67-4	100%
MATH 252	3.67	2.67-4	100%
MATH 253	3.58	2.33-4	100%
ECON 151	3.00	2-4	100%
GEOG 102, 120, 203, or 210	3.33	2-4	100%
HIST 103, 104, 205, or 206	3.21	2-4	100%
POSC 150	3.21	2.67-4	100%
Fine Arts course	3.50	2.67-4	100%

Table 3
Candidates' Grades in Required Courses – BSED Program Newark
Results of 2008-2009 Graduates

Course	Mean Grade	Range of Grades	% Meeting Expectations (C-)
EDUC 210	3.78	2.33-4	100%
ENGL 110	3.53	1.67-4	100%
LING 101	3.39	1.67-4	100%
BISC 104 or 207	3.31	1.67-4	100%
GEOL 113	3.42	2-4	100%
SCEN 102	3.60	2-4	100%
MATH 251	2.97	1.67-4	100%
MATH 252	3.23	1.67-4	100%
MATH 253	3.11	1.67-4	100%
ECON 100, 102, or 151	3.00	1.67-4	100%
GEOG 102, 120, 203, or 210	2.94	1.67-4	100%
HIST 103, 104, 205, or 206	3.20	1.67-4	100%
POSC 102 or 150	3.27	1.67-4	100%
Fine Arts course	3.69	2-4	100%

Table 4
Candidates' Grades in Required Courses – BSED Program Newark
Results of 2009-2010 Graduates

Course	Mean Grade	Range of Grades	% Meeting Expectations (C-)
EDUC 210	3.79	2-4	100%
ENGL 110	3.52	2-4	100%
LING 101	3.38	1.67-4	100%
BISC 104 or 207	3.12	1.67-4	100%
GEOL 113	3.22	1.67-4	100%
SCEN 102	3.52	2-4	100%
MATH 251	2.78	1.67-4	100%
MATH 252	3.10	1.67-4	100%
MATH 253	3.04	1.67-4	100%
ECON 100, 102, or 151	3.12	1.67-4	100%
GEOG 102, 120, 203, or 210	2.92	1.67-4	100%
HIST 103, 104, 205, or 206	3.21	2-4	100%
POSC 102 or 150	3.19	1.67-4	100%
Fine Arts course	3.71	2-4	100%

The ETE AA students performed well in all of these assessments with 100% of the students meeting the expectation of a C- grade or better. The mean grade for these courses in 2010 was above a 3.0 for all 14 courses, a slight improvement over the 2009 scores. The BSED students in Newark did similarly to the ETE AA students on these assessments.

Faculty in the ETE AA program use this data to review and revise these 14 courses each year. All scores are shared with faculty teaching these courses and a discussion is held on student performance and ways to improve course instruction and student achievement.

Student Advisement

Student advisement for this program is carried out by Dr. Laurie A. Palmer who is assigned to the undergraduate School of Education programs in southern Delaware. This advisement includes a new student orientation prior to the start of the freshmen year, ongoing academic advisement during the freshmen and sophomore years, and transitional advisement for students between their ETE AA degree and a Bachelor of Science degree program in their junior year.

Accreditation Requirements

This program is considered part of the Elementary Teacher Education program. The ETE program is accredited through NCATE. Required data for accreditation that is collected from the freshman and sophomore years is collected from the students in this program. Students in the ETE AA program have passed all of the assessments required of all freshmen and sophomores in the ETE program and thus this program has met the required accreditation requirements at this level.

Changes in Admission Criteria, Degree Requirements Since Provisional Approval

Admission to the ETE AA program in Georgetown is administered by the Admissions Office. Candidates apply and are admitted directly to this program as freshmen if they meet the criteria for admission to the Associate in Arts programs. Candidates who apply to the University in our BSED program can be assigned to the ETE AA program if they do not meet admission criteria for a BS program. After completing the ETE AA program at the end of the sophomore year, students then transition into a BSED program if they meet the minimum criteria which is an overall GPA of 2.6, a GPA in education courses of 2.75 and passing the Praxis I exams in reading, writing and mathematics.

There have been no changes to the admission criteria since provisional approval was granted for this program.

Recruiting Procedures

Recruitment to the ETE AA program is part of the University's recruitment activities for Delaware students, specifically students identified as candidates for an AA program. Students are recruited directly into this program or they can be assigned if they do not qualify for the BSED program in elementary teacher education and they are residents of southern Delaware.

In addition to the recruitment done by the admissions office, there are some additional activities to recruit students to this program that are conducted by southern Delaware education faculty. This has included:

- Flyers sent to high school guidance counselors in southern Delaware with program highlights and contact information that can be shared with interested students;
- Annual meetings with southern Delaware high school counselors to discuss this program;
- Visits by faculty to high schools to speak with students when requested;
- Meetings with interested parents and perspective students when requested;
- An ETE AA brochure sent to perspective students; and
- A School of Education website.

It should be noted that much of this activity was suspended in 2010-2011 as the College of Education and Human Development assessed its southern Delaware programs. More recruitment activities will be required if this program gains final approval.

Student Information

Application and Enrollment History

Students come to the ETE AA program through a variety of application requests to the University of Delaware. Students can apply directly to the ETE AA program, be assigned to the program if they request the BSED program in elementary teacher education and do not meet admission requirements, be admitted to the BSED program but request to transfer to the ETE AA

program, or apply to another program and request transfer to the ETE AA program after being admitted.

Table 5 looks at the application data from 2006-2010. Of the 86 students admitted during this period, 36% of the students requested admission the ETE AA program, 33% requested admission to the BSED program in elementary teacher education, and 31% requested admission to other majors and transferred to the ETE AA degree program prior to the beginning of their freshmen year. Students originally requesting admissions to the BSED program in education were admitted to the ETE AA program for two main reasons. First, some students living in southern Delaware did not meet admission requirements to the BSED program and were assigned to the ETE AA program. Another group of southern Delaware students were admitted to the BSED degree program, but requested a transfer to the AA ETE program citing either financial reasons (SEED Scholarship or lower tuition) or wanting to live at home. Most of the students originally admitted to the UST AA program that transferred to the ETE AA program had wanted to be in the ETE AA program, but had not indicated that on their application.

Table 5
Associate in Arts in Elementary Teacher Education Program Admissions Data²

Admission Year	Requested Admissions to ETE AA Program	Requested Admissions to BSED Program	Requested Admissions to Other Major Including USTAAA/transfers	TOTAL ADMISSIONS
2006	1	3	8	12
2007	11	5	10	26
2008	7	7	2	16
2009	4	7	5	16
2010	8	6	2	16
2011	7	1	2	10

Program Graduates

A goal of the Associates of Arts Programs at the University of Delaware is for students to complete the degree in two years and transition on to a BS or BA degree program. Table 6 looks at the number of years that it took students to complete their ETE AA degree. Data indicates that 45% of the students admitted to the ETE AA program were able to complete the degree in two years, 14% of the students took more than two years to complete the degree, 19% of the students either changed to another program or were dismissed from the University, and 14% began the program with transfer credits and did not fit the anticipated timeline for completing the program. Additionally, 17% of the students are in the second year of this program with an anticipated graduation at the completion of their sophomore year.

² Data provided by Louis Hirsch, Director of Admissions and Claudia Johnson, Office of the University Registrar

Table 6
Years to Complete Associate in Arts Degree in Elementary Teacher Education³

	Two Years	Two Plus Years	Transferred in with Credits	Changed Program or Dismissed from UD	Students Currently in Sophomore Year
86 students admitted 2006-2010	39	12	4	16	15

It is anticipated that students completing an Associate in Arts degree at the University of Delaware will choose to transition into a BS or BA degree at the University of Delaware. Students completing their ETE AA degree had the option of transitioning to the BSED program at the University of Delaware /Milford Professional Development School or to the BSED program on the Newark campus. Of the 55 students completing their ETE AA degree and moving forward with a BS degree, 82% of the students moved to a BSED at the University of Delaware (64% to the UD/Milford PDS and 18% to the Newark campus), 14% transferred to Wilmington University, 2% transferred to Wesley College and 2% chose an institution outside of Delaware. Currently there are 15 sophomores enrolled in the ETE AA program with 87% anticipating transitioning to the Newark campus to begin their BSED program in fall 2012.

Table 7
Institution ETE AA Graduates Chose to Complete Four-Year Degree in Elementary Teacher Education⁴

	UD/Milford PDS	Newark Campus	Wilmington University	Wesley College	Other
55 Students Going on to BS Degree	35	10	8	1	1

Competitive Factors - AA ETE Degree Unique Features and Other Degrees in Southern Delaware

This ETE AA program is not the only Associate in Arts degree program offered in education in southern Delaware. Currently, Delaware Technical and Community College offers an ETE AA program with several options for transitioning into other education programs in southern Delaware to complete a BSED degree including Wilmington University, Wesley College and Delaware State University. The DTCC AA program does not easily transfer to the University of Delaware. Students completing that program are not ready to begin their junior year at the University of Delaware. The reason for this is that DTCC requires different courses in their

³ Data provided by Claudia Johnson, Office of the University Registrar

⁴ Data collected from ETE AA student files

program than those required by the Elementary Teacher Education Program at the University. Currently there is not a program agreement for Elementary Teacher Education between the two programs. The ETE AA program is the only AA program in Delaware that transitions directly into the BSED program in Newark, allowing students to graduate in four years. This program supports our southern Delaware students with an interest in education who want to earn a University of Delaware degree.

Another unique feature of this ETE AA program is that students are eligible for the Delaware SEED (Student Excellence Equals Degree) scholarships provided by the State of Delaware to cover tuition for full time students enrolled in an Associate in Arts Program. This is the only education program at the University that is eligible for this scholarship. In theory, students can complete the first two years of their BSED degree through this AA degree tuition free. This is a big incentive for many southern Delaware students.

Finally, this ETE AA degree allows students to stay in southern Delaware for the first two years of their education before transitioning to a program on the main campus. In a survey of ETE AA students, the cost of the ETE AA program was the number one reason students indicated that they chose this program.

Interdisciplinary Relationships

There is a strong connection between the ETE AA program and the UST AA program in Georgetown. All students in the ETE AA program are required to take courses in English, mathematics, social sciences, and fine arts to graduate. These courses are also required by the UST AA students. Both programs work together to be sure that the general education courses required by the ETE AA students are offered in Georgetown and offered at a time that fits their schedule. Faculty work together to ensure the success of students in both programs. The ETE AA students help with registration numbers in general education courses and allow a wider variety of courses to be offered on the Georgetown campus.

Program Facilities

This program is offered in conjunction with the Associate in Arts in University Studies degree at the UD Academic Center on our Georgetown campus. Office and classroom space is provided to the University of Delaware by Delaware Technical and Community College. School of Education faculty have an office in room 172 in the Jason Building. Classroom space for this program comes from the classroom space that is assigned to the University by DTCC. Currently, the space provided to this program adequately meets program needs.

Budgetary Requirements

The budgetary requirements for the ETE AA program are limited to faculty resources. Currently there are 24 credits that this program has financial responsibility. This includes 17 education credits and seven general education credits required of this program. Twelve credits have been part of the workload of School of Education faculty assigned to southern Delaware, specifically at the University of Delaware/Milford Professional Development School, and twelve credits have been covered through s-contracts. It is anticipated that this workload will remain the same in the future. Besides the faculty costs, the School of Education does not pay for space for this program

and general office materials are provided on this campus for the ETE AA program to use such as copying costs.