

Summary of Education Department EPPC Proposals

April 2009

1) Add a Secondary Special Education Endorsement Program:

This is an endorsement program; it is **not** a degree or major program. Courses required for the endorsement include:

Educ 233 Foundations of Special Education (2 hours)

*Educ 312 Education, Collaboration, and Differentiation for Students with Special Needs
(3 hours)*

Educ 316 Secondary Education and Practicum (3 hours)

Educ 318 Assessment, Diagnosis, and Programming for Students with Special Needs (2 hours); this will be changed to a 3 hour course in order to add the secondary content.

Educ 320 Reading and Writing in the Content Areas (3 hours)

Educ 327 Secondary Special Education (Instructional Strategist I) Methods and Practicum (3 hours)

Educ 333 Classroom Management for Special Education (3 hours)

Educ 347 Collaboration, Consultation, Career Education, and Transitions for Secondary Special Education (3 hours)

Educ 388 Student Teaching in Secondary Special Education

Note: Courses listed in italics are existing classes.

Rationale:

Secondary special education is one of the areas of greatest need for teachers in Iowa and across the country. It has been designated, both at the state and federal levels, as an official "Teacher Shortage Area." We want to meet this need by preparing secondary special education teachers, and we have had numerous students request this endorsement. We believe that this new endorsement program will enhance both our undergraduate and graduate programs and increase the marketability of our graduates. We can offer the full endorsement by adding just three new courses.

Changes and Additions for the Secondary Special Education Endorsement:

We already offer quite a few of the courses that will be required for the secondary endorsement, including: Educ 233 Foundations of Special Education (2 hours); Educ 316 Secondary Education and Practicum (3 hours); Educ 318 Assessment, Diagnosis, and Programming for Students with Special Needs (2 hours—will be changed to 3 hours in order to add the secondary level content); and Educ 320 Reading and Writing in the Content Areas (3 hours).

We plan to add the following new courses: Educ 333 Classroom Management for Special Education (3 hours during May Term and one evening section every other year); Educ 327 Secondary Special Education Methods and Practicum (3 hours offered every other year in the evening); Educ 347 Collaboration, Consultation, Career Education, and Transitions for Secondary Special Education (3 hours offered in the evening every other year); Educ 388SS Student Teaching in a Secondary Special Education setting (7-14 hours offered fall and spring semesters).

Staffing Issues:

Given that the new courses will be taught through the EWG program, on an every other year basis, there will be no impact on the regular teaching loads of the department. We anticipate that many of the courses will be taught by current or former full-time Education Department faculty members.

- 2) Add graduate level numbers and requirements (more work at a higher and deeper level) to all courses required for: a) the Early Childhood Endorsement, b) the Elementary Special Education Endorsement, c) the Secondary Special Education Endorsement, and d) the recently added courses for the Reading Endorsement.**

These graduate offerings will be for endorsement programs only; the graduate courses will *not* lead to degrees or majors.

Rationale: We believe there is a sizeable pool of practicing teachers who want to add these endorsements (elementary and secondary education plus early childhood and reading) but will only do so if they can earn graduate credit for the courses—this allows them to move up on the pay scale in their districts (undergraduate credit does not). And as previously mentioned, special education (both elementary and secondary) is a critical teacher shortage area. In the area of early childhood, a recent state law mandates free preschool (up to 20 hours per week) for all four year children. However, all teachers must be licensed and endorsed in early childhood. There are many teachers teaching in these programs who are not endorsed in early childhood. They are looking for graduate level programs where they can complete the endorsement course work. We have received at least 5 inquiries this semester, and two area teachers are waiting to enroll in this program. We believe that we can deliver high quality programs that are needed in this geographic area.

Changes and Additions for Adding Graduate Level Numbers:

New course numbers for the Special Education Endorsements:

Add graduate level numbers to: 233/513, 318/518, 327/527, 333/533, 347/547

New course numbers for the Early Childhood Endorsements:

Add graduate level numbers to: 231/511, 235/505, 322/525, 323/532, 328/518

New course numbers for the Reading Endorsement (all of the other courses already have graduate numbers): Educ 236/526 and Educ 320/520

Staffing Issues:

There will be no changes in staffing loads for adding graduate level courses. EWG will pay instructors (doctorally qualified only) a small stipend for the additional work that is required for teaching graduate level students. Faculty who teach courses in the evening, through EWG, will be compensated in the same manner that all EWG faculty are paid. We will offer courses in the evening on an every other year basis. We intend to hire current or former full-time Education Department faculty members to teach the courses as we want to ensure high quality and consistency in our course offerings.

3) For Your Information – no action required:

The Education Department will drop the requirement that candidates pursuing licensure for secondary, art, music, health, and physical education will no longer be required to take two science courses; only one science course will be required. Elementary Education candidates will continue to take two science courses.

Thank you for your consideration of your program changes.