BACHELOR'S PROGRAM

Bachelor of Science in SPECIAL EDUCATION

Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow.

As a future educator, you understand the importance of quality education and the role it plays in students' lives. Choosing one of NCWU's Teacher Education Programs affords you the firm foundation needed to shape tomorrow's future. The Special Education Major focuses on the design and provision of teaching and other educational services to children and adults with special learning needs or disabilities. Students are prepared to function as special education teachers. Includes instruction in diagnosing learning disabilities, developing individual education plans, teaching and supervising special education students, special education counseling and applicable laws and policies. Students may choose to double major in both Elementary Education and Special Education.

PERSONAL

Our faculty have real-world professional experience to ensure you are challenged and supported through mentoring and the connections we provide.

PRACTICAL

Develop lifelong skills through your educational opportunities that are broadly useful, fully transferable and applicable to any challenge or career.

PURPOSE-DRIVEN

Use your degree as a stepping stone to pursue accredited certifications offered at leading organizations or post-graduate study programs.

CAREER AREAS:

- Special Education Teacher (K-12)

***FACT:** In September 2023, North Carolina had 3,500+ teaching vacancies.*

Demand for educators is rising nationwide each year. Deepen your impact in local communities, build strong job security and create more options for your career.

VERY HIGH DEMAND

PAY TRENDS:

The median annual wage* for the **Education** field of degree is:

**Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook. Not entry level - varies based on location, education and experience. Recent graduates would need to earn experience and advance in career to earn a higher salary.*

"The education program at Wesleyan does a great job of fostering a sense of community and dedication to a noble profession that literally changes and impacts lives on a daily basis."

Lauren Sarmiento, '19
BS in Elementary Education

NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

ncwu.edu

BS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

Scan to View Major Requirements
No minor available.

General Graduation Guidelines:

- Total of 120 semester hours, 33 of which must be numbered 300 or 400 (Other programs may require coursework beyond 120 semester hours)
- At least 9 semester hours of courses designated as writing intensive
- A declared major
- A cumulative GPA average of C (2.00) and at least a C average in the graduation major

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- Basic models of curriculum, instruction, classroom management and evaluation in the classroom
- Experience of the classroom as encountered by teachers
- Preparation to take the PRAXIS Core Academic Skills for Educator Test
- Principal genres of literature for children in the elementary grades
- How to effectively integrate the Performing and Visual Arts and Healthy Living Standards
- Techniques and materials useful in the teaching of science
- Uses of media and computers in education
- Learn about developmental reading and how to increase reading skills of elementary age students, using a balanced approach to literacy instruction
- Methods and materials for developing listening, speaking, viewing, writing and reading skills of elementary age students will be discussed in detail
- Study of the history and philosophy of elementary education, grades K-6; trends in organizational setting; teaching patterns; curriculum areas; and changing student populations
- How to incorporate social studies in the K-6 curriculum

ADMISSION POLICIES

Admission to the University does not guarantee admission to the Teacher Education Program. Students seeking admission to the Teacher Education program at Wesleyan should apply during the spring of their sophomore year. A student must be admitted to the Teacher Education Program before enrolling in upper-level education courses or must have permission from the Teacher Education Program. **Permission will not be granted to students who have less than a 3.0 GPA.**

ENTRANCE CRITERIA

A student must meet the following criteria for admission to teacher education:

- Pass the PRAXIS Core tests (reading, writing and math) as required by the NC Department of Public Instruction.
  - Students who have earned a total score of 1170 on the SAT (reading and math) or 24 on the ACT (reading and math) are exempt from Praxis Core testing requirements.
  - Students who have at least 570 on the SAT Math or 600 on the SAT Reading sections may be exempt from part of Praxis Core.
- Achieved an overall grade point average of 3.0 on all previous college work completed at NCWU.
- Have a successful interview with a subcommittee of the Teacher Education Council.
- Provide two positive recommendations and the required admission paperwork.

REV 08-2026

For more information, contact:

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252.985.5200
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AAQEP
Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation