# Elementary Program

This program is designed to give elementary school teachers a strong background in inclusive education. The special education focus is designed to provide initial teacher preparation consistent with the needs of today's professional educator.

This program cannot be taken through part-time study and must be completed within three years of initial registration. Students must successfully complete all courses with a CGPA of 2.67 or higher with no grade less than C-. Students must also successfully complete supervised practicums during the year. Students are required to teach in an elementary school that is assigned to them. Students will compete 18-20 weeks of practicum during their program. Students must successfully complete these practicum sessions in order to graduate.

**Academic/Teacher Certification Requirements (Elementary):** **Please check back often for up-to-date requirements.*

In Nova Scotia a three (3) credit hour course identifies a course which is usually one semester (half year) in length; a six (6) credit hour course usually takes place over a full academic year.

For admission to our Elementary Bachelor of Education program, and for eventual teacher certification by the Nova Scotia Department of Education, applicants must have the following academic prerequisites. (Italicized statements are copied directly from the Nova Scotia Department of Education regulations.)

1. *Six (6) credit hours in university social studies coursework from any one or combination of the following disciplines: History (with a preference for local and Canadian History), Geography, Economics, Political Science, Anthropology, Sociology, Law, Classics, African Canadian Studies, Mi'kmaq Studies, Acadian Studies and/ or Philosophy.*

2. *Six (6) credit hours in university science coursework from any one or combination of the following disciplines: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Geology/Earth Sciences, Oceanography and Environmental Studies.*
NOTE: Psychology is not recognized as science.

3. *Six (6) credit hours in university Mathematics coursework with a preference for a course in fundamental concepts.*
Comment - Most institutions have a mathematics course designed for those who intend to become elementary school teachers. MATH 1533, Mathematical Concepts I, and MATH 1543, Mathematical Concepts II, are available online from Acadia or any Fundamental Concepts in Math course would be acceptable. NOTE: For additional information regarding the mathematics requirement please click here.

4. *Six (6) credit hours in university English coursework if undergraduate degree is delivered in English or six (6) credit hours in university French coursework if undergraduate degree is delivered in French.*

Comment - Whenever possible, applicants should attempt to exceed this certification guideline. In particular, and whenever possible, applicants should consider taking courses in Children's Literature, drama, writing and composition, oral communication, and linguistics.

**Cognate Coursework:** If you do not meet all the academic/ teacher certification requirements, a maximum of 6 credit hours of cognate coursework may be recognized in fulfillment of the individual subject field requirements. Cognate coursework refers to work in a credited course that is significantly similar, or analogous, in its content to the discipline for which credit is allocated, for example, Classics as History. If cognates are a consideration, we will assess your transcripts upon receiving your application.

**Academic Exemption:**
For admission to the **16 month consecutive program**, if a candidate has met all but 3 credit hours of the admissions requirements prior to the start of the program and has justifiable reasons for requesting an academic exemption, he or she *may* be granted an exemption with the understanding that this credit will need to be completed to meet Nova Scotia teacher certification requirements. Each request for an exemption is evaluated on an individual basis by the B.Ed. Selection Committee.