Mississippi State University  
College of Education  

Initial (Undergraduate) Program

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| Provide a broad knowledge base that assists the candidate in developing an understanding of self and the surrounding world. General studies consist primarily of the university general education core, including the subjects of English composition, mathematics, natural sciences, fine arts, humanities, and social/behavioral sciences. | Assist the candidate in connecting knowledge of general studies with knowledge of the professional area; to enhance the candidate’s ability to serve as a professional in the chosen field; to foster collaboration with peers/colleagues, parents, the community, and other entities. The candidate is assisted in making these connections through the study of human development, educational foundations, planning/managing/evaluating learning, understanding exceptional learners, and other subjects related to professional practice. | Enhance the candidate’s ability to serve as a professional in the chosen field by connecting the knowledge of general studies and professional studies with the knowledge of content/specialty studies; each discipline has a sequence of courses that provide the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to meet the needs of the intended population. | Provide the candidate with hands-on experience in real world settings that will help him or her develop and practice the appropriate knowledge, skills, and dispositions for his or her discipline. Practical, field-based experiences build skills of reflective practice that provide the foundation for problem-solving and personal and professional growth. Field-based experiences include practica, methods, and internships. | COE undergraduate candidates (initial teacher candidates and other pre-service professionals) are prepared for the professional setting through the development and practice of the following knowledge, skills, and dispositions:  
1. **Professionalism**: The knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed to become a professional and to help all students learn; the demonstration of responsible, ethical behavior and good judgment.  
2. **Differentiation and Individualization**: Knowledge and understanding of human behavior and individual differences; the ability to adapt instruction/services to meet the needs of all students/clientele.  
3. **Knowledge of Content**: The deep understanding of both content and teaching strategies relevant to the discipline.  
4. **Assessment/Evaluation**: The basic skills of assessment and evaluation relevant to the major field of study; the ability to use assessments to improve teaching, learning, and performance.  
5. **Communication Skills**: Ability to use appropriate language, speak and write with clarity, and use standard English in writing and speaking; the demonstration of good listening and interpersonal skills.  
6. **Social/Cultural Skills**: The belief that all students can learn and the relevant social and cultural skills for a diverse environment; tolerant, fair, and culturally appropriate behavior.  
7. **Technology**: The ability to infuse appropriate technology into professional practice.  
8. **Reflection**: The ability to use self-reflection and problem-solving for improvement and personal and professional growth.  
9. **Collaboration**: The ability to work cooperatively with peers/colleagues, parents, the community, and other entities.  
10. **Planning**: The basic skills of planning instruction/services to meet the needs of diverse populations; the ability to design and implement effective strategies that positively impact student learning.  
11. **Managing**: The basic skills of management in diverse settings.  
12. **Resourcefulness**: The skills in locating and utilizing relevant resources at the local, state, regional, national, and international levels. |

**THEME: Educators/Professionals – Dedicated to Continual Improvement of all Students’ Educational Experiences**