

DISCONTINUANCE OF THE BACHELOR OF THE ARTS IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors discontinue the BA in Elementary Education in the College of Education, effective fall term, 2022.

Background

Currently, we offer both a BA and BS in elementary education, with the sole difference that the BA requires two additional language courses. The language courses are not required for teacher certification (the purpose of the program) unless the certification is related to teaching of a language, in which case language courses are part of the plan of work. Running two separate programs complicates data tracking and program improvement, without practical or educational advantage. Students who are currently in the BA program will not have difficulty completing their programs as this change does not entail discontinuing any courses in the program. Because the programs are otherwise identical, students can also transfer into the BS program, regardless of whether they choose to complete the language courses.

Program Description

The BA in Elementary Education leads to elementary teacher certification certifies a teacher to teach grades K-5 (all subjects) and 6-8 (non-departmentalized), with the option of adding on additional endorsements. Undergraduate students graduate with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, generally take positions as classroom teachers.

Approvals

The proposal was approved by the faculty of the Division of Teacher Education, the Dean of the College of Education, and the Provost.