Recommendations
B.A. Elementary

To learn more about making the most of your educational experiences within and beyond the classroom contact:
Beth White, Clinical Instructor, whiteel@mailbox.sc.edu
PARTICIPATE

Community Service

Related course
- EDEL 440, EDEL 450, EDEL 460, EDRD 430, EDRD 431, EDEL 505, EDEL 506
All listed courses involve embedded community service.

Sites/experiences
- Local elementary schools, Boys & Girls Clubs of South Carolina, Cocky’s Reading Express, After-school programs

Why this is important
In local elementary schools, students provide one-on-one support in an elementary classroom which allows for reduced student-teacher ratios and individualized instruction for students. Students also have the opportunity to volunteer and work for local organizations serving children in the state of South Carolina.

Global Learning

Related course
EDUC 360: Global and Multicultural Perspectives on Education in International Settings (Course satisfies the Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understandings: Social Sciences core competency. Please check with the Department of Instruction and Teacher Education for the course availability).

Why this is important
Elementary Education students are immersed in another culture outside their dominant culture. This experience affords students to be immersed in another language which offers students’ insights to the linguistic and cultural experiences many students in public schools face. Students also study educational practices, meet families, and become engaged with the local community.

Peer Leadership

Student Organization(s)
- Kappa Delta Pi, Future Educators Association, Palmetto Teachers Association, Teaching Fellows, Honors College

Opportunities
Participation in educational organizations at the local, state, and national level. Preservice teachers also have opportunities to present at professional conferences such as the National Council Teachers of English (NCTE), American Educational Research Association (AERA), and the Professional Development Schools National Conference, SCTE, SCAEYC, SCECA, ASCA.

Why this is important
As educators, USC elementary majors will one day take leadership roles in their schools and communities. These early opportunities to present provide them with invaluable professional experiences they will carry with them into their professional careers.

Internships

Related Courses
- EDEL 570/571, EDTE 490 A/B/C, and EDEL 591, MATH 221, MATH 222

Recommended sites/work experiences
- Local Public Elementary Schools, After-school programs, and Tutoring Programs, math pen pals with children enrolled in elementary schools.

Professional Organizations
- Palmetto State Teachers Association (PSTA),
- South Carolina Education Association (SCEA)
- National Council Teachers of English (NCTE)
- National Science Teachers Association (NSTA)
Internships are a required part of the program which provides students with the opportunity to teach and learn with and from children and teachers across diverse field placements. Students also participate in after-school and community-based programs in order to grow their understandings of the rich cultural resources inherent in communities.

**Why this is important**

Teachers must understand, document, and study children’s learning over time. Teachers are researchers. In this course, students conduct their own research in order to become responsive educators who understand children’s learning across time.

**INTEGRATE**

EDEL 591: Students are encouraged to apply for Magellan Scholarships which enable them to participate in research projects with professors and to present their research across a variety of venues.

At the Senior Showcase, preservice teachers present their research which demonstrates their ability to design a study, collect and analyze student data in order to implement effective instruction that supports student learning. Preservice teachers present their studies to professors, teachers, their peers, and the wider community.

**LEAD**

**Initial career opportunities**

Elementary Education Teachers, Interventionists

**Related graduate programs**

MEd in Language and Literacy, MEd in Teaching in Elementary Education or Secondary Education or Middle Level Education, MEd in Special Education, MEd in Educational Technology, PhD in Teaching and Learning, PhD in Language and Literacy, EdS or PhD in Educational Administration, EdD in Curriculum and Instruction, EdS or PhD in Counselor Education, MEd or PhD in Early Childhood, PhD in Foundations of Education, Master of Speech Pathology in Speech Language Pathology

**Future career opportunities**

Curriculum Specialist, Reading Specialist, Administrator, Coordinator

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The listed experiences are a sample of options for your major. See the USC Connect experiences database to search for more opportunities.

[www.sc.edu/usconnect/participate](http://www.sc.edu/usconnect/participate)