**Classrooms to Careers in**

**Elementary School Teacher**

**Are you interested in**: Teaching students in elementary school?

Becoming a teacher at Meredith College is a win-win process: you choose and study in a major *and* you take courses in a licensure program. So becoming a teacher at Meredith College involves choosing a major, taking specific courses for your general education requirements, and taking professional education courses in the licensure program. Study in your major and general education courses will equip you with the content knowledge that you need to teach. Your professional education courses prepare you to teach English/language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, and the arts, and to work effectively in schools with colleagues. You will learn to understand your students’ learning and to reach all students in your class. You can begin taking the required licensure courses as a sophomore. After taking one Education course, you can apply to the program.

**Types of jobs:**

Elementary school teacher in public, private, or charter schools,

tutor

**Or attend graduate school for**:

* Elementary education,
* reading specialist,
* special education,
* academically and intellectually gifted education,
* English as a Second Language,
* curriculum and instruction specialist,
* school administration (with teaching experience)

**Options for the program**

* Earn a BA or BS in the major of your choice. Choose your passion and develop a deep understanding of that discipline.
* Join Meredith Educators. This group organizes speakers and sponsors special activities for students interested in teaching.
* Volunteer to be part of the MeredithReads program. Regularly read wonderful books to children in schools and give students the opportunity to talk about the books.
* During your first year at Meredith, take the critical thinking seminar called “Education Under Fire!” as an elective. This will give you an opportunity to debate important issues in education and to visit schools.
* Attend, in March, the information session for first year students who are interested in teaching. During your sophomore year, attend the Orientation to Teacher Education.
* Participate in school-based field placements. In all of your required Education courses, you will have a placement in a school. You will tutor students, observe teachers, and have the opportunity as you are ready to teach.
* Teach in a public school during your semester-long student teaching internship.
* Aim for Kappa Delta Pi, the education honor society.

**Professional Associations –**

North Carolina Association of Elementary Educators

National Association of Teachers of Mathematics

National Council of Teachers of English

National Science Teachers Association

National Council for the Social Studies

Council for Exceptional Children

National Association for Gifted Children

Teachers of Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

North Carolina Association of Educators

Professional Educators of North Carolina

National Association of Elementary School Principals

Kappa Delta Pi

**Career Outlook –**

Kindergarten and Elementary School Teacher, http://www.bls.gov/ooh/education-training-and-library/kindergarten-and-elementary-school-teachers.htm

**Optional Information –**

The faculty and staff in the Department of Education work closely with public school teachers and administrators. This helps us design programs to prepare you for real classrooms. We see you as a future teacher-leader!