### Freshman
- Complete STAT 1380 and other core courses recommended for your degree plan.
- Focus on English, Math, and Science courses.
- Take at least 15 credit hours each semester, and 3 to 6 credit hours during the Summer term.

### Sophomore
- Take MATH 2303, PSCI 2303, remaining recommended core courses, and remaining 1000- and 2000-level courses.
- Continue to focus on English, Math, and Science courses.
- Take at least 15 credit hours each semester, and 3 to 6 credit hours during the Summer term.
- Look out for Educator Preparation Program (EPP) Workshop invitations in your UTEP email.
- Complete upper-division English courses.

### Junior
- Ensure that you qualify for Student Teaching (ST) by completing all degree plan courses and state exams. ST will be your only course during your final semester.
- Meet with your CSS Advisor at the beginning of the year to discuss Student Teaching (ST) application requirements and verify completion of all degree plan courses.
- Apply for ST once you have passed your state exams and completed the semester prior to your graduation term.
- Apply to ST by May 31 to complete ST in the Fall.
- Apply to ST by October 31 to complete ST in the Spring.

### Senior
- Participate in New Student Orientation.
- Meet with your Academic Advising Center Freshman Advisor before registration.
- Ask your Advisor about the COED recommended core courses for your degree plan.
- Look out for Educator Preparation Program (EPP) Workshop invitations in your UTEP email.
- Meet with your CSS Advisor after admission into the Educator Preparation Program (EPP) to plan for state exams.
- After admission, attend a Post-Admission Workshop to learn about EPP requirements, Student Teaching application requirements, and registration.
- Maintain a clean record. Student Teaching requires a criminal background check.
- Submit all Observation Forms to your CSS Advisor.
- Meet with your CSS Advisor after admission into the Educator Preparation Program (EPP) Workshop to learn about EPP application requirements.
- Submit all Observation and Reflection Forms to the CSS.
- Meet with your CSS Advisor at the beginning of the year to discuss Student Teaching (ST) application requirements and verify completion of all degree plan courses.
- Apply for ST once you have passed your state exams and completed the semester prior to your graduation term.
- Apply to ST by May 31 to complete ST in the Fall.
- Apply to ST by October 31 to complete ST in the Spring.
- Attend the CSS and district Student Teaching Orientations once accepted into ST.
- Attend the Texas State Teachers Association.
- Explore the American Federation of Teachers, the Bilingual Education Student Organization (BESO), Chi Sigma Iota, and Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education (KDPI).
- Discover the world with a Study Abroad course.
- Engage in test preparation/professional development workshops. Check UTEP email and the CSS Events Calendar to learn about these opportunities.
- Ask Education faculty for guidance on finding a mentor in the teaching field.
- Explore community involvement opportunities in your field with the Center for Civic Engagement.
- Explore career opportunities at the Teacher Job Fair.
- Participate in a Graduation Workshop.
- Strive for high grades. The Educator Preparation Program (EPP) requires a minimum GPA of 2.75 for admission.
- Take the THEA exam as early as possible if you did not pass all areas of the TSI.
- The EPP requires that you have passed either of these exams.
- Prepare for interviews by recording special projects, campus involvement, field experiences, and lesson plans for your portfolio.
- Prepare for the content qualifying exam.
- Ensure that you qualify for Student Teaching (ST) by completing all degree plan courses and state exams. ST will be your only course during your final semester.
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- Prepare for the content qualifying exam.

### Edge Advantages | UTEP students will graduate with these skills:
- Leadership
- Problem-solving
- Communication
- Entrepreneurship
- Social Responsibility
- Confidence
- Global Awareness
- Teamwork
- Critical Thinking
**EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM (EPP) REQUIREMENTS**

**Admission**
- Submit Application Packet to CSS Advisor.
- Complete the Communication, Mathematics, and Component Area Option portions of the Core Curriculum with a grade of “C” or better.
- Complete at least 60 semester credit hours.
- Have a minimum cumulative UTEP GPA of 2.75.
- Pass the THEA or TSI.
- File a degree plan with a program advisor.
- Submit 3 Recommendation Rating Forms (RRF).
- Complete the EPP Application.

**Observation Hours**
- Prior to Student Teaching, you must complete 30 hours of observation. Some of your courses will include this field experience component. For those courses:
  - Complete an Observation Form.
  - Submit the Observation Form to your CSS advisor upon completion of the course.

**Testing**
- Pass the Content and Pedagogy and Professional Responsibility (PPR) Qualifying Exam.
- Pass the Required Texas Examinations of Educator Standards (TExES). You have five attempts to pass each of the TExES.

**Student Teaching**
- Complete all degree coursework and testing prior to applying to Student Teaching. Apply online during your second-to-last semester.
- Pass fingerprint/background check with a Social Security Number.

**Checklist for success**
- [ ] Create a Job Mine account.
- [ ] Check in with your advisor.
- [ ] Review your degree plan to stay on track.
- [ ] Attend a financial literacy workshop.
- [ ] Visit the Student Engagement & Leadership Center (SELC).