



LINDSEY

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION & EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

ABOUT MY MAJOR

I am double majoring in Elementary Education & Early Childhood Education. My major teaches me to work with kids one-on-one, create connections with people, and engage in human interaction on a day-to-day basis. People think that it is very easy but it's not "just teaching." There's a lot of sociology and psychology that go into it too.

CHOOSING MY MAJOR

My mom went to UNI and she was a teacher, so I have always wanted to be teacher since I was little. I considered a couple of different paths here and there, but eventually, it all came circling back to teaching. I knew this was what I really wanted to do.

MINORS & CERTIFICATES

One very popular minor is the Literacy minor, which would allow you to teach more and gives you the ability to teach students who need individualized assistance with language arts. There's also the Math minor. Many people do Early Childhood, which is Pre-K to third grade and the Social-Emotional Learning minor, which focuses on including a student's developmental skills into your lesson planning. You learn to think more about how the students function socially and emotionally and how to include that in the classroom.

INTERNSHIPS

At UNI, all teaching majors complete student teaching as their internship. To complete student teaching, you can request to teach in a town and then they will try to place you within a certain radius within that town. Then, they will pair you with a mentor teacher. Most times you are in one class for eight weeks and then a different class for another eight weeks. Since I'm in the elementary middle level, I will do eight weeks in elementary and eight in the middle level. For student teaching, you're in the classroom every day, all day, just like a normal teacher. For the first few weeks, you're mostly just observing. Then you start to create lesson plans and you start to actually interact with the students. You will take roll calls and do bell ringers and it's an immersive experience. You don't take any other classes because you're a teacher during that entire time.

CAREERS

I would like to be in the middle-level aspect of K-8, somewhere between 6th and 8th grade. I wouldn't mind any other grade since I can teach different concentration areas. I can teach language arts, math, or science. I'd like to teach in a rural town with a lot smaller class sizes and more one-on-one interactions. Many schools are starting to employ more creative thinking in the class, more project-based learning, or creative assignments in the class rather than just textbooks to test kinds of situations, which I'm excited for.