

General Science Endorsement for Elementary Education Majors

Any teacher candidate applying for licensure and seeking a middle grade science endorsement to be added to an elementary or high school license will need to meet Illinois middle grade science requirements of 24 semester hours in the social sciences and **pass the middle level science content exam**. Illinois endorsements can include general education courses. However, Illinois *designates* coursework to meet the middle grade science endorsement requirements. They include coursework from the following three areas: physical sciences (physics, chemistry), life sciences (biology, environmental), earth and space sciences (geology, astronomy), plus a middle grade science content methods course (SCI 325). *Any science course counted toward the middle grade endorsement must have a final grade of C- or higher.*

For Secondary Education/Science (bio, phy, chem, geo) double majors:

Enroll in SCI 325 (offered in fall semesters) prior to or after student teaching and pass the Illinois middle level science content exam.

For Elementary Education majors:

Part One: (8 hrs- legacy gen eds; 4-8 hrs for CatC SP & SIP tags)

Complete the general education science requirements including the lab (for legacy gen eds, one of the courses must be at the 300 level)

Part Two: (4 hours)

SCI 325 is the required Middle Grade Science Content Methods course (2 hrs.)

Offered only in fall semesters, so enroll in the fall prior to the spring elementary methods block

SCI 322 is the required Science for Elementary School course (2 hrs.)

Offered each spring semester as part of the methods block of courses

Part Three: (12-16 hours)

Complete at least one science course from each of these *designated areas* for any of three designated areas that were not part of the general education science requirements in Part One.

Designated Areas include: **Physical Sciences** (CHEM or PHYS); **Life Sciences** (BIOL or ENVR); and **Earth and Space Sciences** (ASTR or GEOL).

Other **Science Courses** that count toward the 24 required hours

SCI 301 Natural Science: Foundations, Methods, Challenges (4 hrs.)

SCI 311 Theories of Origins (4 hrs.)

Course Summary:

The total of Parts One, Two, and Three must be 24 hours, include the SCI 325 course and include at least one course from each of the three designated areas (Physical Science, Life Science, and Space Science).

Final Step:

Pass the Illinois Middle Level Science Content Exam