

Primarily Math 2.0: A Fresh Pathway for K–3 Math Specialists

We're excited to introduce **Primarily Math 2.0**, a redesigned version of the original [Primarily Math 1.0 program](#) - created to better support the evolving needs of K–3 teachers who want to deepen their expertise in early elementary mathematics. UNL still offers a K-3 Math Specialization Certificate, but note that this is a UNL certificate and not a state teaching endorsement.

Earn Graduate Credit: Choose the Path That Fits Your Needs

Teachers now have more flexibility in how they engage with professional development in mathematics while earning graduate credit:

- **Primarily Math 1.0** (18 credit hours)
Teachers complete three mathematics content courses for K-3 teachers from the Department of Mathematics and three mathematics pedagogy courses for K-12 teachers offered by the Department of Teaching, Learning & Teacher Education (TLTE), a total of six courses leading to the **UNL K–3 Math Specialization Certificate**.
- **Primarily Math 2.0** (6 - 9 credit hours)
A streamlined, **math-focused professional development program** offered by the Department of Mathematics. This option is ideal for teachers who feel that completing **Math 800/801P and 802P** meets their professional learning goals, without needing to pursue the full UNL K–3 Math Specialization Certificate.
- **Master of Arts in TLTE** (30 total credit hours)
Teachers may apply all six K–3 specialization courses (plus an optional additional math course) toward a **Master of Arts degree from TLTE**.

Getting Started: The Mathematics Courses

The core math courses have been updated to reflect current best practices in preparing future elementary teachers. These courses emphasize student-centered learning, helping teachers understand and support young learners' mathematical development.

One key feature is the “**child study**”—a deep dive into how students grow mathematically from Kindergarten through Grade 3. Teachers learn to recognize where students are in their learning journey and how to guide them forward.

**The three mathematics courses apply toward all paths listed above. Unless you are sure you want to pursue Primarily Math 1.0 or the MA degree, apply to UNL as a non-degree-seeking postbaccalaureate student at <https://graduate.unl.edu> and direct questions to graduate@unl.edu.*

Course Schedule:

Summer 2026

- **Math 800P:** Number, Operations, and Measurement for K–3 Mathematics Specialists (*Required*)
- **Math 801P:** Fractions, Geometry and Algebraic Thinking for K-3 Mathematics Specialists (*Required; note Math 800P & 801P are completed together*)
- **TEAC options:** TEAC 807A, TEAC 880E, TEAC 849G (*Optional for PM 1.0 and MA TLTE*)

Fall 2026

- **Math 802P:** Problem Solving and Operations with Fractions (*Required*)

Options for Continuing

By the end of Fall 2026, Primarily Math 2.0 is complete. Teachers can choose whether they'd like to continue to complete a graduate program:

- **Primarily Math 1.0:** Apply to the UNL K-3 Math Specialization Certificate through TLTE and complete three courses from TLTE to earn the **UNL K–3 Mathematics Specialists Certificate**.
 - Visit: <https://scimath.unl.edu/k-12-teaching-programs/primarily-math/>
 - Contact: Amanda Henson (amanda.thomas@unl.edu) or Ursula Nguyen (unguyen7@unl.edu)
- **MA in TLTE:** Apply to the UNL TLTE Master of Art's degree program and complete 21 additional credit hours (30 credit hours total) to complete a master's degree. Some of

these additional credit hours will be required (TEAC 800, 801, 889) and others will be electives.

- Visit: <https://graduate.unl.edu/academics/programs/TEAC-MA/>
- Contact: Dr. Lorraine Males (lmales2@unl.edu)

Once you've chosen your path, those choosing to pursue the UNL K-3 Math Specialization or the MA degree will be assigned a TLTE advisor to guide you through the rest of your program.

Spring 2027 Options:

- **Math 805P:** Mathematical Learning Progressions (PM 2.0 or MA TLTE)
- **TEAC 807C:** Equitable Practices in Mathematics Education (PM 1.0 or MA TLTE)
- **TEAC 800:** Introduction to Education Research (MA TLTE)
- **TEAC 801:** Curriculum Inquiry (MA TLTE)
- **Conclude your Primarily Math 2.0 experience** and take no more courses at this time
- Or, **take a break** and resume courses in the summer!

Subsequent Terms (Summer 2027*):

- If continuing toward an MA in TLTE, check with your TLTE advisor for additional course offerings