

# MASTER OF EDUCATION - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

The Curriculum and Instruction program at the master’s degree level prepares candidates to build upon their undergraduate preparation as teachers. Persons enrolled in this program are committed to the design, development, and delivery of classroom instruction. Courses prepare candidates

- to identify and use research-based practices in elementary, middle-level, or secondary schools;
- to design curriculum for a variety of levels; and
- to understand the broader functions of schooling in the United States.

The program is a blend of theoretical and practical knowledge that can be immediately applied to the classroom setting.

As visionary leaders in educational settings, graduate-level candidates integrate in their Curriculum and Instruction Program the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary for success in communication, thinking skills, methodology, leadership, professionalism, assessment, and inclusive learning environments.

## Student Learning Outcomes (Candidate Competencies)

Candidates for the MEd in Elementary and Secondary Curriculum and Instruction will provide leadership in the school setting.

Students graduating with the MEd in Curriculum and Instruction will be able to:

1. Develop and implement curriculum based on central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline(s) he or she teaches; diverse learner needs and abilities; cognitive and developmental levels; and community and curricular goals. *(Methodology, Inclusive Learner Environments)*
2. Develop and implement curriculum using a variety of instructional strategies to encourage students’ development of critical thinking, problem solving, and performance skills. *(Methodology, Thinking Skills)*
3. Design and facilitate a learning environment that encourages individual and group motivation, positive social interaction, and active engagement in learning. *(Methodology, Professionalism, Assessment)*
4. Demonstrate cultural awareness, gender sensitivity, and racial and ethnic appreciation in fostering an inclusive learning environment. *(Inclusive Learning Environments, Methodology)*
5. Communicate clearly using listening, writing, speaking, and media skills in a manner that is consistent with and responsive to the specific audience. *(Communication, Professionalism)*
6. Utilize assessment strategies and data to improve student learning and social development at the individual and program level. *(Assessment, Methodology)*
7. Improve instruction based on reflective practice and research-based “best practices.” The candidate will continuously seek to grow as a professional educator. *(Professionalism, Methodology)*

8. Foster relationships with school colleagues, parents, and agencies of the larger community based on an understanding of the impacts of philosophy, sociology, political, and legal forces on public education. *(Professionalism, Communication, Inclusive Learning Environments)*

## Master of Education - Curriculum and Instruction - Elementary – General Education Option

Note that this degree program does not lead to an Elementary Education Teaching Endorsement or Elementary Classroom Certification. This option is designed for elementary or middle school educators who desire to expand their breadth of knowledge at the K-8 level.

### Courses

Listed below is the course work required by the Program:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Basic Core Courses</b>		
EDCI 631	RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS <sup>1</sup>	3
EDCI 633	EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY	3
EDCI 635	CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	3
EDCI 638	SCHOOL LAW	3
EDUC 639	ADVANCED METHODS OF PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT	3
SPED 630	CHARACTERISTICS OF BEHAVIORAL AND EMOTIONAL DISABILITIES	3
<b>Required Elementary Performance Courses</b>		
EDCI 632	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN HEALTH AND SCIENCE IN ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOLS	3
EDCI 634	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN MATHEMATICS IN ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOLS	3
EDCI 636	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN SOCIAL STUDIES IN ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOLS	3
EDCI 637	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN LANGUAGE ARTS IN ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOLS	3
READ 531	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN READING	3
<b>Electives</b>		
Select an Elective Course, Scholarly Project or Thesis		3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>36</b>

<sup>1</sup> EDCI 631 RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS should be completed within the first 12 credits of a student’s program of study.

## Master of Education - Curriculum and Instruction - Elementary – Field Option (Concentration in a Subject Area)

Note that this degree program does not lead to an Elementary Education Teaching Endorsement or Elementary Classroom Certification, or to an endorsement of certification in any of the field concentration areas. A student may pursue a master’s in education with a field concentration consisting of 9 to 12 course credits to be selected in consultation with his or her advisor. Three to six course credits of the 36 total credits may consist of a scholarly project, thesis, action research, or practicum/ internship. This option is designed for middle school educators or for

elementary educators who desire to expand their breadth of knowledge of a particular field of concentration at the K-8 level.

## Courses

Listed below is the course work required by the Program:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Basic Core Courses</b>		
EDCI 631	RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS <sup>2</sup>	3
EDCI 633	EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY	3
EDCI 635	CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	3
EDCI 638	SCHOOL LAW	3
EDUC 639	ADVANCED METHODS OF PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT	3
SPED 630	CHARACTERISTICS OF BEHAVIORAL AND EMOTIONAL DISABILITIES	3
<b>Advisor Consultation Option</b>		
Select one of the following in consultation with advisor:		3
READ 531	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN READING	
EDCI 632	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN HEALTH AND SCIENCE IN ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOLS	
EDCI 634	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN MATHEMATICS IN ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOLS	
EDCI 636	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN SOCIAL STUDIES IN ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOLS	
EDCI 637	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN LANGUAGE ARTS IN ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOLS	
<b>Field of Concentration</b>		
Select 15 credit hours in any of the following concentration areas:		15
Educational Technology		
Language Arts		
Mathematics		
Physical Education		
Science		
Social Science		
Total Credits		36

<sup>2</sup> EDCI 631 RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS should be completed within the first 12 credits of a student's program of study.

## Master of Education - Curriculum and Instruction - Secondary

A student whose goal is to teach Dual Credit courses at the high school level must complete 18 hours of graduate course work in the desired subject area. Broad field content options will not lead to Dual Credit certification. Speak with your advisor if that is your purpose in seeking this degree.

Note that this degree program does not lead to an endorsement or additional certification in any of the Secondary Content Subject Areas. This option is designed for middle school educators or for secondary educators who desire to expand their breadth of knowledge in a particular content subject area at the 5-12 level.

## Courses

Listed below is the course work required by the Program:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Basic Core Courses</b>		
EDCI 631	RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS <sup>3</sup>	3
EDCI 633	EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY	3
EDCI 635	CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	3
EDCI 638	SCHOOL LAW	3
EDUC 639	ADVANCED METHODS OF PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT	3
READ 532	READING IN THE CONTENT FIELDS	3
SPED 630	CHARACTERISTICS OF BEHAVIORAL AND EMOTIONAL DISABILITIES	3
<b>Content Area Courses</b>		
Select with advisors approval 15 credit hours from the following areas of specialization:		15
Business Education		
Career and Technical Education		
Educational Technology		
Mathematics		
Physical Education		
Science		
Social Science		
Total Credits		36

<sup>3</sup> EDCI 631 RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS, should be completed within the first 12 credits of a student's program of study.

## Master of Education - Curriculum and Instruction – Special Education-Early Childhood Special Education (Birth – Kindergarten)

This program offers an added endorsement in Special Education-Early Childhood Special Education. It requires that the candidate hold or has held a certificate with a teaching endorsement. The Praxis II test is required for graduation. Students seeking certification of this endorsement in Nebraska must reach the state cut score required for Nebraska Licensure.

## Courses

Listed below is the course work required by the Program:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Basic Core Courses</b>		
EDCI 631	RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS <sup>4</sup>	3
EDCI 635	CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	3
EDCI 633	EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY	3
EDCI 638	SCHOOL LAW	3
<b>Endorsement Courses</b>		
COUN 637	ADVANCED HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	3
FCS 520	LOSS ACROSS THE LIFESPAN	3
FCS 532	PLAY BASED LEARNING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD	3
FCS 537	FAMILY STRENGTHS	3

FCS 540	SPECIAL TOPICS IN FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES	3
FCS 690	INTERNSHIP	3
SPED 538	CONSULTION/COLLABORATION	3
SPED 539	LANGUAGE AND LEARNING DISORDERS	3
SPED 630	CHARACTERISTICS OF BEHAVIORAL AND EMOTIONAL DISABILITIES	3
SPED 640	ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSIS OF YOUNG CHILDREN	3
Total Credits		42

Select one of the following:		3
READ 530	READING AND WRITING IN THE MIDDLE/ SECONDARY SCHOOLS	
EDCI 637	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN LANGUAGE ARTS IN ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOLS	
ENG 538	ADOLESCENT LITERATURE	

Total Credits 39

<sup>5</sup> EDCI 631 RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS, should be completed within the first 12 credits of a student's program of study.

<sup>4</sup> EDCI 631 RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS, should be completed within the first 12 credits of a student's program of study.

Title 92, Chapter 24: 006.59D2. This program shall provide applicants with supervised practicum/clinical experiences. The experience shall consist of a minimum of 250 clock hours with individuals with behavioral disorders. The 250 clock hours may be included in the 30 graduate semester hours requirement.

Praxis II exam in your content area is required for graduation. Students seeking certification of this endorsement in Nebraska must reach the state minimum cut score required for Nebraska Licensure.

## Master of Education - Curriculum and Instruction – Reading Specialist (Grades PK-12)

This program offers an added endorsement in Reading Specialist. It requires that the candidate holds or has held a certificate with a teaching endorsement and has 2 years teaching experience. The Praxis II test for Reading Specialist is required for graduation. Students seeking certification of this endorsement in Nebraska must reach the state cut score required for Nebraska Licensure.

### Courses

Listed below is the course work required by the Program:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Basic Core Courses</b>		
EDCI 631	RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS <sup>5</sup>	3
EDCI 635	CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	3
EDCI 638	SCHOOL LAW	3
SPED 630	CHARACTERISTICS OF BEHAVIORAL AND EMOTIONAL DISABILITIES	3
<b>Reading Endorsement Courses</b>		
READ 531	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN READING	3
READ 532	READING IN THE CONTENT FIELDS	3
READ 533	PHILOSOPHIES, APPROACHES, AND TECHNIQUES FOR TEACHING READING	3
READ 535	READING AND THE AT-RISK STUDENT	3
READ 634	LINGUISTIC FOUNDATIONS OF READING INSTRUCTION	3
READ 635	DIAGNOSIS AND CORRECTION	3
READ 636	PRACTICUM IN READING	3
READ 638	SEMINAR IN READING: ISSUES, TRENDS AND PROGRAMS	3

### Electives

## Master of Education - Curriculum and Instruction – Special Education (Grades K-12)

This program offers an added endorsement in Special Education. It requires that the candidate holds or has held a certificate with a teaching endorsement. Students may opt to complete the first 39 credits to earn a master's degree; however, to earn the endorsement for Special Education (SPED) twelve additional credits from the list below must be completed. The Praxis II test for Special Education is required for graduation. Students seeking certification of this endorsement in Nebraska must reach the state cut score required for Nebraska Licensure.

### Courses

Listed below is the course work required by the Program:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Basic Core Courses</b>		
EDCI 631	RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS <sup>6</sup>	3
EDCI 633	EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY	3
EDCI 635	CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	3
EDCI 638	SCHOOL LAW	3
READ 635	DIAGNOSIS AND CORRECTION	3
<b>SPED Courses</b>		
COUN 637	ADVANCED HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	3
SPED 516	CLINICAL EXPERIENCE IN APPRAISAL OF EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN	3
SPED 531	PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION, AND MANAGEMENT	3
SPED 535	ASSESSING INDIVIDUALS WITH MILD/MODERATE DISABILITIES	3
SPED 536	ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL/SECONDARY METHODS AND MATERIALS FOR MILD/MODERATE DISABILITIES	3
SPED 538	CONSULTION/COLLABORATION	3
SPED 539	LANGUAGE AND LEARNING DISORDERS	3
SPED 630	CHARACTERISTICS OF BEHAVIORAL AND EMOTIONAL DISABILITIES	3
<b>SPED Courses to Complete the Endorsement</b>		
SPED 555	CHARACTERISTICS OF LEARNING DISABILITIES	3
Select three of the following:		9
SPED 532	SURVEY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION	
READ 535	READING AND THE AT-RISK STUDENT	
CTE 531	INTRODUCTION TO SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAMS IN CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION	

HPER 522	INTRODUCTION TO ADAPTED PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Total Credits	51

<sup>6</sup> EDCI 631 RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS, should be completed within the first 12 credits of a student's program of study.

The Praxis II test for Special Education is required for graduation. Students seeking certification of this endorsement in Nebraska must reach the state minimum cut score required for Nebraska Licensure.