

Master of Arts in Education

Master of Arts in Education Program Core: 13 semester hours

A five-course core provides a vibrant shared experience for all Master of Arts in Education students. These courses focus on developing the broader perspectives needed for leadership in the profession. Understanding legal and policy issues, building leadership skills, examining cultural and ethical implications, and applying the tools of research are but a few of the outcomes targeted by the program's core experiences. All Master's students will complete an independent Action Research Project and will present the project to the Mount Mercy community in a poster session.

This graduate degree prepares students to: effectively use researched instructional strategies; conduct, interpret and evaluate assessments; acquire and apply the skills needed to become reflective practitioners and teacher leaders; formulate and evaluate action research; and analyze research results and communicate the results in written and oral presentations.

Required Core Courses:

ED 500	Educational Policy	3
ED 505	Educational Leadership	3
ED 600	Educational Research	3
ED 601	Action Research Project	3
ED 602	Education Thesis	1

Emphasis in Special Education: 34-39 semester hours

The Master of Arts in Education with emphasis in Special Education program is designed to prepare teachers to provide appropriate levels of instruction to students with disabilities at the elementary and secondary levels. Four options are available under this program:

- Instructional Strategist I K-8 endorsement
- Instructional Strategist I 5-12 endorsement
- Instructional Strategist II K-12 endorsement
- Special Education – no endorsement

The goal of this degree is to provide teachers with updated research, legal procedures, knowledge, and best practices to be successful with students who struggle to learn and/or behave appropriately in general and special classroom settings.

Required courses (all options):

Program Core

ED 500	Educational Policy	3
ED 505	Educational Leadership	3
ED 600	Educational Research	3
ED 601	Action Research Project	3
ED 602	Education Thesis	1

Required Emphasis Courses

ED 550	Special Education: Law, Collaboration and Consultation	3
ED 555	Assesment in Special Education	3
ED 560	Behavior Interventions	3
ED 595	Seminar in Special Education	3
Total Hours		25

Instructional Strategist I K-8: 34 semester hours

Requirements:

Program Core		13
Required Courses		12
ED 570	Methods and Strategies for Instructional Strategist I K-8	3
ED 530	Diagnostic Assessment of Reading & Writing	3
ED 650	Student Teaching Instructional Strategies	3
Total Hours		34

Instructional Strategist I 5-12: 37 semester hours

Requirements:

Program Core		13
Required Courses		12
ED 575	Methods & Strategies for Instructional Strategist I 5-12	3
ED 525	Content Area Reading and Writing	3
ED 580	Transitions and Career Planning	3
ED 651	Student Teaching Strat 1 5-12	3
Total Hours		37

Instructional Strategist II K-12: 39 semester hours

Requirements:

Program Core		13
Required Courses		12
ED 580	Transitions and Career Planning	3
ED 585	Curriculum & Methods for Strat II	3
ED 530	Diagnostic Assessment of Reading & Writing	3
ED 652	Student Teaching Strat II K-8	3
or ED 653	Student Teach: Strat II 5-12	
ED 654	Student Teaching Inst Strategist II K-8	3
or ED 655	Student Teach-Alt: Strat II 5-12	
Total Hours		40

No Endorsement: 34 semester hours

Requirements:

Program Core		13
Required Courses		12
Endorsement Areas		9
Electives		

ED 590	Curriculum Adaptations in Special Education	
ED 565	Teaching Social Competency	
ED 576	Trends and Strategies in Teaching Children with Autism	
ED 571	Universal Design	
Graduate courses from the emphasis in reading		
Total Hours		34

Emphasis in Reading: 34-35 semester hours

The Master of Arts in Education with emphasis in Reading program is designed to prepare teachers for K-8 or 5-12 reading instruction. Students pursuing this degree will also be eligible for the K-8 or 5-12 reading endorsement from the State of Iowa upon completion of the program. Students may take this emphasis with or without an endorsement option.

The goal of the program is to prepare teachers as reading strategists who have a dynamic understanding of the reading process and who take with them a variety of resources for enhancing literacy for K-12 learners that goes beyond the undergraduate experience. Candidates will add to their existing knowledge base by engaging in an in-depth analysis of current research as well as their own individual action research. Three options are available under this program:

Reading (K-8) Endorsement

Required Core Courses:

Program Core		13
ED 510	Foundations of Reading	3
ED 515	Children's Literature: Enhancing Instruction	3
ED 520	Language, Literacy and Culture	3
ED 525	Content Area Reading and Writing	3
ED 530	Diagnostic Assessment of Reading & Writing	3
ED 535	Prescriptive Reading	4
ED 540	Reading Research Seminar	3
Total Hours		35

Reading (5-12) Endorsement

Required Core Courses:

Program Core		13
ED 510	Foundations of Reading	3
ED 516	Young Adult Literature	3
ED 520	Language, Literacy and Culture	3
ED 525	Content Area Reading and Writing	3
ED 530	Diagnostic Assessment of Reading & Writing	3
ED 535	Prescriptive Reading	4
ED 540	Reading Research Seminar	3
Total Hours		35

Reading No Endorsement

Required Core Courses:

Program Core		13
ED 510	Foundations of Reading	3

ED 515	Children's Literature: Enhancing Instruction	3
or ED 516	Young Adult Literature	
ED 520	Language, Literacy and Culture	3
ED 525	Content Area Reading and Writing	3
ED 535	Prescriptive Reading	4
ED 540	Reading Research Seminar	3
Electives chosen from the following: *		3
ED 545	Topics in Literacy Instruction	
ED 599	Response To Intervention	
Graduate courses from the emphasis in special education		
Total Hours		35

* May be used to fulfill the semester hours required for the emphasis in reading when students have already taken a required course for endorsement work at the undergraduate level.