

Master of Arts in Education

Master of Arts in Education Program Core: 9 semester hours + Research Options

A three-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 either an independent Action Research Project or an Education 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 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
Research Options		6
ED 601	Action Research Project	
And		
ED 602	Education Thesis	
Or		
ED 604	Ed Research Project	
And		
ED 605	Comprehensive Exams	
Total Hours		15

Emphasis in Special Education

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 Learning Disabilities/Behavior Disorders 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		15
Required Courses ¹		
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		27

Instructional Strategist I K-8: 36 semester hours

Requirements:

Program Core		15
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 Strategist I K-8	3
Total Hours		36

Instructional Strategist I 5-12: 39 semester hours

Requirements:

Program Core		15
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		39

Instructional Strategist II K-12: 41 semester hours

Requirements:

Program Core		15
Required Courses		12
ED 580	Transitions and Career Planning	3
ED 585	Curriculum & Methods for Instructional Strategist II (K-12)	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	2
or ED 655	Student Teach-Alt: Strat II 5-12	
Total Hours		41

No Endorsement: 36 semester hours

Requirements:

Program Core	15
Required Courses	12
Electives	9
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	
Total Hours	36

Emphasis in Reading

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-8 and 5-12 learners that go 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: 37 hours

Required Core Courses:

Program Core ²	15
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	37

Reading (5-12) Endorsement 37 hours

Required Core Courses:

Program Core ²	15
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	37

Reading No Endorsement: 37 hours

Required Core Courses:

Program Core	15
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:	3
ED 545 Topics in Literacy Instruction	
ED 599 Special Topics in Education	
Total Hours	37

Emphasis in Teacher Leadership: 31 - 33 semester hours

This emphasis does not require teacher education licensure and does not lead to teacher education licensure.

ED 500 Educational Policy	3
ED 505 Educational Leadership	3
ED 600 Educational Research	3
Research Options:	6

ED 601 Action Research Project	
And	
ED 602 Education Thesis	
Or	
ED 604 Ed Research Project	
And	
ED 605 Comprehensive Exams	
Electives:**	
ED 525 Content Area Reading and Writing	
ED 545 Topics in Literacy Instruction	
ED 550 Special Education: Law, Collaboration and Consultation	
ED 565 Teaching Social Competency	
ED 571 Universal Design	
ED 576 Trends and Strategies in Teaching Children with Autism	
ED 590 Curriculum Adaptations in Special Education	
ED 596 Education: Travel Abroad	
ED 599 Special Topics in Education	

¹ Students are also required to complete ED 263 Educating the Exceptional Person or equivalent.

² Students are also required to complete a college-level basic composition course (<http://catalog.mtmercy.edu/archives/2014-15/curriculum/english>).