

Education

Contact Information

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The School of Education is dedicated to crafting the next generation of collaborative and proactive educational professionals. Our program is a learning experience to mastering the art of leading, teaching, and learning across diverse organizational landscapes.

Our dynamic curriculum includes a unique blend of scholarly and clinical activities, each carefully designed for the practical application of intellectual, democratic, and ethical principles in education. Additionally, all students receive training in restorative practices, equipping you with the skills to not only educate but also heal and build stronger, more resilient learning communities. Our graduate programs develop educational leaders who not only impart knowledge but also foster understanding, empathy, and positive change in educational contexts.

Our dynamic curriculum offers two master's degrees: an M.A. in Educational Leadership and an M.A. in Education, each designed to forge paths in educational excellence. Additionally, we offer course work leading to licensure/endorsements and a plethora of outstanding graduate certificates. Please contact the School of Education for further information on licensure and endorsements.

All Programs are approved by the Illinois State Board of Education.

The Master's Degree

The master's degree requires the completion of 36 semester credit hours of course work including 20 credit hours of electives.

Advising

Students are assigned an advisor when they are admitted to the program. The academic advisor will assist students in planning their program of study.

Grading Policy

Students should refer to the campus policy on Grades Acceptable Toward Master's Degrees section of this catalog.

Program Learning Outcomes

Program Goals include:

- Gain the ability to tailor your educational journey, leading to specialized expertise in your chosen area of interest within the field of education. This could range from innovative curriculum design to advanced educational technology, positioning you as an expert in your niche.
- Acquire comprehensive skills in restorative practices, enabling you to create inclusive, empathetic, and supportive learning environments. Learn to effectively address and resolve conflicts,

foster a sense of community, and build stronger, more resilient educational settings.

- Develop strong leadership skills with a focus on ethical, democratic, and intellectual aspects of education. Be prepared to lead in a diverse range of educational settings, drive positive change, and influence policy and practice in education, equipped with a deep understanding of contemporary educational challenges and solutions.

Requirements

Required Courses

Research		
EDL 505	Introduction To Research	4
or EDL 541	Educational Research Methods	
Educational Leadership		
Electives: ¹		20
EDL 542	Action Research for Leadership	4
PAD 481	Perspectives on Child Maltreatment and Advocacy	4
Master's Closure		
EDL 586	Capstone Project ²	4
Total Hours		36

¹ Students may take any 500-level EDL courses to satisfy the elective requirement with the exception of: EDL 526, EDL 527, EDL 531, EDL 532, EDL 586, and EDL 598.

² If EDL 586 is not completed during initial enrollment, students must register for EDL 598 for zero credit hours (one billable hour) during fall and spring semesters until the project is completed.

Students can choose a certificate to add as a concentration. Topics include, but are not limited to, Educational Technology, English as a Second Language, Higher Education Pedagogy, Computer Science, Leadership and Learning, Legal Aspects of Education, or Learning Behavior Specialist 1 (LBS1). Students may also design their own concentration based on an area of interest in consultation with an advisor or faculty.

Master's Closure

Students who take EDL 586 and do not pass must register for EDL 598 (zero credit hours, one billable hour) each subsequent fall and spring until the closure is complete.

Online

Dive into the dynamic world of our online Master of Arts in Education program, a journey that blends academic rigor with unparalleled flexibility. This program is tailored for those who seek to forge their own educational path, offering the freedom to design a plan of study that aligns perfectly with students' passions and interests. Whether you're drawn to curriculum development, educational technology, or any other niche in the vast education landscape, this program molds to fit your aspirations.

Woven into the fabric of this unique program is specialized training in restorative practices. This crucial component equips you with the skills

to create harmonious, inclusive learning environments, emphasizing empathy, conflict resolution, and community building.

Embark on this online adventure that promises not just a degree, but a transformative experience, shaping you into an educator who can inspire, innovate, and make a lasting impact in the ever-evolving world of education.

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