

Master's of Education in Curriculum and Instruction

LSU New Orleans

Student Handbook

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in pursuing a Master's degree through the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at LSU New Orleans. This student-centered, performance-based program is designed to develop an advanced knowledge base for understanding the interaction of theory and practice in culturally diverse, metropolitan, educational settings. Graduate students will engage in reflective inquiry as they explore theoretical and practical content in their specific areas of interest. The Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction is a web-based program that provides coursework in eight-week sessions. Students will have the opportunity to enroll in five sessions within one calendar year.

For complete information regarding policies, procedures, and resources for graduate students, see the LSU New Orleans Graduate School webpage at [Graduate School | Graduate Degree Programs | LSU New Orleans](#)

Each program of study will allow graduate students to:

- Address advanced content and performances to build expertise within their current certification area
- Include coursework and field experience to add an additional certification area
- Address advanced coursework in a content area to increase content knowledge
- Build expertise in one or more skill areas to enhance ability to contribute to school improvement or curriculum development
- Include up to 12 semester hours of related or required coursework for those entering the program earning a certification in another area of education.

Student Learning Outcomes

In attaining a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, students are expected to:

- Analyze and critique content knowledge in their area of concentration demonstrating theory-practice-research interaction.
- Plan an action research project addressing an educational concern or issue.
- Demonstrate effective oral communication skills required of a professional in the field.

Key Features of the Performance-based Program Design

1) *Performance-based.* A performance-based model expects graduate students to repeatedly demonstrate effective skills rather than demonstrate competency on a one-time basis. Each program of study moves beyond simply aligning specific competencies with specific courses. Rather, graduate students are encouraged to demonstrate the continuous development of multiple skills throughout their program through assignments and reflections.

2) *Role-focused.* A performance-based program focuses on teachers' being competent in performing the multiple roles associated with effective teaching. The following roles are included in the LSU New Orleans conceptual framework for teacher education.

- Manage classroom contexts and environments
- Design curriculum and instruction
- Deliver instruction and assess learning
- Participate in professional responsibilities

3) *Field activities*. Opportunities to practice roles are incorporated throughout coursework.

4) *Evaluation*. In addition to course grades as reflected through the graduate student's GPA, the Master of Education (M. Ed.) Program contains two required assessments: the mid-program assessment and a final program assessment.

Student expectations/responsibilities

Graduate students are expected to be proactive and take the lead role in understanding the requirements and deadlines for movement through the program. The Graduate Coordinator and advisor stand ready to help but will not automatically know when any specific graduate student is reaching a program benchmark. To enrich their experience in the program, graduate students are encouraged to communicate regularly with their professors to foster movement through the benchmarks.

All electronic communication will be conducted through LSU New Orleans email, therefore it is important that graduate students maintain their LSU New Orleans mailboxes and check them often.

Programs of Study

- Must include a minimum of 36 graduate hours.
- All master's candidates must complete 3 hours of Education Foundations and Research. This is accomplished by taking EDFR 6700.
- Four additional courses are required in all programs of study: EDCI 5620 (Multicultural Education), EDSP 6964 (Fundamentals of Technology), EDSP 6981 (Contemporary Issues), and EDSP 6060 (Action Research).
- Students will also take 21 hours of elective courses from within the program offerings. These electives can help students earn one of three add-on certifications (see below)

Benchmarks in the Master's Program

1. Apply to the program.

Application information can be found at <https://www.LSU New Orleans.edu/admissions/apply>

For up-to-date application deadlines, please visit [Graduate Programs and Requirements | LSU New Orleans](#)

2. Once you are admitted, schedule an advising meeting and get assistance enrolling in classes.

For class schedules and registration instructions, please check the LSU New Orleans Registrar's website at (<http://www.LSU New Orleans.edu/registrar/>). Schedule a meeting with your advisor to get assistance enrolling in classes.

3. Ensure you are taking required courses for graduation and any add-on certificates you are pursuing.

Required Courses for all M.Ed. Candidates (15 credit hours)

- EDCI 5620 - Curriculum and Instruction for Multicultural Education
- EDSP 6964 – Fundamentals of Technology
- EDSP 6981 – Contemporary Issues in General & Special Education
- EDFR 6700 Educational Research
- EDSP 6060 Action Research in Education (Taken after completion of 27 credit hours.)

Elective Classes (21 Credit Hours)

- EDCI 5432- Teaching Reading in Content Area
- EDCI 6434- Developmental Reading
- EDCI 6436- Diagnostic and Remedial Reading
- EDCI 6493- Practicum in Diagnostic and Remedial Reading
- EDCI 6425 - Materials and Methods for Teaching English as a Second Language
- EDCI 6423 - Teaching Reading-Language Arts in a Multicultural Society
- EDCI 6421- Linguistic Applications in Reading- Language
- EDAD 6800 School Leadership
- EDAD 6805 Leading the Learning Environment
- EDAD 6812 Leading Curric., Assmnt. & Instr.
- EDAD 6875 School Improvement
- EDAD 6850 Supervision of Instruction

Courses for Add-on Certificates

- The following courses can lead to a Reading Specialist Add-On Certificate (12 credit hours): EDCI 5432, EDCI 6434, EDCI 6436, EDCI 6493
- The following courses can lead to a English Language Learners Add-On Certificate (12 credit hours): EDCI 5620, EDCI 6421, EDCI 6423, EDCI 6425
- The following courses can lead to a Instructional Coach Add-on Certificate (6 credit hours): EDAD 6800, EDAD 6805

LDOE requirements for add-on certificates:

- [Reading Specialist Add-On Endorsement:](#)
- [English as a Second Language Add-on:](#)
- [Instructional Coach Add-on](#)

Please note that you must have a valid Louisiana Teaching certificate to be eligible for any add-on certificates that you may earn in the program.

4. Successfully complete the two required program assessments, which are embedded in two different required courses.

- *Mid-Program Assessment* – EDSP 6981 Research Paper and Oral Examination on a Contemporary Issue that demonstrates competency in theory-practice-research interaction. This assessment is taken after 12-18 credit hours.
- *Final/Capstone Assessment* – EDSP 6060 Action Research Project. This assessment and course are taken after 27-33 credit hours

5. Complete the requirements for graduation

Student will need to complete

- Plan of study - semester before graduation [Candidate plan of study](#)
- Application to graduate - semester of graduation [Apply for Graduation](#)

Check the LSU New Orleans website for up-to-date requirements [Master's Degree Requirements | LSU New Orleans](#)

M.Ed. Core Courses – 15 Hours	
<i>Required Courses</i>	<i>Hours</i>
EDCI 5620 – Multicultural Education (Summer)	3
EDFR 6700 - Educational Research (Spring B)	3
EDSP 6964 - Fundamentals of Technology (Summer)	3
EDSP 6981 - Contemporary Issues (Fall A) <i>Includes Mid-Program Assessment, taken after 12 credit hours</i>	3
EDSP 6060 - Action Research in Education (Fall B) <i>Includes Final Capstone Project, taken after 27 credit hours</i>	3

M.Ed. Elective Courses - 21 Hours (select 7 of the following)	
Students may select electives from any of the concentrations listed below. Please note that you must have a valid Louisiana Teaching certificate to be eligible for any add-on certificates that you may earn.	
<i>Reading Specialist Add-On Certificate - 12 hours total</i>	<i>Hours</i>
EDCI 5432 – Disciplinary Literacy (Fall A)	3
EDCI 6434 - Developmental Reading (Fall B)	3
EDCI 6436 - Diagnostic and Remedial Reading (Spring B)	3
EDCI 6493 - Practicum in Diagnostic and Remedial Reading (Summer)	3
<i>English Language Learners Add-On Certificate - 12 hours total (Also need EDCI 5620 above)</i>	<i>Hours</i>
EDCI 6421 - Linguistic Applications in Reading (Summer)	3
EDCI 6423 - Teaching Reading-Language Arts in a Multicultural Society (Summer)	3
EDCI 6425 - Materials and Methods for Teaching English as a Second Language (Spring A)	3
<i>Teacher Leader Add-On Certificate - 6 hours total</i>	<i>Hours</i>
EDAD 6800 - School Leadership (Summer)	3
EDAD 6805 - Leading the Learning Environment (Summer)	3
<i>Additional Electives</i>	<i>Hours</i>
EDAD 6812 - Leading Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (Fall A)	3
EDAD 6875 - School Improvement (Fall B)	3
EDAD 6850 - Supervision of Instruction (Spring A)	3
Total Credits Required	36