

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Overview of the Program

The Master of Education (M.Ed.) is intended for current classroom teachers already in the workforce who desire professional advancement, as well as recent graduates seeking advanced knowledge and further academic preparation prior to entering the workforce. The M.Ed. has 12 hours of core courses, with an 18 hour emphasis in either Curriculum and Instruction or English. Candidates may select the emphasis area which will best fit their educational goals.

Accreditation

The Master of Education is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Admission Requirements

Students seeking admission to the Master of Education program must meet the following requirements:

1. Complete and submit all admission requirements for Graduate Studies to the Office of Graduate Studies by published deadlines. See *Admission to Graduate Studies Requirements* for more information.
2. Copy of valid teaching license or proof of eligibility for valid teaching license (ETS Praxis Content Scores).
3. Provide three professional letters of recommendation.
4. Submit a letter of support from current or most recent supervisor.
5. The M.Ed. program requires a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Applicants with a GPA below 3.0 in all prior coursework are required to complete the GRE for admission consideration. Graduate exam scores must be less than five years old at time of application
6. A student failing to meet one or more of the standards required for admission as a regular student may be eligible for provisional admission, if space in the program is available. Students who fail to make progress under provisional admission must withdraw from the program.

Application

Applications for admission should be completed online at uafs.edu/apply. For admission information or other general information, email graduate-studies@uafs.edu or call (479) 788-7518.

To ensure the application is processed in a timely manner, submit all application materials by published deadlines. All required documents must be sent to:

OFFICE OF GRADUATE STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS - FORT SMITH
5210 GRAND AVE.
P.O. BOX 3649
FORT SMITH, AR 72913

Transcript Note

- If mailing official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, they must be in official, sealed, school envelopes that have been sent to the student. Do not open the envelopes, as transcripts not in the original, sealed envelopes, will not be considered official.
- Transcripts may be sent by mail or electronically to the UAFS Registrar's Office from the individual institution(s).
- If courses/degrees have been completed previously from UAFS, the Office of Graduate Studies will obtain transcripts from the UAFS Registrar's Office.

Required admission documents are kept for one full year. If the student does not enroll after one year, all documents are purged.

Graduation Requirements

Students must satisfy all graduation requirements as listed in the Graduation Requirements. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA in degree requirements. A maximum of two Cs are allowed in the program. Candidates must successfully complete a thesis or capstone project.

Program Course Requirements

FOUNDATION CORE REQUIREMENTS - 12 HOURS

MED 5003	Action Research in Education
MED 5013	Advanced Educational Psychology
MED 5023	Current and Historical Perspectives
MED 5033	Curriculum and Design

Select a major emphasis area from one of the following:

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION - 18 HOURS

MECI 5103	Using Assessment Data as a Guide for Teaching and Learning
MECI 5113	Applying the Science of Reading in the Twenty-First Century Classroom
MECI 5123	Teaching and Learning in STEAM Education
MECI 5133	Teaching and Learning with Diverse Populations
MECI 5143	Teaching and Learning in the Twenty-First Century Classroom
MECI 6103	Capstone/Thesis Project in Curriculum and Instruction

ENGLISH - 18 HOURS

REQUIRED - 9 HOURS

MELA 6203	Advanced Pedagogy in Writing
MELA 6213	Young Adult Multicultural Literature
MELA 6223	Capstone/Thesis Project in English

ENGLISH ELECTIVES - 9 HOURS

SELECT ONE COURSE FROM ENGLISH LITERATURE - 3 HOURS

MELA 5213	Shakespeare
MELA 5223	Seventeenth Century British Literature
MELA 5243	Victorian Literature
MELA 5773	Eighteenth Century British Literature
MELA 5883	Old English

SELECT ONE COURSE FROM AMERICAN LITERATURE - 3 HOURS

MELA 5123	Regional/Geographic Topics in Literature
MELA 5783	Nineteenth Century American Literature
MELA 5793	Twentieth Century American Literature

SELECT ONE COURSE FROM ADVANCED TOPICS - 3 HOURS

MELA 5103	Major Authors
MELA 5903	Special Topics in Literature

Recommended Sequence of Courses

MASTER OF EDUCATION EMPHASIS IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION MAJOR CODE: 7011 EMPHASIS CODE: C711

FALL SEMESTER - 9 HOURS

MED 5003	Action Research in Education
MED 5023	Current and Historical Perspectives
MECI 5103	Using Assessment Data as a Guide for Teaching and Learning

SPRING SEMESTER - 9 HOURS

MED 5013	Advanced Educational Psychology
MED 5033	Curriculum and Design
MECI 5133	Teaching and Learning with Diverse Populations

SUMMER SEMESTER - 6 HOURS

MECI 5123	Teaching and Learning in STEAM Education
MECI 5113	Applying the Science of Reading in the Twenty-First Century Classroom

FALL SEMESTER - 6 HOURS

MECI 5143	Teaching and Learning in the Twenty-First Century Classroom
MECI 6103	Capstone/Thesis Project in Curriculum and Instruction

Total Hours 30

MASTER OF EDUCATION EMPHASIS IN ENGLISH MAJOR CODE: 7011 EMPHASIS CODE: C712

FALL SEMESTER - 9 HOURS

MED 5003	Action Research in Education
MED 5023	Current and Historical Perspectives
MELA English Elective ¹	

SPRING SEMESTER - 9 HOURS

MED 5013	Advanced Educational Psychology
MED 5033	Curriculum and Design
MELA English Elective ¹	

SUMMER SEMESTER - 6 HOURS

MELA 6203	Advanced Pedagogy in Writing
MELA English Elective ¹	

FALL SEMESTER - 6 HOURS

MELA 6213	Young Adult Multicultural Literature
MELA 6223	Capstone/Thesis Project in English

Total Hours 30

1. English electives, nine hours. Select one British Literature course from MELA 5213, 5223, 5243, 5773, or 5883; select one American Literature course from MELA 5123, 5783, 5793; and select one Advanced Topics course from MELA 5103 or 5903.

MASTER OF EDUCATION COURSES OF INSTRUCTION

MED Master of Education - Core Requirements

MED 5003 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
ACTION RESEARCH IN EDUCATION

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Fundamentals and methods of action research in education including needs assessment, proposal problem and purpose statements, writing style, literature review, research designs, data collection, data analysis, and report writing.

MED 5013 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
ADVANCED EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Provides an in-depth study of the major theories, research, and applications of effective learning approaches that empower teachers to better understand how students learn. Identify barriers to learning, reducing their effects, and focusing on developing and implementing teaching practices.

MED 5023 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
CURRENT AND HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Study of the historical foundations of education. Covers current issues in the P-12 classroom environment along with study of current innovations.

MED 5033 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
CURRICULUM DESIGN

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Focuses on the principles of curriculum design. Draws from theories of child development, principles of learning, effective teaching methodology, cultural diversity and assessment. Emphasis placed on the application of student-centered design to classroom teaching.

MECI Master of Education - Curriculum and Design

MECI 5103 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
USING ASSESSMENT DATA AS A GUIDE FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Examines research, theory, and practice relevant to the relationship between assessment, instruction, and the improvement of student achievement. Focuses on assessment strategies for students including developing skills to select, score, and interpret educational assessment.

MECI 5113 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
APPLYING THE SCIENCE OF READING IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY CLASSROOM

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Introduction to the science of reading in the context of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension from kindergarten through grade 12. Provides scientifically based reading research strategies across the curriculum.

MECI 5123 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
TEACHING AND LEARNING IN STEAM EDUCATION

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Introduces rationale for and methods of integrating science, technology, engineering, arts, and math through project-based learning, arts integration, collaboration, and multidimensional approaches to assessment. Examines the current job market in STEAM education.

MECI 5133 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH DIVERSE POPULATIONS

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Examines the knowledge, understanding and insight needed to become effective instructors in an inclusive teaching environment. A theoretically based overview of culture and how educators can provide culturally responsive instruction. Students gain skill in identifying, understanding, and challenging a diverse student population.

MECI 5143 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
TEACHING AND LEARNING IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY CLASSROOM

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Explores and enhances the vital components required for knowledge and competencies to promote twenty-first century learning skills. Student reflects upon and modifies current teaching practices to meet the learning needs of a diverse student population in the twenty-first century classroom.

MECI 5153 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
SPECIAL TOPICS IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Designed to meet the current needs of the graduate candidate with regard to special topics, trends, and issues in Curriculum and Instruction in the twenty-first century classroom.

MECI 6103 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
CAPSTONE/THESIS PROJECT IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
The graduate candidate will draw on prior knowledge and experience, course knowledge and current research in his/her area of specialization; embodying original, independent, and applied scholarship to complete a major capstone project or thesis that merits academic scholarship.

MELA Master of Education- English

MELA 5103 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
MAJOR AUTHORS

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
A reading intensive and focused study of a major author of literary, historical, and/or cultural significance. Along with an intensive focus on the author's literary work, a close analysis of the historical and cultural context will be included.

MELA 5123 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
REGIONAL/GEOGRAPHIC TOPICS IN LITERATURE

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
A reading intensive and focused study of the literature of a specific geography or region. Students will engage in the process of critical analysis as they study the literature of the specified region.

MELA 5213 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
SHAKESPEARE

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
A reading intensive and focused critical study of Shakespeare's major works, including selected comedies, tragedies, and histories. Along with an intensive focus on the author's literary work, a close analysis of the historical and cultural context will be included.

MELA 5223 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
SEVENTEENTH CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
A reading intensive and focused critical study of major works in poetry, prose, and plays from the Renaissance in Europe. Along with an intensive focus on the literary works, a close analysis of the authors' historical and cultural context will be included.

MELA 5243 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
VICTORIAN LITERATURE

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
A reading intensive and focused study of the literature and print culture of nineteenth-century British literature. Students will engage in the process of critical analysis as they study the literature of the Victorian era.

MELA 5773 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
EIGHTEENTH CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
A reading intensive and focused critical study of literature produced between 1690 and 1789 in the British Isles. Along with an intensive focus on the literary works, a close analysis of the literary historical and cultural context will be included.

MELA 5783 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
NINETEENTH CENTURY AMERICAN LITERATURE

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
A reading intensive and focused study of the literature and print culture of nineteenth-century American literature. Students will engage in the process of critical analysis as they study nineteenth century American texts.

MELA 5793 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY AMERICAN LITERATURE

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
A reading intensive and focused study of the literature and print culture of twentieth century American literature. Students will engage in the process of critical analysis as they study twentieth century American texts.

MELA 5883 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
OLD ENGLISH

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Intensive study of the Old English language. Students will learn Old English vocabulary and grammar as they parse, read, and translate texts of literary, linguistic, and historical interest written in English prior to A.D. 1150. Knowledge of Old English allows access to major literary texts such as *Beowulf* and *The*

Dream of the Rood without translation, and it supports analysis of the development of English to its present state.

MELA 5903 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
SPECIAL TOPICS IN LITERATURE

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
A reading intensive and focused critical study of literature not included in other course offerings. Along with an intensive focus on the literary works designated, a close analysis of the literary historical and cultural context will be included. Topics vary, often crossing geographic and temporal lines and usually dealing with a specific genre or a theme.

MELA 6203 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
ADVANCED PEDAGOGY IN WRITING

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Focused reading in the history and theory of writing pedagogy, including practical applications for creating effective writing assignments in various genres.

MELA 6213 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
YOUNG ADULT MULTICULTURAL LITERATURE

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Designed to meet the needs of the graduate candidate in the selection and evaluation of young adult literature based on biological, sociocultural, psychological, and developmental characteristics, emphasizing gender-fair and multicultural resources. Examine the historical development of literary works written for and about adolescents, and introduce critical issues surrounding the use and teaching of a variety of genres of young adult literature in today's culturally diverse schools.

MELA 6223 **3 CR (3 LEC)**
CAPSTONE/THESIS PROJECT IN ENGLISH

Prerequisite: admission in the M.Ed. program
Designed to meet the needs of the English education scholar. The graduate candidate will draw on prior knowledge and experience, course knowledge and current research in his/her area of specialization; embodying original, independent, and applied scholarship to complete a major capstone project or thesis that merits academic scholarship.