

November 2017

Master of Science

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**Curriculum  
and  
Instruction**

**KANSAS STATE**  
UNIVERSITY.

College of Education

**Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction**  
College of Education, Kansas State University

*Preparing Educators to be Knowledgeable, Ethical, Caring Decision Makers  
for a Diverse and Changing World*

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The College of Education is dedicated to preparing educators to be knowledgeable, ethical, caring decision makers for a diverse and changing world through excellence in the:

- delivery of exemplary instruction to students at the undergraduate and graduate levels;
- production, interpretation, and dissemination of sound and useful research and scholarship;
- leadership, collaboration, and service within the profession; and
- promotion, understanding, and celebration of diversity.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Admission to graduate study is granted by the Dean of the Graduate School upon the recommendation of the faculty in the graduate program. Applicants seeking admission to this master's degree program must submit the information noted below. Before starting the online application, gather all information and documents for all of the following admission requirements so that they can be entered into the application. *All materials must be received before review will begin.*

**A. A Completed Online Graduate School Application.**

Go to the Graduate School home page <http://www.k-state.edu/grad/> and click on "Apply Now." Follow the prompts for completing the process.

***Application Deadlines.***

*U.S. Citizens and Permanent Residents:* Applications are accepted throughout the year.

*International Students:* The online application, application fee, test scores, transcripts, financial documents, and all required application materials need to be submitted by the following dates:

- **January 1** for fall (August) enrollment
- **August 1** for spring (January) enrollment
- **December 1** for summer (June) enrollment

**B. Graduate School Application Fee.**

*Domestic Students*—A \$65 application fee is required for all domestic students; *your application will not be processed without this fee.* The fee can be paid by credit card when completing the online application.

*International Students*—A \$75 application fee is required; *your application will not be processed without this fee.* The fee can be paid by credit card when completing the online application.

**C. Transcripts.**

You must upload to the online application a scanned copy (PDF preferred) of the transcript(s) from each college or university where you received your bachelor's degree(s) and completed any post baccalaureate course work or degrees. Unofficial transcripts are acceptable.

If you are admitted, you will be required to submit an official transcript for GPA and degree conferral verification from the institution(s) where you received your degree(s) and completed any post-baccalaureate credits to the Graduate School.

Students whose transcripts are not in English must furnish a translation by an appropriate authority. Failure to list any colleges or universities attended may result in dismissal from the university.

**D. Statement of Goals and Professional Experience.**

You must upload into the online application a 1-2 page statement that includes the following information:

- Career and professional goals and aspirations, and how being accepted to the program will benefit your goals and aspirations
- Your intended area of specialization in the program
- A description of your work experience within education or a related field (e.g., past and present employment)
- Future professional plans (e.g., Upon completion of the degree, do you plan to stay in your current position? If not, what type of position would you like to seek?)
- Do you plan to complete classes as a part-time or full-time student? If a full-time student, do you intend to seek a graduate assistantship? Which semester would you begin?
- If you have a request for a certain advisor, indicate that preference in the statement.

**E. Letters of Recommendation.**

*Three letters* of recommendation are needed from college or university educators and/or colleagues or supervisors who are qualified to address your professional skills and your potential for success in the graduate program. Enter the names and email addresses of the recommenders into the appropriate area in the online application.

**F. English Language Proficiency.**

To demonstrate competence in the English language, an official report of scores not more than 18 months old (see the Graduate School web site for dates) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), International English Language Testing System - academic exam (IELTS) or Pearson Test of English (PTE) must be sent to Kansas State University for all applicants whose primary language is not English. Enter your scores in the online application and upload the report of your scores.

Learn more about English proficiency requirements at:

<http://www.k-state.edu/grad/admissions/application-process/international/>

**INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS**

International applicants must meet the same academic standards for admission as those required of domestic students. When applying for admission, international applicants must provide documentation of **English language proficiency**. Detailed information about this is provided at the following website:

<http://www.k-state.edu/grad/admissions/application-process/international/>

## THE REVIEW PROCESS

These are the steps in the application and review process:

- First, the applicant completes the online graduate application. This includes paying the application fee and uploading all additional documentation that is required.
- Second, once the online application has been completed and all needed additional documentation has been provided, the graduate program to which the student is applying will review the application and make an admission recommendation to the Graduate School.
- Third, the Graduate School reviews the application and the recommendation from the department. The Graduate School then sends an official decision letter to the applicant.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### **Faculty Contact in the Program. For more information, contact:**

Dr. Kay Ann Taylor, Associate Professor  
Director, C&I Graduate Programs  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction  
246 Bluemont Hall  
1100 Mid-Campus Drive  
Kansas State University  
Manhattan, KS 66506-5312  
785-532-6974  
ktaylor@ksu.edu

**Nondegree Status.** In some cases, a student may wish to take a course(s) prior to being admitted in a degree program. In these cases, a person must be admitted as a nondegree student. No more than nine credit hours earned as a nondegree student may be applied toward an advanced degree. However, *successful completion of any hours taken as a nondegree student does not guarantee admission into the program.* Nondegree students are *not* eligible for financial assistance. A faculty advisor is *not* assigned to nondegree students.

**Financial Aid.** Questions about financial assistance should be directed to the Office of Student Financial Assistance, 104 Fairchild Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506, 785-532-6420, [fnaid@k-state.edu](mailto:fnaid@k-state.edu). For information regarding financial aid, you may go to [www.k-state.edu/sfa](http://www.k-state.edu/sfa).

**Graduate Assistantships.** A limited number of graduate assistantships are available in the College of Education. Go to <https://coe.k-state.edu/grad/assistantships.html> for detailed information and application procedures. It is helpful to talk with the appropriate department chair as early as possible to learn of assistantships available in the department.

**Graduate Handbook.** Once admitted, students should become familiar with the Graduate Handbook at <http://www.k-state.edu/grad/graduate-handbook/>. This handbook includes policies and procedures about advising, the program of study, enrollment, transfer credits, the final oral/written exam, required approval forms, and other aspects of the graduate program.

**Advisor and Program of Study.** Once admitted to the program by the Graduate School, an advisor is assigned. The advisor assists the student in selecting the courses to be taken in the master's degree. The Program of Study with the list of courses is submitted to the Graduate School upon completion of nine hours (part-time students) or during the second semester (full-time students). The student's program is directed by a three members of the graduate faculty in the Department of

Curriculum and Instruction, including an advisor with expertise in the student's area of emphasis and two other faculty members in curriculum and instruction.

**Additional Information about the Program.** The College of Education website for this program includes more information about:

- A checklist of student responsibilities
- Student learning outcomes
- Professional dispositions
- Midpoint checklist for the advisor
- Field experience plan
- Program completion portfolio guidelines

That information can be found at <https://coe.k-state.edu/academics/graduate/curriculum-instruction/masters.html>

## Program Requirements for the Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction

31-36 credit hours

### A. Curriculum (3 hours)

This category addresses all aspects of K-12 curriculum. It is intended that one course in curriculum would address the broad range of these issues.

- The foundations of curriculum (philosophical, historical, psychological, and social foundations; curriculum theory)
- The principles of curriculum (aims, goals, objectives; curriculum design, development, implementation, and evaluation)
- Issues of curriculum (trends and issues; future directions; national standards)

*Recommended courses for this core category:*

EDCI 803 Curriculum Development

Or a curriculum course approved by the student's advisor and committee.

### B. Teaching and Learning (3 hours)

This category deals with theoretical, practical, and research-based issues associated with the creation of an environment for effective teaching and learning. The following topics are representative of the issues that might affect the creation of the learning environment:

- Teaching strategies (e.g., direct instruction, cooperative learning)
- Learning theory (e.g., sociocultural theory, schema theory)
- Theory and research into practice
- Instructional planning and design
- Assessment
- Learning environments (organization, management, discipline)
- Standards and practices

One course in teaching and learning may address only one of these issues; one course is not intended to provide a survey of all possible issues that affect the creation of a learning environment.

*Recommended courses for this core category:*

EDCEP 715 Principles of Assessment

EDCI 720 ESL/Dual Language Methods

EDCI 831 Contemporary Issues in Teaching and Learning

EDCI 862 Instructional Systems Design

EDCI 882 Teaching and Learning Models

Or a teaching and learning course approved by the student's advisor and committee.

### C. Diversity (3 hours)

This category addresses the nature of learner differences and the instructional implications of these differences. Teaching students in a pluralistic society entails knowledge of many possible factors that may affect student performance, behavior, and instruction.

Student diversity may be due to factors such as: ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status, gender, exceptionalities, language, religion, sexual orientation, or geographical areas. One course in diversity may address several of these issues; but one course is not intended to provide a survey

of all possible issues that address the nature of learner differences, the instructional implications of these differences, and the nature of the institution of schooling and biases that may exist.

*Recommended courses for this core category:*

EDCI 730 Education of the Disadvantaged  
EDCI 733 Curriculum Materials for Ethnic Diversity  
EDCI 735 Gender Implications for Education  
EDCI 740 Culture and Language in Classroom Practice  
EDCI 755 Multicultural Issues in Teaching  
EDSP 710 Education of Exceptional Individuals  
EDCI 864 Social/Cultural Issues in Educational Technology  
Or a diversity course approved by the student's advisor and committee.

#### **D. Educational Technology (3 hours)**

This category examines:

- Roles that technology, teachers, and learners may take in any educational context
- Ways of integrating technology into teaching and learning
- Issues involved in using technology in K-12 settings

*Recommended courses for this core category:*

EDCI 718 Introduction to Educational Technology

#### **E. Research and Scholarship (3 hours)**

This category deals with interpreting, using, and conducting research and scholarly activities. Scholarship might include analysis, position papers, essays, research into practice, and other creative endeavors. Scholarship is broader and more inclusive than research. Research is a specific form of scholarship.

This category addresses:

- The many forms of scholarship
- Scientific and naturalistic research
- Analysis, interpretation, and application of research and scholarship to improve teaching and learning
- Designing and conducting research and scholarship
- How research relates to practice

It is intended that one course in research and scholarship would address the broad range of these issues. *Students must complete the research course before starting the master's degree project, report, or thesis (see category F).*

*Recommended courses for this core category:*

EDCI 760 Action Research in Education  
EDCEP 816 Research Methods in Education  
Or a research and scholarship course approved by the student's advisor and committee.

#### **F. Project, Report, or Thesis (1 - 6 hours)**

Students must complete a research course in Category E before starting this project, report, or thesis. The results of the project, report, or thesis are to be reported to the student's supervisory committee in the oral exam in the last semester of the degree program.

**Project (1 hour)**

The master's project is conducted under EDCI 890 (Master's Project).

The objective of the project is to provide documentation of the improvement of the student's teaching and his/her impact on student learning as a result of the master's program. Students select a theme pertinent to their own practice. This includes the construction of a professional portfolio to represent the student's learning throughout the master's degree program. Access the Master's Program Completion Portfolio outline at: <https://coe.k-state.edu/academics/docs/edci/MS-Program-Completion-Portfolio.pdf>

**Report (2 hours)**

*The master's report is conducted under EDCI 898 (Master's Report).*

A master's report is generally shorter than a thesis, and it may present the results of a more limited research investigation. Alternatively, it may review the state of a particular scholarly or scientific problem, or it may describe a project appropriate to the disciplines.

**Thesis (6 hours)**

*The master's thesis is conducted under EDCI 899 (Master's Thesis).*

The master's thesis presents the results of an original investigation of a problem or topic approved by the candidate's supervisory committee. Its purpose is to demonstrate the candidate's ability to conduct original research of a type appropriate to the academic discipline, to analyze the information obtained from the research, and to present the results in a form acceptable to the supervisory committee.

**G. Area of Specialization (15 hours)**

Students must select one of the following areas of specialization (details for each are on the following pages):

- G-1 Elementary/Middle Level Curriculum and Instruction
- G-2 Reading/Language Arts
- G-3 The Reading Specialist Endorsement
- G-4 Middle Level/Secondary Curriculum and Instruction
- G-5 Educational Technology
- G-7 English as a Second Language
- G-8 Learning Skills/School Improvement
- G-9 Mathematics Education
- G-10 Civic Education

**G-1 Elementary/Middle Level Curriculum and Instruction (15 hours)**

This specialization is intended for elementary teachers who teach a variety of subjects and middle-level teachers who teach in more than one subject field. Core and elective courses for this specialization are intended to focus on curricular issues of the subjects that elementary/middle level teachers teach (e.g., math, science, social studies, science, language arts, reading).

*Recommended Courses:*

- EDCI 776 Teaching in Middle Schools
- EDCI 816 Approaches to Reading Instruction
- EDCI 820 Contemporary Issues in Language Arts
- EDCI 821 Advanced Methods in the Teaching of K-12 Mathematics
- EDCI 822 Contemporary Issues in Social Studies

EDCI 834 Improving Science Teaching  
Or other courses approved by the advisor.

**G-2 Reading/Language Arts (15 hours)**

Master's degree candidates may specialize in reading/language arts without taking the particular courses for the reading specialist endorsement (that endorsement can be obtained with specialization G-3). Students may choose any 15 hours of approved elementary/middle level and/or secondary courses that emphasize reading and the language arts. Some of the courses may have prerequisites; see the university catalog for that information.

*Recommended Courses:*

EDCI 715 Reading in the Content Areas  
EDCI 756 Tradebooks across the Curriculum  
EDCI 758 Reading/Writing Connections  
EDCI 816 Approaches to Reading Instruction  
EDCI 820 Contemporary Issues in Language Arts  
EDCI 840 Literacy Assessment  
EDCI 841 Supporting Struggling Readers  
EDCI 878 The Language Arts Curriculum  
Or other courses approved by the advisor.

**G-3 Reading Specialist Endorsement (15 hours + 3 hours practicum)**

This specialization provides the needed coursework and practicum for the reading specialist license, which is available from the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE). After completing this coursework, students need to submit an application for the license to KSDE along with some additional requirements that are outlined below.

*Required courses (15 hours):*

EDCI 816 Approaches to Reading Instruction  
EDCI 818 Theoretical Models of Reading  
EDCI 840 Literacy Assessment  
EDCI 841 Supporting Struggling Readers  
EDCI 930 Leadership in Literacy

*Required Practicum (3 hours):*

EDCI 945 Clinical Practicum in Reading

**Licensing Information for the Reading Specialist.** Students who want to apply for the KSDE reading specialist license should contact the College of Education licensure officer—Di Murphy at: [dim@ksu.edu](mailto:dim@ksu.edu) or 785-532-5524. Go to the following College of Education website for licensing information:

[www.coe.k-state.edu/departments/csps/licensure/index.html](http://www.coe.k-state.edu/departments/csps/licensure/index.html).

After completing the coursework and practicum, applicants for the license must also meet the following additional KSDE requirements:

1. Take the Praxis exam for the Reading Specialist (test number **5301**) and report a score of **164** or higher. To register for the Praxis exam, go to:  
[www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis). To have your score sent to Kansas State University, enter code # **6334** when registering for the Praxis.

2. Hold a master's degree. (It is permitted, but not necessary, to include the required courses as part of the master's degree.)
3. Have a 3.25 grade point average in graduate coursework.
4. Hold a currently valid Kansas professional teaching license.
5. Have recent teaching experience or coursework (i.e., at least one year of teaching or 8 credit hours within the last six years)

**G-4 Middle Level/Secondary Curriculum and Instruction (15 hours)**

This specialization is for middle-level and secondary teachers who teach in one subject field. This specialization is designed to enhance one's knowledge and skills about their teaching field (e.g., education in math, science, social studies, language arts, family and consumer sciences, agriculture, vocational fields). These courses may relate to the content being taught, the curricular program, or instructional aspects of the teaching field. The requirements include:

- *A curriculum course in the teaching field (3 hours)*
- *Electives (12 hours)*

Students taking courses for the graduate certificate in teaching and learning may apply those courses for this master's degree specialization in middle level/secondary curriculum and instruction. For more information on the graduate certificate in teaching and learning, go to this website:

[www.coe.k-state.edu/academics/graduate/certificate/teachlearn.html](http://www.coe.k-state.edu/academics/graduate/certificate/teachlearn.html)

**G-5 Educational Technology (15 hours)**

This area of specialization focuses – following guidelines prescribed by the Association for Educational Communications and Technology (AECT) – on the study and ethical practice of facilitating learning and improving performance by creating, using, and managing appropriate technological processes and resources. While K-12 educators constitute its largest audience, this specialization is equally appropriate for those from higher education or corporate/industry backgrounds who want to explore the role of educational and communications technologies in enabling effective teaching and meaningful learning. This specialization also provides a solid foundation for those wishing to pursue a doctoral program in Educational Technology.

*Required Foundations Courses*

B: Teaching and Learning (3 hours)

- EDCI 862 Instructional Systems Design

C: Diversity (3 hours)

- EDCI 864 Social/Cultural Issues in Educational Technology

D: Educational Technology (3 hours)

- EDCI 718 Introduction to Educational Technology

*Area of Specialization Courses*

*Required (12 credit hours)*

- EDCI 863 Online Teaching and Learning
- EDCI 866 Educational Technology Change Management
- EDCI 887 Educational Technology Proseminar I
- EDCI 888 Educational Technology Proseminar II

*Electives* (select at least 3 credit hours from the following)

- EDCI 826 Contemporary Technologies in Mathematics Education
- Any other Educational Technology centered elective approved by the advisor

**G-7 English as a Second Language (ESL endorsement) (15 hours)**

This area of specialization provides teachers with methods and strategies to help non-English speaking students in U.S. schools to continue to achieve academic progress while learning the English language. Specifically, this 15-hour area of specialization meets the requirements for the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) endorsement in the state of Kansas.

*Required Courses:*

EDCI 720 ESL/Dual Language Methods

EDCI 731 ESL/Dual Language Linguistics

EDCI 740 Culture and Language in Classroom Practice

EDCI 742 ESL/Dual Language Assessment

EDCI 745 ESL/Dual Language Elementary Practicum, or

EDCI 746 ESL/Dual Language Secondary Practicum

(For students seeking the ESL endorsement, any substituted course must closely address the content of the course it is replacing.)

***Licensing Information for ESOL.*** Students who want to apply for the KSDE license should contact the College of Education licensure officer—Di Murphy at [dim@ksu.edu](mailto:dim@ksu.edu) or 785-532-5524. Go to the following College of Education website for licensing information: [www.coe.k-state.edu/departments/csps/licensure/index.html](http://www.coe.k-state.edu/departments/csps/licensure/index.html).

After completing the coursework and practicum, applicants for the license must also meet the following additional KSDE requirements:

Take the Praxis exam for the English for Speakers of Other Languages (test number **0361**—Paper version, or test number **5361**—computer version) and report a score of **138** or higher. To register for the Praxis exam, go to: [www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis). To have your score sent to Kansas State University, enter code # **6334** when registering for the Praxis.

**G-8 Learning Skills/School Improvement (15 hours)**

This area is appropriate for educators who want to develop knowledge and skills to work with others in the school or district on improvement in curriculum and instruction. Course selection should be done with the guidance of an advisor.

**G-9 Mathematics Education (15 hours)**

This area of specialization is designed for teachers who wish to further their understandings of mathematics curriculum, content, and pedagogy. Courses are designed to provide a contemporary perspective on teaching mathematics in K-12 schools.

*Recommended Courses:*

EDCI 729 Middle-Level Mathematics for Teachers

EDCI 821 Advanced Methods in the Teaching of K-12 Mathematics

EDCI 823 History of Mathematics Education

EDCI 825 Research in Mathematics Teaching and Learning

EDCI 826 Contemporary Technologies in Mathematics Education  
EDCI 827 Theoretical Models of Mathematics Teaching and Learning  
EDCI 828 Assessment in Mathematics Education  
EDCI 886 Seminar in Curriculum and Instruction

Other courses may be approved by the advisor. These hours may include up to six hours from the KSU Math Department (e.g., MATH 591, MATH 791)

**G-10 Civic Education (15 hours)**

This area of specialization is designed for teachers who wish to further their understandings of civic education curriculum, content, and pedagogy. Courses are designed to provide a contemporary perspective on teaching civic education in K-12 schools.

*Recommended Courses:*

EDCI 781 Teaching the Theoretical Foundations of Constitutional Government

EDCI 782 Teaching the Historical Origins of Constitutional Government

EDCI 783 Teaching the Development of Constitutional Principles

EDCI 784 Teaching the Institutions of Government

EDCI 785 Teaching the Bill of Rights

EDCI 787 Teaching Citizenship

EDCI 788 Teaching the Constitutional Principles of America's Founders

EDCI 789 Methods and Materials in Civic Education

EDCI 790 Engaged Citizens: Public Policy Issues and Processes

Or other courses approved by the advisor; these hours may include up to six hours in political science, history, or law.