

# MASTER OF EDUCATION, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OR ADDED ENDORSEMENT

The Master of Education degree for Professional Development or Added Endorsement is offered for practicing teachers who already possess initial licensure and is designed to provide opportunities for continuing professional development, master's level licensure for teachers and other school personnel, or endorsements in teaching or administration. Students in these programs must possess a collegiate professional or postgraduate professional Virginia license. ***The College of Education is currently not accepting any new students in the Educational Leadership and Reading Specialist programs.***

## Core Programs

- Educational Leadership (fulfills administration and supervision endorsement requirements) (p. 1)
- Reading Specialist (fulfills reading specialist endorsement requirements) (p. 1)
- Special Education (fulfills General Curriculum endorsement requirements (p. 2))

The following requirements are necessary for admission:

1. Three years of experience as a licensed teacher;
2. Submit a completed application for admission;
3. Submit official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate course work;
4. Have earned an undergraduate degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
5. Have a GPA of 2.5 or higher on undergraduate course work and 3.0 or higher on graduate course work;
6. Provide a résumé outlining work experience and education;
7. Provide verification of the collegiate professional or postgraduate professional license. Courses taken at other institutions and approved for the endorsement pathways must be officially transferred into the program; and
8. Submit essay(s).

An interview, initiated by the Admissions Committee, may be required as part of the admission process.

## Readmission Policy

Students who have not attended the University for three consecutive semesters (excluding summers) must apply for readmission. Students who are readmitted are subject to the degree requirements in effect at the time of readmission. When a student is readmitted, the four-year limit from the time of first admission is still in effect. Academic work that was completed more than four years before the date at which the M.Ed. is awarded may no longer be acceptable in satisfying degree requirements. If a student needs additional time to complete the degree, the student must apply in writing to the Office of the Dean for an extension. Such requests must be received at least one month prior to the end of the student's original four-year time limit.

## Program Completion Requirements

1. Students must successfully complete the required course of study for the M.Ed. with a minimum of 36 credits and a 3.0 (B) or higher GPA; and
2. Application for the added endorsement is made to the Virginia Department of Education through the school division's personnel office.

## M.Ed. for Professional Development or Added Endorsement – Educational Leadership

This program is offered in a cohort format and fulfills administration and supervision endorsement requirements. A passing score on the School Leaders License Assessment is required for those who plan to work as school based administrators.

### Required Courses

Code	Title	Credits
EDEL 539	Special Education Leadership in Schools <sup>1</sup>	3
EDEL 540	Leadership for Learning and Diverse Student Populations <sup>1</sup>	3
EDEL 541	Leadership for School Improvement	3
EDEL 542	Managing Schools and School-Community Relationships <sup>1</sup>	3
EDEL 543	Professional Development and Mentorship of School Personnel <sup>1</sup>	3
EDEL 545	School Law and Society <sup>1</sup>	3
EDEL 546	Educational Policy and Decision Making <sup>1</sup>	3
EDEL 547	Literacy Leadership for Administrators	3
EDEL 548	Evaluation for Instructional Improvement <sup>1</sup>	3
EDEL 551	Internship in Educational Leadership <sup>1</sup>	3
INDT 545	Organizational Leadership in Educational Technology	3
EDCI 590	Individual Research	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>36</b>

<sup>1</sup> Required courses for students who possess a master's degree and wish to pursue the administration and supervision endorsement only. Admission, continuance, and exit requirements are the same as those for the M.Ed. in Educational Leadership. The endorsement pathway consists of 24 credits, which include the internship. EDEL 541 Leadership for School Improvement is not required but is strongly recommended for those students without a master's degree in curriculum and instruction.

## M.Ed. for Professional Development or Added Endorsement – Reading Specialist

This program leads to a reading specialist endorsement and prepares teachers to take a reading specialist position in a school or district. The courses are designed to prepare reading specialists in the areas of foundational knowledge, instructional strategies and curriculum development, assessment and intervention, literacy in communication, and literacy leadership. The program supports local school districts and the Virginia Department of Education in improving reading performance through highly qualified reading professionals, as well as addressing the

teacher shortage in the area of reading specialist. A passing score on the Reading for Virginia Educators: Reading Specialist assessment is required for endorsement.

## Required Courses

Code	Title	Credits
EDLS 540	Psychology of Literacy	3
EDLS 541	Linguistic Foundations of Literacy <sup>1</sup>	3
EDLS 542	Literacy Curriculum and Instruction I: Emergent-Elementary <sup>1</sup>	3
EDLS 543	Literacy Curriculum and Instruction II: Adolescent <sup>1</sup>	3
EDLS 544	Literacy Assessment and Evaluation <sup>1</sup>	3
EDLS 545	Writing Process and Instruction <sup>1</sup>	3
EDLS 546	Leadership in Literacy Education <sup>1</sup>	3
EDLS 547	Literacy and Diverse Student Populations <sup>1</sup>	3
EDLS 548	Applied Literacy Research <sup>1</sup>	3
EDCI 546	Evaluation for Instructional Improvement	3
EDCI 590	Individual Research	3
INDT 501	Instructional Technologies	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>36</b>

<sup>1</sup> Required courses for students who possess a master's degree and wish to only pursue the Reading Specialist endorsement. This endorsement pathway provides teachers with the knowledge to become leaders in the area of literacy instruction and leads to the reading specialist endorsement. It is offered for prospective students who possess a master's degree and a valid Virginia postgraduate professional license. Admission, continuance, and exit requirements are the same as those for the M.Ed. in Literacy.

## M.Ed. for Professional Development or Added Endorsement – Special Education General Curriculum

This program is designed for individuals who hold a Virginia teaching license in elementary education (early/ primary education preK-3 or elementary preK-6), or middle education (middle education 6-8 English, middle education 6-8 history and social sciences, middle education 6-8 mathematics, or middle education- sciences) or English, history and social sciences, mathematics, biology, chemistry, Earth science, or physics who want to pursue a degree and added licensure in Special Education - General Curriculum.

## Required Courses

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
EDSE 505	Instruction in Mathematics for Students with Disabilities <sup>1</sup>	3
EDSE 506	Innovations in Special Education Technology	1
EDSE 515	Individualized Education Program Planning & Transition Services <sup>1</sup>	3
EDSE 521	Language and Literacy for Special Populations <sup>1</sup>	3
EDSE 531	Surv Spec Ed:Charctr Legl Issu <sup>1</sup>	3
EDSE 533	Positive Approaches to Behavior Management	3
EDSE 534	Assessment, Evaluation, and Instructional Planning <sup>1</sup>	3

EDSE 535	Collaborative consultation and Transition Planning <sup>1</sup>	3
EDSE 589	Applied Research in Special Education	3
EDCI 526	Instructional Design and Assessment	3
EDCI 527	Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning	3
EDCI 551	Practicum for Added Teaching Endorsement	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>34</b>

<sup>1</sup> Required courses for the graduate endorsement pathway in Special Education: General Curriculum offered for candidates who hold a Virginia teaching license in elementary education (early/ primary education preK-3 or elementary preK-6), or middle education (middle education 6-8 English, middle education 6-8 history and social sciences, middle education 6-8 mathematics, or middle education- sciences) or English, history and social sciences, mathematics, biology, chemistry, Earth science, or physics who want to pursue an added licensure in Special Education- general curriculum.. A minimum of 15 credits are required, as the courses are part of an endorsement program that has been approved by the Virginia Department of Education.

## Transfer Courses

A maximum of nine graduate credits can be transferred into the M.Ed. program. To be accepted for transfer credit, courses must have been taken from a regionally accredited institution within the last six years with a minimum grade of B and must be equivalent to a course in the M.Ed. program pathway including any practicum experiences embedded in the course for which transfer credit will be approved. Transfer credit is not given for internship experiences. All transfer credit must be approved by the program director.

## Continuance Requirements

1. Maintain good academic standing with a minimum 3.0 (B) GPA and no more than one C (including C+,C or C-) in course work, and by successfully completing all field experiences. A student must be in good standing for admission into EDCI 550 M. Ed. Initial Licensure Internship. A grade of D+ or lower in a course or C+ or lower in EDCI 550 M. Ed. Initial Licensure Internship results in dismissal from the program; and
2. A student must be in good standing for admission into EDEL 551 Internship in Educational Leadership. EDEL 551 Internship in Educational Leadership is by application only.

Students who voluntarily interrupt their enrollment for one semester should refer to the policy defined under the Reenrollment, Readmission, and Leave of Absence heading in the Academic Rules and Regulations section of the catalog.

## Education Faculty

Peter S. Kelly, *Dean*  
Jennifer D. Walker, *Associate Dean for Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation*

### Professors

Teresa L. Coffman  
Peter S. Kelly  
Kyle T. Schultz

**Associate Professors**

Janine Schank Davis  
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Melissa C. Jenkins  
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**Instructors**

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