MASTER OF EDUCATION (M.ED.)

Purpose
Liberty University strives to produce educators and school leaders who model high academic, moral, and spiritual standards before their peers, and who have dedicated their lives to educational leadership. Concurrent with this goal, the graduate programs offered by the School of Education are designed to prepare candidates for effective leadership in Christian, public, and private schools.

Program Learning Outcomes
A graduate of the Master of Education program:

1. **Knows** Christian values, moral dimensions, and ethical implications synthesized with academic knowledge
   a. Demonstrates a broad base of professional and general knowledge.
   b. Conceptualizes a broad spectrum of educational precepts, generalizations, practices, dispositions, points of view, and resources.

2. **Implements** skills as a gift from God, because teaching/leadership is a calling from God
   a. Integrates skills in speaking, writing, reading, and listening for effective classroom communication, peer leadership, and professional involvement.
   b. Designs and selects a variety of instructional strategies based on the developmental levels and individual needs of the learner.
   c. Applies knowledge of content areas and curriculum goals to design and supervise appropriate instruction.
   d. Manages classroom climate and procedures to motivate students and maximize learning.
   e. Integrates a variety of assessment strategies to improve student learning.
   f. Integrates appropriate technology and resources to support instruction and to facilitate professional development opportunities.
   g. Demonstrates competence as a consumer of research findings and other information technology resources.
   h. Demonstrates skill in critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, and interpersonal skills.

3. **Believes** and practices personal integrity, social responsibility, sensitivity to the needs of others, and the betterment of humanity consistent with our mission to prepare competent professionals with a biblical worldview for Christian, public, and private schools
   a. Models personal integrity and sensitivity to human needs.
   b. Enhances the success of all diverse learners, providing for special needs and diverse backgrounds.
   c. Demonstrates behaviors of a reflective practitioner and seeks opportunities for collaboration and professional development.
   d. Exerts confident leadership as well as accepts responsibility in the broad field of education.

Program Specific Admission Requirements
M.Ed. in Administration/Supervision, Math Specialist Endorsement, and Reading Specialist Endorsement
Required for Programs that Lead to Licensure:
1. Earned baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (e.g., SACSCOC, TRACS, ABHE, etc.)
2. GPA of at least a 3.00 on a 4.00 scale (cautionary admission is an option if the candidate has at least a 2.50).
3. TOEFL Scores for candidates who speak English as a second language (score of 600 paper-based test; 250 computer-based test, 80 internet-based test).

The following programs do not lead to licensure:

M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction Cognates

M.Ed. in Higher Education Cognates
Educational Leadership and Instructional Design and Technology.

Required for programs that do not lead to licensure:
1. Earned baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (e.g., SACSCOC, TRACS, ABHE, etc.)
2. GPA of at least a 3.00 on a 4.00 scale (cautionary admission is an option if the candidate has at least a 2.00).
3. TOEFL Scores for candidates who speak English as a second language (score of 600 paper-based test; 250 computer-based test, 80 internet-based test).

Transfer of Credit
All graduate transfer credits are subject to the approval of the School of Education (SOE) Graduate Committee. Such courses must carry a grade of at least a B- and be comparable to Liberty University graduate courses. Transfer credit will only be considered from institutions or schools accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. With approval, up to 18 hours may be transferred into the M.Ed. programs. It is the responsibility of each applicant to supply official transcripts along with a written request to have credit applied to the degree program. Transfer credits must have been completed within the previous 10 years.

Credits from a prior degree on the same academic level earned through Liberty University are considered transfer credits.

Graduation Requirements
1. Complete a minimum of 36 semester hours for M.Ed.;
2. A maximum of 50% of the program hours may be transferred if approved and allowable, including credit from an earned degree from Liberty University on the same academic level.
3. Candidates in the licensure programs must maintain a 3.00 GPA to remain in the program with no more than two C's permitted.
(includes grades of C+ & C-). Candidates in the M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction must maintain a 2.50 GPA to remain in the program with no more than two C’s permitted (includes grades of C+ and C-).

4. For information regarding the repeat policy, please refer to “Course Repeat Policy” in the Academic Information and Policies section of this Catalog.

5. Additional requirements may be necessary depending upon the candidate’s academic background. All contracts made between the Program Director and the candidate upon acceptance into the degree program must be satisfied before the degree will be awarded.

6. No residence courses are required for the M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction.

7. The M.Ed. must be completed within five years.

8. Submission of Degree Completion Application must be completed within the last semester of a candidate’s anticipated graduation date.

Licensure Guidelines

The Licensure Programs are designed to meet requirements of the Commonwealth of Virginia in the candidate’s approved specialization. In addition, candidates who complete the Educator Preparation Program may be eligible for the Association of Christian Schools International certificate. The Educator Preparation Program has been officially approved by the Virginia Department of Education and is accredited under NCATE Standards through the CAEP Accreditation System. Approved programs for licensure for support personnel may be earned in the program through Administration/Supervision, Math Specialist Endorsement, and Reading Specialist Endorsement. Candidates entering the Master of Education program must indicate their intention to pursue Virginia licensure when they apply to the graduate program. Each concentration has licensure requirements beyond the master’s degree. Upon completion of all requirements, the candidate must submit the licensure application and fee to Liberty’s School of Education Licensure Office. Liberty’s Coordinator of Licensure Records will submit the candidate’s application packet to the Virginia Department of Education. Graduates who have successfully completed Liberty’s Educator Preparation Program are eligible for a standard Collegiate Professional License from the Virginia Department of Education. Though candidates must pass a background check for entrance into the Liberty University School of Education EPP (Educator Preparation Program), the VDOE (Virginia Department of Education) also makes determinations concerning the eligibility of candidates.

The Liberty University School of Education utilizes a gate system to ensure the successful progression of its candidates through the EPP (Education Preparation Provider) program. The following gates are described below:

- **Gate 1:** University Admission and Declaration of Major
- **Gate 2:** Program Status Check
- **Gate 3:** Program Admission/Student Teaching Application
- **Gate 4:** Program Exit/ Licensure Application

Please visit www.liberty.edu/advisingguide for specific requirements at each gate.

**Note:** The M.Ed. program in Curriculum and Instruction is not a licensure program. It is meant for individuals who are already licensed, or for those who are not pursuing licensure.

Please see the VDOE website to see the list of questions that will be asked of each applicant.

**Administration and Supervision**

The candidate must:

1. Complete three years of successful full-time experience as a classroom teacher in an accredited nonpublic or public school. (Work experience form required.);
2. Successfully complete Liberty’s M.Ed. in Administration /Supervision;
3. Complete an internship as a school principal and
4. Obtain a passing score on all tests required for Virginia licensure.

**Math Specialist Endorsement or Reading Specialist Endorsement**

The student must:

1. Complete three years of successful classroom teaching in which the teaching in the specialty area was/is an important responsibility. (Work experience form required.); and
2. Successfully complete Liberty’s M.Ed. in Reading Specialist Endorsement or Math Specialist Endorsement, which includes an internship.
3. Obtain passing scores on all tests required for Virginia licensure.

**Time Limit for School Licensure**

1. Candidates must have completed all requirements necessary for school licensure within 5 years after completion of the graduate degree;
2. Candidates who have completed Liberty’s M.Ed. and wish to return to Liberty University to complete the student teaching or internship required for licensure will be subject to the same five-year timeframe; and
3. Each case will be evaluated on an individual basis according to transcripts, program changes, time elapsed from completion of coursework, and recent experiences in the field of education.

**Licensure in Other States**

Candidates who have completed Liberty’s M.Ed. may be eligible for licensure in other states by interstate agreement. Verification that the candidate has completed a state-approved program may be required for reciprocity with other states; therefore, it may be necessary for the candidate to complete the additional requirements listed above for Virginia licensure in order to qualify for reciprocity. Liberty’s School of Education Licensure Office has addresses for the licensing agencies in other states and will assist in completing the appropriate forms. Some states require a state-specific course or test but will grant a provisional license so that the applicant can be employed while completing the additional requirements. It is the candidate’s responsibility to obtain the appropriate forms from other states to submit to Liberty University’s Licensure Office.

For further licensure information e-mail: gate4@liberty.edu; fax (434) 582-2468.
Master of Education (M.Ed.)

Programs of Study

• Administration/Supervision Cognate
• Math Specialist Endorsement Cognate
• Reading Specialist Endorsement Cognate

Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Hours</th>
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1 Additional hours may be required for Virginia Licensure

Curriculum and Instruction Cognates

(Non-Licensure):

• Early Childhood Education
• Educational Law – Open to currently enrolled Liberty University School of Law students and Liberty University School of Law alumni only. Please see the School of Law Dual Degree section of this Catalog.
• Educational Technology
• Elementary Education
• English
• General Education
• Gifted Education
• History
• Leadership
• Middle Grades
• Special Education
• Student Services

1 Candidates who complete the Early Childhood Education or Gifted Education program may be eligible for the add-on endorsement. This means that the graduate already possesses a standard state teaching license and the endorsement is added to the initial teaching license.

Programs of Study

Delivery Format: Online Only

• Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed.) - Early Childhood Ed. (add-on endorsement)
• Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed.) - Educational Technology (Non-Licensure)
• Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed.) - Elementary Education (Non-Licensure)
• Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed.) - English (Non-Licensure)
• Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed.) - General Education (Non-Licensure)
• Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed.) - Gifted Education (add-on endorsement)
• Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed.) - History (Non-Licensure)
• Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed.) - Leadership (Non-Licensure)
• Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed.) - Middle Grades (Non-Licensure)
• Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed.) - Special Education (Non-Licensure)
• Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed.) - Student Services (Non-Licensure)
• Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed.) - Urban Education (Non-Licensure)
• Education (M.Ed.) - Administration & Supervision
• Education (M.Ed.) - Math Specialist Endorsement
• Education (M.Ed.) - Reading Specialist Endorsement
• Higher Education (M.Ed.) - Educational Leadership
• Higher Education (M.Ed.) - Instructional Design & Technology
• Master of Education (M.Ed.) - Curriculum & Instruction Cognates
• Master of Education (M.Ed.) - Higher Education Cognates

Career Opportunities

• Administrator
• Assistant Principal
• Course design and administration
• Curriculum Instructor
• Educational research teams
• Principal
• Professor
• Program Specialist
• Teacher
• University admissions

Courses

EDUC 500 Learning Theory 3 Credit Hour(s)
An overview of the teaching-learning process. Topics include learning theory, individual differences, motivation, human development, exceptionality, teaching methodology, measurement, and evaluation. Offered: Online

EDUC 501 Advanced Child Development 3 Credit Hour(s)
An examination of physical, cognitive, spiritual and social/emotional development, and guidance of a young child. Offered: Online

EDUC 504 Historical and Philosophical Foundations of Education 3 Credit Hour(s)
A comprehensive survey of the historical and philosophical development of education. Emphasis is placed upon analysis of religious and public educational trends in the past and present. The candidates will be required to formulate a personal, Christian worldview philosophy. Registration Restrictions: Background Check Required Offered: Online

EDUC 507 Educational Statistics 3 Credit Hour(s)
An examination of descriptive statistics and basic inferential statistical techniques. Also, hypothesis testing, confidence intervals and correlation techniques will be studied. Offered: Online

EDUC 518 Educational Research and Assessment 3 Credit Hour(s)
Overview of the nature of research on human development, learning, and pedagogical knowledge and skills. Topics include current trends and issues in education, skills in data collection and assessment, and application of research in the school setting. Offered: Online
EDUC 521 Foundations of Exceptionality 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: EDUC 500 (may be taken concurrently)
A comprehensive course dealing with the characteristics of children and youth with disabilities and topics related to models of service delivery, documentation procedures, and legal/ethical issues. Recommended as the first special education course.
Offered: Online

EDUC 523 Principles of Behavior Management 3 Credit Hour(s)

EDUC 524 Collaborating for Successful Inclusive Classrooms 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: EDUC 500
A study of the types and characteristics of students with learning disabilities. Emphasis will be placed on classroom intervention strategies. Field experience required.
Offered: Online

EDUC 525 Collaborating for Successful Transitions 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: EDUC 500 and (Background Check Clearance with a score of 5 or Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5)
A study of the characteristics of students with intellectual disabilities. Curriculum and techniques will be investigated to enable achievement of individual potential academically, socially, and functionally.
Offered: Online

EDUC 526 Principles and Practices in Gifted Education 3 Credit Hour(s)
Candidates will explore the characteristics of gifted students as well as the emotional, academic, and social needs of gifted learners, with emphasis on those from special populations. Theories and strategies for differentiating curriculum designed for gifted students in heterogeneous and homogeneous groups will be analyzed.
Offered: Online

EDUC 527 Characteristics of Autism Spectrum Disorder and Assessment 3 Credit Hour(s)
This course provides an overview of autism across the lifespan and examines characteristics, definitions, eligibility criteria, incidence rates, and etiology. Assessment, diagnostic and identification criteria are described, and methods for monitoring the impact of interventions in a variety of service delivery models will be explored.
Registration Restrictions: Completed background check

EDUC 528 Communication, Language and Sensory Aspects for Autism 3 Credit Hour(s)
This course provides students with an overview of the components of communication and strategies to increase an individual's communication abilities, with emphasis on visual aspects of language. Sensory systems, sensory processing and sensory motor development, and the implication of sensory processing when developing a complete educational program for students with autism spectrum disorders will be discussed.

EDUC 530 Teaching Mathematics 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: EDUC 500 and (Background Check Clearance with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5)
An in depth study of the theory and processes of teaching mathematics to students in preschool through eighth grade, the course includes the instructional process in the area of numeration, operations and computations, geometry and logic. Candidates will participate in hands-on, modeled instruction, will construct and demonstrate models and teaching tools, and will complete a research project.
Offered: Online

EDUC 531 Teaching the Natural and Social Sciences 3 Credit Hour(s)
Using a thematic approach, the integration of the natural and social sciences with other areas of the curriculum is the focus of this course. Candidates will complete assignments in the areas of the natural sciences, social sciences, language arts, and Bible/character education. Candidates will also generate and implement a thematic teaching unit that includes instructional activities for the natural sciences, social sciences, language arts, and Bible/character education.
Offered: Online

EDUC 533 Teaching Writing Across the Curriculum 3 Credit Hour(s)
This course investigates theories and applications of writing to learn, using writing as a means of learning in the English classroom and within the disciplines.

EDUC 535 Secondary Instructional Procedures 3 Credit Hour(s)
A course in secondary methodology focusing on competencies associated with individualizing instruction, grouping students for cognitive subject-matter learning, and preparing advanced organizers for cognitive instruction. An emphasis will be placed on transferring theory into practice through selection and use of materials appropriate for the secondary classroom.

EDUC 536 Sec Instructional Procedures P 1 Credit Hour(s)
Micro-teaching will be used as a means of providing an opportunity for students to model and role play appropriate teaching methods and activities in the secondary school. Candidates will be required to observe in secondary classrooms, prepare a lesson, teach the lesson, and evaluate the experience.

EDUC 539 Current Issues in Content Areas 3 Credit Hour(s)
An examination of current content standards in a subject area. Research in the subject area will enhance content knowledge in preparation for content assessment required for teachers.
Offered: Online

EDUC 540 Historical Perspectives in Urban Education 3 Credit Hour(s)
An introduction to urban education and contemporary urban life in the United States of America. Candidates will examine educational issues in urban communities and learn strategies for developing partnerships between home, school, and community.
Note: Course offered beginning in Spring 2020
Offered: Online

EDUC 542 Culturally Responsive Teaching 3 Credit Hour(s)
An introduction to the culturally responsive teaching pedagogy that acknowledges, responds to, and celebrates cultural differences and offers equitable educational access to students from all cultural backgrounds. Students will explore the dynamics of race, class, and culture and how they affect diverse school populations.
Note: Course offered beginning in Spring 2020
Offered: Online

EDUC 543 Urban Schools and Communities 3 Credit Hour(s)
The social context of urban communities is tied to the success of urban schools. This course will analyze the connection between urban schools and communities and provide strategies for working with families and community stakeholders to advocate for children and improve educational outcomes for students from diverse backgrounds.
Note: Course offered beginning in Spring 2020
Offered: Online
EDUC 544 Research in Urban Education  3 Credit Hour(s)
An examination and analysis of research related to urban communities and urban education. Students will synthesize research findings to develop strategies for improved educational outcomes in urban schools.
Note: Course offered beginning in Spring 2020
Offered: Online

EDUC 547 The Differentiated Classroom  3 Credit Hour(s)
An introduction to the process of differentiation in K-12 classrooms, including differentiation of content, process, and product, in an attempt to maximize the potential for student success. Emphasis will be placed on the identification of individual student needs and learning styles.
Note: Course offered beginning in Spring 2020
Offered: Online

EDUC 550 Directed Practicum  6 Credit Hour(s)

EDUC 551 Comparative Educations  3 Credit Hour(s)

EDUC 554 Reading and Language Acquisition  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5 or Background Check Clearance with a score of 5) and Education Gate 2 with a score of 5
This course is designed to impart a thorough understanding of the complex nature of language acquisition and the reading process. Emphasis will be placed on language acquisition, foundations of reading and writing, and the development of language use within and across different social and cultural contexts and developmentally appropriate levels.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check Clearance and Gate 2
Offered: Online

EDUC 556 Teaching Content Area Reading  3 Credit Hour(s)
Develops instructional competencies necessary for teaching reading and study skills essential in learning the concepts of content subjects. Applicable to teaching in grades 4-12.

EDUC 562 Introduction to Higher Education  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course is intended to give the candidate a broad overview of the postsecondary education system in the United States. The course will examine major trends, issues, and problems facing colleges and universities from a variety of perspectives, including historical, administrative, public policy, governance, and faculty.
Offered: Online

EDUC 571 Curriculum Fundamentals  3 Credit Hour(s)
An introduction to basic concepts and issues related to curriculum design, development, change and evaluation.
Note: To be taken the semester directly before student teaching or during student teaching.
Offered: Online

EDUC 588 Practicum in Education I: External  0 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Education Gate 2 with a score of 5 and (Background Check Clearance with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5) and (EDUC 554 (may be taken concurrently) or EDUC 656 (may be taken concurrently))
Candidates will participate in a supervised 45-hour practicum designed to link theory with practice. This practicum may be repeated one time with prior approval from the program chair.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check
Offered: Online

EDUC 590 Student Teaching I: Local  3 Credit Hour(s)
Co-teaching with a responsible classroom teacher in an accredited K-12 institution and participation in professional activities. Applies what has been learned to the actual process of teaching and guiding K-12 students. Offers practice in all phases of teacher responsibility. Lab fee.

EDUC 591 Student Teaching II: Local  3 Credit Hour(s)
Teaching in an accredited K-12 institution and participation in related professional activities. Applies what has been learned to the actual process of the classroom for which the candidate has been employed. Lab fee.
Registration Restrictions: Employment as a full-time K-12 teacher
Offered: Online

EDUC 592 Student Teaching I: External  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Education Gate 3 with a score of 5
Co-teaching with a responsible classroom teacher in an accredited K-12 institution and participation in professional activities. Applies what has been learned to the actual process of teaching and guiding K-12 students. Offers practice in all phases of teacher responsibility. Lab fee.
Offered: Online

EDUC 593 Student Teaching II: External  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Education Gate 3 with a score of 5
Teaching in an accredited K-12 institution and participation in related professional activities. Applies what has been learned to the actual process of the classroom for which the candidate has been employed. Lab fee.
Registration Restrictions: Employment as a full-time K-12 teacher
Offered: Online

EDUC 598 Field Experience Practicum  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Background Check Clearance with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5
This course will be used to provide field experiences for students desiring licensure in conjunction with certificate programs.
Offered: Online

EDUC 600 Human Development Across the Lifespan  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course includes a survey of the organic, social, and physical factors that influence the development of the individual. It seeks to understand what makes a person distinctively different along with a critical evaluation of various theories of learning and personality development, particularly as they relate to questions of values and religious commitment.
Offered: Online

EDUC 601 Professional Development in Middle Grades Education  3 Credit Hour(s)
This class will heighten Middle Grade Educators' understanding of their personal pedagogy by encouraging reflective practice through individualized and collaborative professional development opportunities.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check Required
Offered: Online

EDUC 602 Young Adolescents, Schools and Communities  3 Credit Hour(s)
An overview of the characteristics and issues related to transescence and their implications for educational practice. Understanding of preadolescent physical, social, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual development will be applied to school processes and the teacher's interaction with middle school students and families.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check Required
Offered: Online
EDUC 603 Comparative Education  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Background Check Receipt with a score of 5
A study of selected national systems of education in their differing cultural settings, with particular reference to administration, curriculum development and educational opportunity.
Offered: Online
EDUC 604 Foundations of Education  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course is a comprehensive survey of the historical development of education. Emphasis is placed on American education and the emergence of the Christian School Movement.
Registration Restrictions: Background check
Offered: Online
EDUC 606 Tests and Measurements  3 Credit Hour(s)
Focuses on the development of the ability to evaluate and interpret standardized tests, and to construct, evaluate and interpret the results of teacher-made tests. (Formerly EDUC 506)
Offered: Online
EDUC 608 Technological Appl in Educ Res  3 Credit Hour(s)
EDUC 618 Applications of Educational Research  3 Credit Hour(s)
Principles and techniques in the utilization of research methods to solve problems and answer questions in educational settings. This course requires completion of a major research project, along with demonstration of skills using technology as a tool in qualitative and quantitative educational research and assessment.
EDUC 620 Organization and Design of Gifted Education Programs  3 Credit Hour(s)
Candidates will examine model programs for gifted students that include organizational strategies for heterogeneous and homogeneous groupings. The study will include programs that are field specific, integrated content, and extracurricular models. Strategies for securing funding for gifted programs will be explored.
Offered: Online
EDUC 621 Educational Assessment for Special Needs  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course examines the processes and strategies for assessing students with special needs.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check
Offered: Online
EDUC 622 Educational Assessment and Intervention  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course is designed to provide theoretical and experiential knowledge regarding basic principles of educational assessment and intervention for all learners. Emphasis is placed on connections from research to practice and making instructional decisions based on systematically collected data.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check Required
Offered: Online
EDUC 623 Principles of Behavior Management  3 Credit Hour(s)
An examination of the principles of behavior management as applied to children and youth in the classroom setting. Positive approaches for dealing with behavior problems are emphasized. Contemporary research in the area is analyzed and discussed.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check Required
Offered: Online
EDUC 624 Instructional Methods for Behavior and Learning  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course will explore research and instructional approaches and methods for managing behaviors effectively. Emphasis will be placed on individualized, classroom and school-wide behavior support to prepare candidates for the special education classroom as well as student’s going into the general education classrooms and community settings.
Offered: Online
EDUC 625 Content Instructional Procedures  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Education Gate 2 with a score of 5 and (Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Check Clearance with a score of 5)
A course in content methodology focusing on competencies associated with individualizing instruction, grouping students for cognitive subject-matter learning, and preparing advanced organizers for cognitive instruction. An emphasis will be placed on transferring theory into practice through selection and use of materials appropriate for the secondary classroom.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check Clearance and Gate 2
Offered: Online
EDUC 626 Characteristics of Autism Spectrum Disorder and Assessment  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course provides an overview of autism across the lifespan and examines characteristics, definitions, eligibility criteria, incidence rates, and etiology. Assessment, diagnostic and identification criteria are described, and methods for monitoring the impact of interventions in a variety of service delivery models will be explored.
Registration Restrictions: Completed background check
Offered: Online
EDUC 627 Reading and Research in Gifted Education  3 Credit Hour(s)
Candidates will explore the contemporary issues and research in gifted education including the systematic gathering, analyzing, and reporting of formative and summative data and current issues on a local, state, and national level.
Offered: Online
EDUC 628 Communication, Language and Sensory Aspects for Autism  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course provides students with an overview of the components of communication and strategies to increase an individual's communication abilities, with emphasis on visual aspects of language. Sensory systems, sensory processing and sensory motor development, and the implication of sensory processing when developing a complete educational program for students with autism spectrum disorders will be discussed.
Registration Restrictions: Background check required
Offered: Online
EDUC 629 Technology and Diversity  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course focuses on the nature of individual learners as it impacts instructional design with the use of technology in education. Specifically, the course covers topics on tools, methods and approaches to meet learning needs of children with special learning, those of differing socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds, and those of varying learning styles and preferences. The course attempts to bridge the gap between theoretical implications and practical applications of diversity considerations in the context of educational technology integration.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check Receipt
Offered: Online
EDUC 630  Technology Practices for Instructional Improvement  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course has students research and engage best practices in educational technology usage for the purposes of inclusion in instructional practice for student learning and for assessment of student achievement as a result of instruction. Students practice and demonstrate competency in using productivity tools for professional and pedagogical practice. Further, students will develop means of effectively using technologies for communication and collaboration to improve teaching and learning.

EDUC 631  Foundations of Educational Technology and Online Learning  3 Credit Hour(s)
An introduction to the historical, theoretical, and philosophical foundations of educational technology and online learning systems; an overview of education technologies including online, classroom, and administrative; and an examination of effective techniques for teaching and learning within these systems.
Offered: Online

EDUC 632  Language Acquisition and Instruction  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course incorporates instructional strategies for a variety of methods for developing critical thinking in the areas of literacy and language arts. Emphasis is placed on teaching strategies in reading and the other language arts based on current theory and research.
Offered: Online

EDUC 633  Principles of Design and Management in Educational Technology and Online Learning  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course is designed to assist the education professional in developing a solid foundation in instructional design and current research. The student will develop the skills and knowledge to advance their instructional effectiveness in varied settings through application of technology theory and practice.
Offered: Online

EDUC 634  Teaching Science in the Elementary School  3 Credit Hour(s)
Contemporary methods and research for teaching science to elementary-aged students.
Offered: Online

EDUC 635  Teaching Science in the Middle School  3 Credit Hour(s)
Contemporary methods and research for teaching science to middle school students.
Offered: Online

EDUC 636  Teaching Social Studies in the Elementary School  3 Credit Hour(s)
An analysis of trends and practices of teaching social studies in the elementary school. An emphasis will be made on how to transfer theory into practice through preparation of activities and materials appropriate for the elementary classroom and critical reflection on those very materials and approaches. Students will plan instruction considering student-based diversity, instructional demands of the field and the best integration of other tools and disciplines. Teaching candidates will be required to prepare these instructional elements focused on the Virginia Standards of Learning.
Offered: Online

EDUC 637  Teaching Social Studies in the Middle School  3 Credit Hour(s)
An analysis of trends and practices of teaching social studies in the middle school, and its contextual relationship to elementary and secondary instruction in social science. An emphasis will be made on how to transfer theory into practice through preparation of activities and materials appropriate for the elementary classroom and critical reflection on those very material and approaches. Students will plan instruction considering student-based diversity, instructional demands of the field and the best integration of other tools and disciplines.
Offered: Online

EDUC 638  Leadership in Educational Technology  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course will examine the roles of leadership in community, leadership in administration and leadership in the schools from a Christian worldview. This course will provide educators with both the theoretical and the practical considerations for planning and implementing technology, particularly computer applications, in schools. Basic concepts of technology and planning that use systems theory are presented. Emphasis is placed on the importance of the total application of technology as opposed to any individual component, be it hardware, software, facilities, personnel, or finances. This course will form a foundation from which educators will provide leadership and become agents for realizing the powerful potential of technology in their schools.
Offered: Online

EDUC 639  Trends and Issues in Educational Technology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Trends and Issues examines current trends in the research area of educational technology, having students engage literature to understand theoretical underpinnings of the field, current research projects in effect, and future trends as technology in learning evolves as a practice and as a research interest. The course uses foundational concepts of learning in the fields of psychology, sociology and educational research to understand critical implications of the current body of literature.
Offered: Online

EDUC 640  School Administration  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Background Check Clearance with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5 An examination of the administration roles in the design, implementation and improvement of the total educational program in private and public schools. Specific areas of study include curriculum and instruction, youth development, school organization and management.
Offered: Online

EDUC 641  Supervision of Instruction  3 Credit Hour(s)
Methods, theories and research applying to supervision at all levels of education: analyses made concerning the work of curriculum directors, general supervisors, special supervisors, supervising principals, department heads; study of supervisory methods, current plans for staff utilization and use of instructional materials; and stress on evaluation of educational programs and the effects of supervision.
Offered: Online

EDUC 642  Leadership and Supervision in Education  3 Credit Hour(s)
Methods, theories and research applying to supervision and leadership: analyses made concerning the work of curriculum directors, general supervisors, special supervisors, and department heads; study of supervisory methods current plans for staff utilization and use of instructional materials; and stress on evaluation of educational programs and the effects of supervision.
Offered: Online
EDUC 643 Contemporary Issues in Educational Policy 3 Credit Hour(s)
This course examines current issues and trends in education. Emphasis will be placed on how policy at the federal, state, and district levels affect the school-level decision-making process.
Offered: Online

EDUC 644 School Leadership in Diverse Settings 3 Credit Hour(s)
This course focuses on differences in educational leadership in diverse settings to include: private, charter, and traditional public schools with a focus on urban schools, as well as alternative and online schools.
Offered: Online

EDUC 645 Foundations for Educational Leaders 3 Credit Hour(s)
A study in the philosophy, precepts, and principles of education applied to Christian leadership in the educational setting. Emphasis is placed on self-investigation and analysis of leadership skills, strengths, and styles.
Offered: Online

EDUC 646 School-Community Relations 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Background Check Clearance with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5
An examination of the legal aspects of education affecting administrators, teachers, students, parents and board members; various forms of liability; separation of church and state.
Offered: Online

EDUC 647 School Law 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Check Clearance with a score of 5
An examination of the legal aspects of education affecting administrators, teachers, students and board members; various forms of liability; separation of church and state.
Offered: Online

EDUC 648 School Finance and Management 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: EDUC 641 and (Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Check Clearance with a score of 5)
Basic methods of school finance and business management and principles of plant, finance, budgeting and accounting will be discussed. Federal and State regulations and grants will be studied.
Offered: Online

EDUC 650 Specialists for Reading/Math Programs 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Check Clearance with a score of 5
An investigation of research-based intervention for reading or math programs. The role of the reading or math specialist to the total school program is also examined. Field experience required.
Note: May be repeated for credit. Program Specialists: To be taken the semester directly before or during internship.
Offered: Online

EDUC 652 Current Issues in Reading/Math 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Background Check Clearance with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5
An examination of current standards and exploration of controversies related to reading or math programs.
Note: May be repeated for credit. Program Specialists: To be taken the semester directly before or during internship.
Offered: Online

EDUC 653 Current Issues in Early Childhood Education 3 Credit Hour(s)
An examination of current standards and exploration of controversies related to early childhood education.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check Receipt
Offered: Online

EDUC 655 Organization and Administration of Pre-Schools 3 Credit Hour(s)
Philosophy, objectives and methods for organizing and operating a kindergarten, nursery school, day-care center and play group for children below six years of age. Also includes the planning of pre-school facilities and the selection of equipment and personnel.
Offered: Online

EDUC 656 Teaching Content Area Reading 3 Credit Hour(s)
Develops instructional competencies necessary for teaching reading and study skills essential in learning the concepts of content subjects. Applicable to teaching in grades 4-12.
Offered: Online

EDUC 659 Foundations and Theories of Literacy Instruction 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: EDUC 701 or Background Check Clearance with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5
A study of the major theories, models, and components of literacy. Foundational knowledge will be utilized to design effective literacy instruction. Field experience is required.
Offered: Online

EDUC 663 Social and Political Aspects in Higher Education 3 Credit Hour(s)
This survey course introduces students to the major social and political issues and trends facing contemporary higher education in the United States. Students examine, discuss, and debate various perspectives on critical issues at postsecondary campuses.
Offered: Online

EDUC 664 Economics and Finance of Higher Education 3 Credit Hour(s)
This course is an introductory survey of financial and economic issues in higher education. Students will learn about these issues in relation to three primary levels: students and families, institutions, and the postsecondary industry at large.
Offered: Online

EDUC 665 Student Support Services & Retention 3 Credit Hour(s)
This course discusses approaches to optimizing post-secondary student outcomes, particularly in support of critical programs designed to meet students’ academic, developmental and economic needs. Topics include orientation programming, academic support, student retention, campus life, academic advising, and career guidance, among others.
Offered: Online
EDUC 668 Teaching Mathematics in the Middle School  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course will explore, develop, and use instructional strategies, technologies, and activities to promote development of attitudes and concepts in mathematics. Emphasis is on mathematical teaching and learning practices anchored in mathematical concepts, diagnostic and assessment methods, and leadership skills.
Offered: Online

EDUC 669 Teaching Literacy in the Middle School  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course focuses on promoting the middle level learner's literacy development. Emphasis is placed on current theories, models, and methods of teaching, learning and communicating through the language processes of reading, writing, listening and speaking in the content areas. Students will explore, analyze, and critique research in reading, and the relationship of other disciplines to reading in the context of the middle school.
Offered: Online

EDUC 670 Curriculum and Methods for Early Childhood  3 Credit Hour(s)
The course is designed to show current trends in curriculum organization, the effects of environment on learning and adapting curriculum content and methods to maturity level of the young child. Emphasis will be placed on designing individual educational programs for all children.
Offered: Online

EDUC 671 Curriculum Evaluation  3 Credit Hour(s)
A study of the curriculum evaluation process focusing on the beliefs and practices of curriculum evaluation, the relationship between evaluation and curriculum improvement, and the relationship between theory and practice of curriculum evaluation.
Offered: Online

EDUC 672 Curriculum Development (Elementary/Secondary)  3 Credit Hour(s)
A study of the construction, organization and function of the curriculum. Special attention is given to objectives, sequence, major problems and recent developments in each school program area.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check Clearance or Receipt
Offered: Online

EDUC 673 Curriculum and Methods for Effective Instruction  3 Credit Hour(s)
A review of the history of education as it affects the development across schools. Emphasis on characteristics of preadolescents, personalizing curriculum for the K12 student, and strategies for motivating curriculum improvement planning to involve teachers and community.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check Required
Offered: Online

EDUC 675 Elementary Curriculum and Methods  3 Credit Hour(s)
An overview of the current issues and trends in the field of elementary teaching and curriculum.

EDUC 676 Middle Grades Curriculum and Methods  3 Credit Hour(s)
An overview of the current issues and trends in the field of middle grades teaching and curriculum.
Offered: Online

EDUC 688 Practicum in Education II: External  0 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Education Gate 2 with a score of 5 and (Background Check Clearance with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5) and (EDUC 530 (may be taken concurrently) or EDUC 625 (may be taken concurrently))
Candidates will participate in a supervised 45-hour practicum designed to link theory with practice. This practicum may be repeated one time with prior approval from the program chair.
Registration Restrictions: Background Check
Offered: Online

EDUC 690 Thesis Defense  3 Credit Hour(s)
Research project completed on an educational topic related to the concentration in the master's degree. Credit is not awarded until the thesis has been accepted.

EDUC 695 Directed Research  1-6 Credit Hour(s)
Offers opportunity and challenge of self-directive, independent study; that is, it develops the individual's ability as an independent student and enables the student to pursue needed study or to pursue a particular interest (thesis or project). May be repeated for credit to a maximum of 6 hours.

EDUC 696 Current Issues in Education Capstone  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: Non-Licensure Gate 3 with a score of 5 or EDUC 665
This is a capstone course. It should be the last course taken. An examination of current issues in the field of education with classroom implications and case study.
Offered: Online

EDUC 697 Seminar in Education  3-6 Credit Hour(s)
Topics of special interest not included in the regular department offerings, may be taken more than once, but no topic may be repeated.

EDUC 698 Directed Practicum  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: (Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5 or Background Clear International with a score of 5 or Background Clear Out of State with a score of 5 or Background Check Clearance with a score of 5) and Non-Licensure Gate 3 with a score of 5
A planned program of practice in an educational setting under the direct supervision of University faculty and/or appropriate school administrator. May be repeated to a maximum of six hours.
Note: Completed application and approval of Department Chair
Offered: Online

EDUC 699 Internship  3 Credit Hour(s)
Requires completion of the projects and minimum number of hours as specified in proposal. May be repeated to a maximum of six hours. (A01: Administration/Supervision; A02: School Counseling; A03: Program Specialist)
Note: Proposal submitted one semester in advance and approved by the Chair of the Graduate Program.