

## Master of Science in Education: Professional Educator

The professional educator program is a master of science in education degree that is designed for teachers who want to focus on classroom teaching and to pursue a master's degree that best fits their particular interests and needs. The program is a cross-department program that allows students to choose from multiple and diverse academic offerings that focus on teaching, learning, and assessment.

The professional educator program requires 36 credit hours of coursework. Students take courses from a foundation core and an academic core that focuses on curriculum, teaching, and assessment. Students then complete a concentration of their choice. A capstone completes the program.

### *Special Admission Requirements*

In addition to the regular requirements of the College, applicants to the professional educator program must submit proof of teacher certification. The certification can be in any area or from any state.

*Testing Requirement* As of March 2009 standardized testing for graduate admission to the professional educator program has been eliminated. Students are no longer required to submit GRE or MAT scores. Applicants must submit proof of teacher certification, which can be in any area or from any state.

Submit official TOEFL scores of 550 or higher on the paper-based test, 79 or higher on the Internet-based test, or 213 or higher on the computer-based test if the applicant is an international student whose first language is not English. International students who have received their undergraduate degree from an English-speaking institution may apply for a waiver of this requirement.

*Transfer Credit* Previously completed graduate courses may be approved for transfer into a graduate program within the professional educator program if credits for the courses were earned no more than five years prior to matriculation, with grades of B or better. A syllabus for each course submitted for transfer credit must be provided upon application.

For previous work completed through the University of Maine System (UMS), up to twelve (12) credits may be accepted if the courses meet the requirements above and are equivalent to core courses or elective courses in the relevant USM program of study. Up to six (6) graduate credits completed at institutions outside of the University of Maine System may be accepted if the courses meet the requirements above and are equivalent to core courses or elective courses in the relevant USM program of study.

Transfer of more than twelve (12) University of Maine System credits or six (6) non-University of Maine System credits may be approved by the program coordinator and faculty. These credits may include certificate of graduate study program courses and professional development in-service graduate courses. Requests for the transfer of credits taken more than five (5) years prior to matriculation may also be evaluated and approved by the program coordinator and faculty.

### *Program Requirements for Professional Educator (36 credits)*

#### I. Foundations Core (6 credits)

EDU 600 Research Methods

Select one from the following:

EDU 610 The Professional Teacher in a Democratic Society

EDU 562 Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in the Classroom

#### II. Academic Core in Curriculum, Teaching, Assessment (9 credits)

Choose one course from each domain

##### A. Curriculum

EDU 604 Curriculum Development

EDU 608 Curricular Contexts for Teaching in a Democratic Society

EDU 615 Middle Level Curriculum Organization

SED 618 Programming for Learners with Special Needs

##### B. Teaching

EDU 511 Children's Literature

EDU 513 Adolescent Literature

EDU 514 Improving Teaching in the Content Area through Literacy

EDU	603	Analysis of Teaching
EDU	617	Teaching in the Middle Level School
EDU	620	Reading Development and Instruction
EDU	626	The Writing Process
SED	550	Teaching Gifted Students in the General Classroom
SED	614	Methods of Teaching Mathematics for Students with Special Needs
C. Assessment		
EDU	605	Teaching, Learning, and Assessment
EDU	621	Literacy Problems: Assessment and Instruction
EDU	563	ESL Testing and Assessment
SED	654	Assessment in Special Education

### III. Concentration (15 credits)

Students may choose from one of the approved concentrations below or participate in a concentration that is self designed or cohort designed.

- Culturally Responsive Practices
- Curriculum Coordinator
- Early Language Literacy
- English as Second Language
- Literacy
- Middle Level Education
- Teacher Leadership
- Cohort Design
- Self Design

### IV. Capstone (3 - 6 credits)

Students work with a faculty member to define their capstone experience. This may include: portfolio, thesis, internship, action research project or other appropriate format.