Master of Education in Secondary Education
Middle Level Education Emphasis

The Master of Education in Secondary Education degree program provides a range of opportunities for practicing educators to develop their unique skills in order to increase their impact on students. This degree has been developed to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and understanding for dedicated experienced professionals. This program is founded on a deep respect for practicing educators and is committed to strengthening and renewing their teaching through a process of increasing knowledge and professional capacity, self-evaluation and reflection on their own practice. We seek to foster teachers who care deeply about students and seek to nurture the greatest human potential in each learner. The graduate of this program will have a deep commitment to the professional education community, a focused association with the school community and a strong connection to educational research.

This program offers:
- Flexible scheduling for full or part time study
- Non-traditional study options organized around real school issues
- Opportunities to explore areas of interest within program guidelines
- Core courses investigating current, crucial issues of schooling
- Opportunities to demonstrate mastery of teaching skills
- Specialization areas
- Access to world-class, full-time faculty experts

Learning to teach requires ongoing authentic interactions between the developing teacher and the sociopolitical community of students, academic content, and school context. The uniqueness of each element determines the personal, professional development pattern and process that stimulates continuous change in the teacher. Responding, initiating and reflecting in and about this learning context develops a teacher who can become a leader in the school community. A teacher’s learning in the classroom needs to be complemented and deepened by engaging and exploring research and practice that emerge from all areas of the educational profession.

Program Goals

1. Increase content and pedagogical knowledge about teaching/learning processes.
2. Develop professional dispositions and culturally and linguistically responsive strategies to engage all learners, recognizing inequalities in education opportunity.
3. Construct curriculum that demonstrates the knowledge and disposition to differentiate instruction.
4. Design instruction that integrates technology, and varied formative and summative assessment tools to inform practice.
5. Critically examine professional practice through systematic, reflective inquiry that can improve learning opportunities for all students.
6. Utilize character and citizenship education principles in decision-making and classroom management.
7. Cultivate leadership, student advocacy and community outreach knowledge and skills.
8. Renew commitment to ethical professional teaching and increase resilience through engaged dialogue with faculty and peer colleagues.
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Required Core Below:

**Middle Level Education Emphasis (12 hours)**

**Sec Ed 6415** The Secondary School Curriculum (3) or other curriculum course, and at least 9 hours from the following:
- **Ed Adm 6303**, Middle School Administration
- **Ed Adm 6315**, Middle School Educational Philosophy
- **Ed Adm 6317**, Supervision and the Middle School Child
- **Ed Psy 6225**, The Psychology of Adolescence
- **Mid Ed 5220**, Science for the Middle School Teacher (5 credits)

**Mini-Specialization Option (6 hours)**

You can follow up one of the core courses on the left with two additional courses in a specialization area, such as educational psychology, educational technology, early childhood education, teaching of writing, etc. Obtain a handout on the options available.

**Required Exit Sequence**

**Tch Ed 6909** Teacher Action Research I (3) (replaces 6040 Fall 2011)

**Tch Ed 6910** Teacher Action Research Capstone (3)

To be taken (a) fall then spring, or (b) 6909 in spring or summer then 6910 in fall (6910 not offered summer)

33 credit hours

For more information, call the Graduate Education Office at 314-516-5483, come to 123 So. Campus Classroom Building on the UM-St. Louis South Campus, or e-mail gradeduc@umsl.edu. You can apply online by going to [www.umsl.edu/admission/](http://www.umsl.edu/admission/) then Clicking under “Graduate Students.” To contact faculty about the courses in this curriculum, call the Teaching & Learning Division, 369 Marillac Hall, at 314-516-5791. For a good choice of class times, apply and have transcripts sent by May 1st for the summer session, July 1st for the fall semester, and December 1st for spring semester.