

## StFX Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with a Concentration in Early Elementary Pedagogy (P-2)

**Summer 2021 - Summer 2023**

The StFX Faculty of Education is proposing to offer a **Master of Education Curriculum cohort with a focus in Early Elementary Pedagogy** for qualified in-service teachers and administrators beginning in the summer of 2021. This program will advance the capabilities of participants to offer exceptional educative experiences to young students in multi-ability, possibly multi-aged contexts in public schools. This degree supports the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's increased recognition of the importance of the early years in preparation for lifelong success.

This graduate cohort begins with 2 summer courses to be offered face-to-face or online. The remaining 10 courses will be completed synchronously ("live") online through Collaborate/Moodle. Graduate students should ensure that they have adequate personal resources (computer and internet connections) to support distance learning. Laptops/desktop computers are preferred as it is not possible to access all the features of the online platform if tablets and notebooks are used.

### **Proposed program sequence and outline:**

LOCATION	SUMMER 2021	FALL 2021	WINTER 2022	SPRING 2022	SUMMER 2022	FALL 2022	WINTER 2023	SPRING 2023	SUMMER 2023
Face to face Halifax/Dartmouth									
Online or blended format	534 505	532	512	520A	527 544	508	520C	536	522 518

### **Information and Admission Procedures**

**Application Deadline: March 31, 2021**

The application information can be found here:

<https://www2.mystfx.ca/masters-of-education/applications-and-forms>

For additional StFX admission inquiries please contact [med@stfx.ca](mailto:med@stfx.ca)

**\*Please indicate on the application that you are applying to the Master of Education in Curriculum – Early Elementary Pedagogy cohort (P-2).**

**Updated May 2022**

## Course Descriptions

### **1. EDUC 534 - Introduction to Educational Foundations**

This course provides graduate students with an opportunity to deepen their understanding and awareness of how issues of power and privilege have shaped their own and their students' lives. Educators will (re)think their pivotal role as teachers of early elementary grades alongside larger issues of equity and social justice.

### **2. EDUC 505 - Introduction to Educational Research**

This course introduces graduate students to approaches to educational research, particularly as it relates to early elementary pedagogy. It also includes a basic introduction to graduate student writing and literature review methodology.

### **3. EDUC 532 - Curriculum Theory**

In this course, the main ideas of major curriculum theorists will be examined and the implications of each position for program development in early elementary grades will be discussed.

### **4. EDUC 512 - Play-Based Curriculum for Lifelong Learning**

This course provides graduate students with a deep understanding of the research and practice of incorporating play into early elementary grades in public schools.

### **5. EDUC 527 - Principles of Learning**

This course examines theories of learning and development and their implication for instruction in the early elementary years of public school. In addition to the general cognitive and behavioral theories, the course will focus on the way that learning theory supports integrated inquiry projects, the development of 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies, and multi-aged, multi-ability classroom settings.

### **6. EDUC 544 - Cross Cultural Issues in Education: Working with Families and Communities**

This course examines the ways that schools develop family and community partnerships to enrich learning for all students. The course draws on the experiences of communities that have successfully built partnerships with families extending the school into the community and bringing the community into the school.

### **7. EDUC 520C - Mathematics for Early Elementary Learners**

This course will enhance graduate students' abilities to plan, teach and assess all aspects of early mathematics development in complex, possibly multi-aged, multi-ability early elementary classrooms.

### **8. EDUC 508 - Critical Research Literacy**

This course examines how to critically read, interpret, and evaluate educational research. Graduate students will have the opportunity to practice several aspects of conducting research, with the aim of enhancing their role of researcher within their own classroom.

### **9. EDUC 520A - Literacy for Early Elementary Learners**

This course will enhance graduate students' abilities to plan, teach and assess early literacy development in complex, possibly multi-aged, multi-ability early elementary classrooms.

### **10. EDUC 536 - Program Development**

This course introduces graduate students to models of integrating curriculum, focusing on inquiry and teaching 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies in a complex, possibly multi-aged, multi-ability early elementary classroom.

### **11. EDUC 522 - Inclusion in Early Elementary Contexts**

Graduate students will explore research and practice in inclusive early elementary classrooms and relate these understandings to planning, instruction, and assessment in multi-ability, multi-aged classroom settings.

### **12. EDUC 518 - Assessment for/of/as Learning**

This course explores issues surrounding the assessment for, of, and as learning in early elementary classrooms. Participants will gain skills necessary to evaluate 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies in non-traditional instances, such as during play, inquiry, or outdoor settings.