



**MASTER OF EDUCATION IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION WITH A FOCUS IN  
CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE PEDAGOGY  
Summer 2020 – Summer 2022**

The StFX Faculty of Education has developed a **Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction to prepare educators to be leaders in Culturally Responsive Pedagogy** for qualified in-service educators. This cohort aligns with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Education's goal of better serving underserved communities in Nova Scotia. As such, it advances the instructional capabilities of participants to support the learning of all students with a particular focus upon equitable learning for First Nations and African Nova Scotian learners and children from families living in poverty.

This program is grounded in two main purposes:

- 1) Creating a space for cohort participants to better understand and further develop their scholarly and professional knowledge and capabilities as teachers and leaders in culturally responsive pedagogy,
- 2) To use their knowledge and capabilities to enhance the equitable learning of all students.

Courses will be presented either face-to-face, online, or in a combination of face-to-face and online, and in intensive summer school experiences. Teachers will be provided with opportunities to integrate their learning with pedagogical approaches to develop their teaching capabilities as culturally responsive teachers. The program concludes with a directed study in which graduate students investigate a topic related to diversity. With the exception of the first summer, graduate students will be able to complete the degree through face-to-face courses or on-line.

**Proposed program sequence and outline:**

LOCATION	SUMMER 2020	FALL 2020	WINTER 2021	SPRING 2021	SUMMER 2021	FALL 2021	WINTER 2022	SPRING 2022	SUMMER 2022
Antigonish StFX Campus	534 505								
Online via Moodle/ Collaborate or face to face StFX campus		515	532	502	525 504	508	527	536	521D 593

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 note on the application that you are applying to MASTER OF EDUCATION IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION WITH A FOCUS IN CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE PEDAGOGY**

**Application deadline: March 20, 2020**

- 1. EDUC 534 – Foundations of Education** – This course provides students with an opportunity to examine and expand their own personal perspectives and to situate themselves with relation to social justice, and equity. An anti-racist framework will be used to explore issues related to power, privilege, culture, race, cultural capital, poverty, colonization, institutional and systemic racism.
- 2. EDUC 505 – Introduction to Education Research** – This course aims to instill in educators a teacher researcher stance which allows them to both inquire into their learning context and become more fluent in using research to inform their practice. Teacher inquiry and action research will be explored as a vehicle to introduce approaches to educational research. Literature review methodology will be explored.
- 3. EDUC 515 – Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy** – In this course participants will gain an understanding of culturally responsive pedagogy. Topics to be examined include: critically analyzing the root of academic failure among marginalized groups across North America; exploring how educator belief systems impact student achievement and connect to systemic racism; understanding the central role cultural plays in classroom instruction, and enacting culturally responsive instructional and assessment strategies.
- 4. EDUC 532 – Curriculum Theory** – This course explores the relationship among the four curriculum common places: students, instructor, curriculum, and milieu in relation to teachers using a culturally responsive pedagogy. Curriculum will be explored using both an Afrocentric and an indigenizing lens.
- 5. EDUC 502 - Education of African Nova Scotian/African Canadian Learners 1** – This course focuses on the approaches to schooling of African Nova Scotian and African Canadian learners and examines issues, challenges and successes in providing successful schooling opportunities for these students.
- 6. EDUC 525 - Treaty Education** – Building on the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (2015) this course uses an education *as reconciliation* framework from which to challenge Eurocentrism in schooling. Teachers will engage in unlearning Eurocentric assumptions and knowledge and relearn Indigenous knowledge, skills and attitudes that will allow them successfully educate all students about their treaty responsibilities, in support of this provincial initiative.
- 7. EDUC 504 - Education of African Nova Scotian/African Canadian Learners II** – This course builds upon the work begun in *Education of African Nova Scotian/African Canadian Learners 1* and further explores Afrocentricity as a major construct in organizing teaching and learning. Examples of Afrocentricity in schooling within Nova Scotia and other Canadian jurisdictions will be explored and developed.
- 8. EDUC 508 – Critical Research Literacy in Education** – This course focuses upon reading and interpreting educational research in relation to their own educational context. This course will begin to focus the students’ attention on their final capping experience.
- 9. EDUC 527 Principles of Learning** – This course examines theories of learning and development and their implication for instruction and assessment, which is culturally responsive. Special attention to the link between relational learning and assessment will be explored.
- 10. EDUC 536 - Program Development** – In this course the main ideas of major curriculum theorists will be examined and the implications of each position for program development related to culturally responsive pedagogy will be discussed.
- 11. EDUC 521D – Diverse Cultures: Indigenous Education Pedagogy** – This course focuses on the schooling of Mi’kmaw and other First Nations learners and explores issues, challenges and successes in educating these students. A decolonization lens will be used, through which to examine and enact Indigenous curriculum, teaching, and assessment.
- 12. EDUC 593 – Directed Study** – This capping experience allows graduate students to work in an individual or with a partner executing action research activity to develop a deepened understanding of an area of professional interest that has relevance to the advancement of culturally responsive teaching in their school or school board.