

StFX- Master of Education Leadership Cohort in Mental Health Education Spring 2014-Summer 2016

The StFX Faculty of Education is proposing to offer a *Master of Education Leadership cohort with a focus in Mental Health Education* for qualified in-service teachers and administrators beginning in the spring of 2014. This program will advance the leadership capabilities of participants to understand and promote mental health education in public schools supporting the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's belief that mental health education are a foundation for successful learning and living. Courses will be presented either face-to-face; online or in a blended format on weekends, evenings and in intensive summer school experiences. The courses in the summer of 2014 will take place on campus in Antigonish and the remainder will be offered throughout the province.

Proposed program sequence and outline:

LOCATION	SPRING 2014	SUMMER 2014	FALL 2014	WINTER 2015	SPRING 2015	SUMMER 2015	FALL 2015	WINTER 2016	SPRING 2016	SUMMER 2016
Antigonish StFX Campus		534 567								
Online via Moodle/ Collaborate	521H		569 (CSH)	505	561	573 569(MiE)	569 (TIP)	508	533	593

1. EDUC 521H: Approaches to Mental Health

This course provides an exploration of approaches to school-based mental health education. Students will explore the shifting focus from a paradigm of mental illness and stigma to one of mental wellness and inclusion.

2. 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 leaders promoting mental health education alongside larger issues of equity and social justice.

3. EDUC 567: School Law: Legal Issues relating to Mental Health and Youth, Child & Family services

This course provides an examination of legal issues in the field of mental health and youth, child and family services as they relate to school boards, administrators and teachers. Consideration will be given to recent legislation and court decisions related to the organization, policy and administration of school districts in Nova Scotia.

4. EDUC 569: Health and Comprehensive School Health (Focus: Social and Emotional Learning/Resiliency)

This course provides graduate students with an interest in health and wellness with an opportunity to acquire the knowledge/skills/attitudes needed for supporting a comprehensive school health curriculum in the public education system. An overview of the main components of a comprehensive school health curriculum and associated pedagogical and school wide approaches will be explored with an emphasis on Resiliency and Social Emotional Learning.

5. EDUC 505: Introduction to Educational Research

This course uses the school planning for improvement process as a vehicle to introduce approaches to educational research, particularly as it relates to mental health education. It also includes a basic introduction to graduate student writing and literature review methodology.

6. EDUC 561: Leadership and Administrative Theories

This course is an introduction to theory, research and practice in educational administration. Emphasis is placed on the evolutionary nature of administrative theory and its role on the operation of the public school system. This course will have as a focus on how to provide students with theory and practice that can advance the inclusion of mental health education in public schools.

7. EDUC 573: Professional Development and Supervision

This course will provide participants with an understanding of the role of instructional leadership in promoting personal and staff professional development and learning around issues of mental health education within a professional learning community culture.

8. EDUC 569: Mindfulness in Education

In this course students will explore and engage with practices and research related to mindfulness in education. Mindfulness has been interpreted as the ongoing practice of being awake and aware to what is inside and around us in the present moment. MIE is a rapidly growing, evidence-based field of practices and studies that work towards the cultivation and nourishment of educational communities. At the same time, students will explore readings that demand our careful attention to what is also culturally and sociologically produced in current efforts to be mindful in education.

9. EDUC 569: Trauma Informed Practice

In this course participants will recognize and respond to the impact of traumatic stress on children and youth, caregivers, service providers, and one another. Participants will learn to infuse and sustain trauma awareness, knowledge, and skills into their classrooms and school cultures, practices, and policies. At the same time, students will explore readings that demand our careful attention to what is also culturally and sociologically produced in current efforts to engage in Trauma Informed Practices.

10. EDUC 508: Critical Research Literacy

This course examines how to critically read, interpret, and evaluate educational research. Graduate students will also have the opportunity to explore and understand the research literature in relation to mental health education. The questions raised in this course will form the basis of the final capping experience in the program.

11. EDUC 533: Dynamics of Change

This course provides graduate students with a deep understanding of the personal, social, political, emotional, and historical complexities of educational change and assists them in examining their place as a change leader in relation to mental health education.

12. EDUC 593: Directed Study: Capping Experience

This capping experience allows graduate students to work in small groups to develop a deepened understanding of an area of professional interest that has relevance to the advancement of mental health education education in their school or school board.

Information and Admission Procedures

Applications for this program will be accepted until February 28, 2014.

The application information can be found at <http://sites.stfx.ca/continuingeducation/master>. For additional StFX admission inquiries please contact med@stfx.ca. ***Please note on the application that you are applying to the Master of Education in Leadership in Mental health education cohort.**

8/28/14