

StFX Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction
with a Concentration in Literacy
Courses to be held in the Digby area and online

Summer 2018 - Summer 2020

The StFX Faculty of Education has developed a Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction program, with a concentration in Literacy for qualified in-service teachers in the Tri-County School Board. This program will advance the capabilities of participants to offer exceptional literacy experiences to elementary students in multi-ability, possibly multi-aged contexts in public schools, but will hold relevance for teachers at all grade levels. This degree supports the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's increased recognition of the importance of literacy across the curriculum.

This graduate cohort begins with 2 face-to-face courses offered in the Digby area (location TBA). The dates for Summer 2018 courses are July 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12 (EDUC 534) and July 16, 18, 20, 23, 24, 26 (EDUC 576). This face-to-face experience has proven to be a very successful part of the cohort experience, allowing the learning community to be built which is a great strength of the cohort. The remaining 10 courses will be completed synchronously ("live") online through (Collaborate/Moodle) one evening per week from 6:00-9:00 pm (Atlantic Time). Certain courses may be "blended" with some face to face instruction in the Digby area and some online instruction. Courses held in the winter would be online. 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.

Tentative program sequence and outline:

LOCATION	SUMMER 2018	FALL 2018	WINTER 2019	SPRING 2019	SUMMER 2019	FALL 2019	WINTER 2020	Spring 2020	Summer 2020
Face to face Digby	534 505								593 Capping Day
Online or blended format		527	576	532	521A 536	508	538	544 593	520A

Course Descriptions

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 literacy in elementary grades alongside larger issues of equity and social justice.

EDUC 505 – Introduction to Educational Research

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

EDUC 527 - Principles of Learning

This course examines theories of learning and development and their implication for literacy development in the 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 the development of 21st century literacy competencies.

EDUC 576 – Specific Issues in Curriculum Development: Emergent and Early Literacy Foundations

This course explores emergent and early literacy theories and practices, with a focus on current trends in supporting younger elementary students' developing literacies, linking these to recent curriculum developments.

EDUC 532 – Curriculum Theory

In this course, ideas of major curriculum theorists will be examined and the implications of each position for literacy programs in elementary grades will be discussed.

EDUC 521A- Current Research in Instruction: Literacy and Elementary Learners

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

EDUC 536 – Program Development

This course introduces graduate students to models of integrating literacy across the curriculum, focusing on inquiry-based learning and teaching 21st century competencies in a complex, possibly multi-aged, multi-ability elementary classroom.

EDUC 508 - Critical Research Literacy in Education

This course examines how to critically read, interpret, and evaluate educational research. Graduate students will have the opportunity to develop an inquiry plan into a topic of relevance to them in elementary literacy pedagogy. The final paper for this course will form the basis of the final capping experience (EDUC 593) in the program.

EDUC 538 - Nature of the Reading Process

This course will examine models related to our understanding of the reading process and will explore the contributions of current literacy theories to the development of instructional practices.

EDUC 544 – Cross Cultural Issues in Education: Working with Families and Communities to Enhance Children's Literacy

This course examines the ways that schools develop family and community partnerships to enrich literacy 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.

EDUC 593 - Directed Study: Capping Experience

Using teacher inquiry, this capping experience allows graduate students to develop a deepened understanding of an area of professional interest that has relevance to the advancement of literacy pedagogy in their school or school board.

EDUC 520A - Current Research in Curriculum: Working with Struggling Readers and Writers

In this course, approaches to working with learners who are at risk in terms of their literacy development will be examined, along with strategies to support these learners.

Information and Admission Procedures

Application Deadline: February 15, 2018

The application information can be found at

https://sites.stfx.ca/continuingeducation/master/application_forms.html

For additional StFX admission inquiries please contact med@stfx.ca

***Please indicate on the application that you are applying to the
Master of Education in Curriculum – Literacy***

Updated May 16, 2019