

StFX Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with a Concentration in Early Elementary Pedagogy

Summer 2024 - Summer 2026

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 educators and administrators beginning in the summer of 2024. This program will advance the capabilities of graduate students to offer exceptional educative experiences to young students in multi-ability, possibly multi-aged contexts in public schools. This degree supports increased recognition of the importance of the early years in preparation for lifelong success.

This graduate cohort begins with 2 courses in July delivered synchronously online. The summer courses are condensed over two two-week blocks with a start time of 8:30 am and end time of 3:30 pm, Atlantic Time. The remaining 10 courses are completed synchronously online. Most often, synchronous online courses are scheduled from 6:00-9:00 pm Atlantic Time, although this *may* be adjusted to accommodate students in other Canadian time zones. Graduate students should ensure that they have an adequate computer and internet connection to support online learning. Laptops/desktop computers are preferred (rather than mobile devices or tablets) to best access the online learning platform and its various features.

Proposed program sequence and outline:
Students must complete the proposed courses below to achieve this specialized concentration.

LOCATION	SUMMER 2024	FALL 2024	WINTER 2025	SPRING 2025	SUMMER 2025	FALL 2025	WINTER 2026	SPRING 2026	SUMMER 2026
Online	534 505	532	512	520A	527 544	536	533	518	522 508

Information and Admission Procedures

Application Deadline: February 15, 2024

The application information can be found here:
<https://www.mystfx.ca/masters-of-education/applications-and-forms>
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 - Early Elementary Pedagogy cohort (P-2).**

Updated October 2023

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 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.

6. 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 21st century competencies, and multi-aged, multi-ability classroom settings.

7. 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.

8. EDUC 536 – Program Development

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

9. 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.

10. 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 21st century competencies in non-traditional instances, such as during play, inquiry, or outdoor settings.

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 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.