

Master of Science in Curriculum & Instruction

GRADUATE STUDIES IN EDUCATION



SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE

INTRODUCTION

The Master of Science Degree in Curriculum and Instruction at Saint Vincent College focuses on three critical elements of learning: curriculum, instruction, and assessment. Candidates will investigate various frameworks and programs of curriculum design; explore methods of making instruction meaningful to all students; and evaluate diagnostic and assessment strategies and products for use in their school or workplace. The Curriculum and Instruction masters program also provides a strong research component, giving students the ability to document need, propose change, and predict and evaluate the effects of implementing change. Perhaps most importantly, the Saint Vincent Curriculum and Instruction program will place emphasis on developing instructional leaders who will be resources to their schools, school districts, and other work sites in developing and implementing changes and improvements that need to occur.

With the Curriculum and Instruction Master's degree you will be able to design and implement advanced and individualized programs of study in curriculum and instruction. These programs can be designed and used in schools, businesses, healthcare settings, and by human services professionals. This program will allow you to explore new innovation, current trends, and issues concerning educational policies, practices, and regulations. Whether you are a professional in education, business, health care, or human services, you will develop the skills necessary to assume leadership roles in stimulating, planning, managing, and evaluating educational change.

COURSES REQUIRED FOR MASTER'S IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION (30 credits):

GCED 600 Educational Leadership and Professional Development	3
GCED 605 Statistics and Research Design	3
GCED 610 Current Issues and Trends	3
GCED 615 Curriculum and Systems Design	3
GCED 620 Assessment and Diagnostics	3
GCED 625 Instructional Technology	3
GCED 635 Instructional Methodology	3
3 elective courses*	9

*Electives can include any course not required for the program, see reverse side for course descriptions. You can also contact your advisor for additional information and suggestions.

The Curriculum and Instruction Master's degree is designed to be an accelerated 30-credit hours that can be completed in and around 18 months (7 required courses, 3 elective courses). Courses are held in the fall, spring, and summer semesters in a 2-session sequence (each session/course is 7 weeks), allowing candidates to complete two courses each term by only attending class one night a week. At the close of the candidate's degree coursework, a comprehensive exam is required. The exam is offered every term, which enables candidates to graduate year round.

SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE OFFERS

- Small classes taught by highly respected professors
- Individual attention and expert advising
- A dynamic learning atmosphere
- Emphasis on leadership and professional growth
- Curriculum aligned with the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
- Integration of technology into the curriculum
- Flexible scheduling in fall, spring, and summer sessions
- Teaching certification option
- Approval by the Pennsylvania Department of Education

PROGRAM GOALS

The goal of the program is to assure quality graduate study with stability and permanence that is achieved in a campus-based program. Students will have all necessary resources immediately available including the Saint Vincent College Library, computer labs, Internet and e-mail services, the College Bookstore, and the many technology and curricular resources of the Education Department. Most importantly, students will have academic and research advisors housed on the campus that will be readily available for assistance.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

GCED 600 Educational Leadership and Professional Development

The primary focus of professional development and instructional leadership is the enhancement of learning in the classroom and other dedicated settings in which students grow and develop to their maximum potential. Educational leadership is established within the context of the master teacher and professional educator. Self-study projects and human development workshops foster school and community leadership potential of the master teacher. Multiple assessments are used to develop career goal objectives leading to the Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction.

GCED 605 Statistics and Research Design

This course will enable the educator to read and interpret empirical research as it is reported in the periodic literature and to design educational research instruments and projects. This advanced course will include instruction in educational testing and measurements that will provide the educator with the prerequisite mathematical skills to compute, read, and interpret statistical data as reported on standardized achievement tests, group and individual tests, and research monographs. The major emphasis of the course is to develop the observational, investigative, and interpretive skills of a reflective educator/practitioner.

GCED 610 Current Issues and Trends in Education

This course is designed to involve the student in an examination and analysis of significant contemporary issues in education. Current literature and research studies are explored through independent research assignments and seminar-type group discussions. Students are encouraged to develop substantiated personal positions regarding topics such as school reform initiatives, charter schools, school violence, problems in urban/rural schools, and the integration of technology in the classroom. Research projects can be initiated in this course.

GCED 615 Curriculum and Systems Design

This course is designed to include theories of curriculum, instruction, and the design of instructional systems. Emphasis will be on translating theory into practice, particularly for curriculum implementation in public or private schools and/or in industry training. Students will have an opportunity to actually design curricula for use in an educational setting. This course will involve field trips, in-field experiences, classroom lecture, technological training, and project assignments.

GCED 620 Assessment and Diagnostics

The fundamental principles of diagnostic theory and practice are analyzed with an emphasis on the application of these principles to a variety of educational settings. Students are acquainted with the guidelines and techniques for diagnosing students' needs and abilities by implementing and interpreting developmentally appropriate assessments, both quantitative and qualitative. Procedures and problems in test construction and in the analysis, summarization, and reporting of student outcomes are examined.

GCED 625 Instructional Technology

Students will explore the use of technology as an important education resource. They will develop the knowledge, technical expertise, and instructional strategies necessary for effective application of technology in a variety of educational and professional settings. "Hands-on" experience is emphasized.

GCED 635 Instructional Methodology

Students will examine the rationale for and development of viable theories of instructional design; apply instructional models to various learning environments and evaluate the learning outcomes; and develop an expanded and integrated repertoire of teaching strategies and techniques for use in their classrooms.

ELECTIVES

GCED 640 Classroom Management

GCED 645 Philosophical & Ethical Perspectives in Education

GCED 655 Educational Jurisprudence

GCED 660 Adult Learning

GCED 670 Visual Thinking and Learning

GCED 675 Inclusionary Education

GCED 680 Supervision of Instruction

GCED 695 Managing Financial & Material Resources