

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Available on the Jackson, Germantown, and Hendersonville Campuses

Program Purpose

The purpose of the Master of Education Degree Program is to provide relevant continuing professional development for classroom teachers in a quality graduate environment.

Objectives of the Program

Students in the M.Ed. program will:

1. Enhance their knowledge, skills and values relating to the major issues facing today's practitioners.
2. Be encouraged in their Christian commitment and service to society.
3. Apply research skills to current educational problems.
4. Prepare for leadership roles in their educational settings.

Assessment of Outcomes

The Master of Education Degree utilizes the following means of assessing the four objectives listed above. The emphasis in this assessment is upon a variety of measures and comprehensiveness. The number of each objective to be assessed is listed in parentheses beside each means of assessment.

- Coursework and teacher-devised assessments, including small and large group discussions and exams, projects, papers. (1,2,3,4)
- Course evaluations, collected and tabulated by the Office of Graduate Studies in Education for each course taught in the program. (1,2,3,4)

- Alumni questionnaire for master's level programs. (1,2,3,4)
- Creative Research Project, the exit requirement of the M.Ed. program (1,3,4)
- Field experience, an integral part of most courses in the M.Ed. curriculum. (1,3,4)
- The Master's Forum, student presentations of the Creative Research Project in a setting such as a school, class conference, or colloquium. (1,3,4)

The Cohort Approach and Calendar

The M.Ed. program accepts students in groups of 15 to 24 to pursue each course together in a cohort. This model emphasizes teamwork, cooperation, professional support and sharing of knowledge among students. Each cohort is further subdivided into action research groups of 4-6 students. Lifelong friendships are developed through this format and learning takes place in a spirit of unity, rigor and cooperation. The curriculum consists of 12 courses totaling 30 semester hours with no transfer credits or electives permitted. The degree program begins each June and ends in July of the following year, with the course calendar published in advance for the 14-month program. Except for summer course work, when Saturdays as well as weekdays are utilized, courses during the school year are offered on Saturdays in a unique delivery system, an intensive format where one course at a time is completed by the cohort of students.

Each cohort is presented its unique calendar (SUMMER) and successful candidates must also complete an Application to Graduate Studies in Education; arrange for official transcripts to be sent directly to the Office of Graduate Studies in Education from all previously attended colleges or universities; and request of two persons who are in positions to judge the candidate's potential as a graduate student to recommend the candidate, using the forms provided in the application packet. In addition, a completed "Certificate of Immunization" is required.

Persons not qualifying for Admission may be granted Conditional Admission after successfully completing

a Writing Sample (see Writing Sample section of the Catalog) and a minimum 3.0 GPA (see the Catalog for details). A minimum 3.0 GPA will result in the student being admitted to the program. If a student is not admitted to the program, an appeal may be filed. The appeal process is outlined in the Catalog.

Graduation Requirements

For graduation from the M.Ed. degree program, the student will:

1. Successfully complete the 30 semester hours of required course work.
2. Demonstrate a minimum GPA of 3.0 cumulative

