

# Core Course Descriptions

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## MSED 608 Cultural Awareness (1)

Course enables educators to explore the relationship between culture and education. Emphasis is placed on examining perspectives of self, society, and culture; broadening the understanding of diversity within the school setting; and recognizing that diversity augments personal growth and development. Educators will reflect upon and discover culturally relevant professional practices that enhance student engagement and learning.

## MSED 609 Service Learning (1)

Course provides an overview of the resources, content, and methodologies utilized by educators to design and implement service learning programs in classrooms and schools. Candidates will explore research-based methodological principles and apply them by developing plans for implementation.

## MSED 610 Methods of Educational Research (3)

Course provides students with the knowledge and skills to manage, interpret, and analyze research data. Students will also examine basic research methodologies most often used in educational research.

## MSED 620 Data-Driven Decision Making (3)

Course explores current theory and practice regarding the use of a variety of assessment data to design learning objectives and instructional activities that will improve student learning. The course addresses both formal and informal assessments, as well as standardized, curriculum based and teacher made assessments. The focus is on the selection and/or development of valid assessments and the interpretation of assessment data to inform one's practice.

## MSED 650 Designing Effective Instruction (3)

Course focuses on the development of curriculum and instructional practices for facilitating continuous improvement in the instructional program. Sound research-based practices related to planning curriculum development and to delivery for diverse learners in multicultural settings are incorporated. This course is also designed to incorporate current educational goals such as state and national standards, teacher evaluation frameworks, and the integration of technology to demonstrate how they support and facilitate effective teaching practices. During the course, candidates will have an opportunity to self-assess their own teaching effectiveness and to differentiate their own professional learning towards more effective teaching practices. In addition to improving individual performance as a teacher, the course is designed to build leadership capacity, especially in the area of instruction and staff development.

## MSED 693 Using Domains to Frame Instruction (1)

Course provides candidates the opportunity to reflect upon and enhance their instructional practices in order to better serve their students' needs. Candidates will examine student data to set instructional objectives that align with their district/state/national learning goals and discover resources to assist them in achieving those objectives. Through the thoughtful designing of optimum learning environments, instructional objectives, and multiple assessment tools, candidates will seek to help their students achieve in the area(s) of determined need. Finally, candidates will develop multiple ways to reflect upon their instruction, including participation in professional learning communities, and will develop a variety of ways to enhance school/home communication.

*This course is not offered during the summer semester.*