

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

CURRICULUM

MAEd Program (30 credits)

Summer 1 6 credits	Fall 1 7 credits	Spring 1 7 credits	Summer 2 4 credits	Fall 2 6 credits
EDU 530 Christian Anthropology and Education (3 cr)	EDU 550 The Church's Vision of Catechetics (3 cr)	EDU 631 Pedagogy in Practice (3 cr)	EDU 633 Special Education: Principles & Practices (3 cr)	EDU 634 Social Issues in Education (3 cr)
EDU 531 The History and Philosophy of Education (3 cr)	EDU 630 Curriculum Models & Assessment Methods (3 cr)	EDU 632 Classroom Organization & Management (3 cr)	EDU 642 Developing the Educational Research Proposal (1 cr)	EDU 645 Capstone Research Project (3 cr)
	EDU 640 Foundations of Educational Research (1 cr)	EDU 641 Research Design (1 cr)		

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CURRICULUM

MAEd Program with Catechetics & Evangelization Specialization (36 credits)

Summer 1 9 credits	Fall 1 7 credits	Spring 1 7 credits	Summer 2 7 credits	Fall 2 6 credits
EDU 530 Christian Anthropology and Education (3 cr)	EDU 550 The Church's Vision of Catechetics (3 cr)	EDU 631 Pedagogy in Practice (3 cr)	EDU 633 Special Education: Principles & Practices* (3 cr)	EDU 634 Social Issues in Education* (3 cr)
EDU 531 The History and Philosophy of Education (3 cr)	EDU 630 Curriculum Models & Assessment Methods* (3 cr)	EDU 632 Classroom Organization & Management* (3 cr)	EDU 642 Developing the Educational Research Proposal (1 cr)	EDU 645 Capstone Research Project (3 cr)
Specialization Elective 1 (3 cr)	EDU 640 Foundations of Educational Research (1 cr)	EDU 641 Research Design (1 cr)	Specialization Elective 2 (3 cr)	

**Based on Advisor Discretion, one of these courses will be waived and specialization elective 3 will be taken in its place. Additionally, while the specialization electives have been proposed for certain semesters, they may be taken at any time during the program.*

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

CURRICULUM

MAEd Program with Catholic Studies Specialization (36 credits)

Summer 1 9 credits	Fall 1 7 credits	Spring 1 7 credits	Summer 2 7 credits	Fall 2 6 credits
EDU 530 Christian Anthropology and Education (3 cr)	EDU 550 The Church's Vision of Catechetics (3 cr)	EDU 631 Pedagogy in Practice (3 cr)	EDU 633 Special Education: Principles & Practices* (3 cr)	EDU 634 Social Issues in Education* (3 cr)
EDU 531 The History and Philosophy of Education (3 cr)	EDU 630 Curriculum Models & Assessment Methods* (3 cr)	EDU 632 Classroom Organization & Management* (3 cr)	EDU 642 Developing the Educational Research Proposal (1 cr)	EDU 645 Capstone Research Project (3 cr)
Specialization Elective 1 (3 cr)	EDU 640 Foundations of Educational Research (1 cr)	EDU 641 Research Design (1 cr)	Specialization Elective 2 (3 cr)	

**Based on Advisor Discretion, one of these courses will be waived and specialization elective 3 will be taken in its place. Additionally, while the specialization electives have been proposed for certain semesters, they may be taken at any time during the program.*

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CURRICULUM

MAEd Program Specialization Electives

Catechetics & Evangelization Electives (Candidates may choose any 3)*	Catholic Studies Electives (Candidates may choose any 3)
CAT 750 The Mission of Catholic Schools CAT 600 Evangelization and the Liturgy CAT 601 Scripture, The Heart of Catechesis CAT 602 Deposit of Faith CAT 603 The Pedagogy of God I CAT 604 The Pedagogy of God II <i>*While candidates seeking this specialization are encouraged to take the courses listed above, as they provide a foundational understanding of Catechetics, they may—with advisor approval—take other Catechetics courses instead.</i>	CST 501 Topics in Theology: Biblical Hermeneutics CST 513 Topics in Philosophy: Philosophical Texts from Ancient and Medieval Philosophy CST 531 Topics in Art: The Catholic Image—Visual Art and Artists CST 651 Catholic Culture and Thought I: Ancient and Medieval, 1-1500 CST 670 Overview of Western Philosophy CST 701 Catholic Culture and Thought II: Modern, 1500-1900 CST 720 Selected Issues in Philosophy & Theology CST 751 Catholic Culture and Thought III: 1900- today CST 770 Selected Issues in Catholic Studies CST 800 Important Catholic Authors CST 801 History and Theory of Catholic Arts CST 810 Important Catholic Texts

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

EDU 530 Christian Anthropology and Education

This course explores the foundational principles of Christian anthropology and their application to educational practice. Candidates will develop a deep understanding of the human person as created in the image of the triune God, possessing inherent dignity, rationality, freedom, and a vocation to communion and community. Topics include the unity of body and soul, the impact of original sin and grace, the Franciscan understanding of the Incarnation, and the role of education in human development. Emphasis is placed on how these theological insights inform educational practices and the integral formation of students.

3 credits

EDU 531 The History and Philosophy of Education

This course examines the historical, philosophical, and theoretical underpinnings of Western education. It investigates the ultimate purpose of education. It also provides a social and ethical look at the practices of schooling, curriculum, and the teaching practice and encourages candidates to reflect on how these elements align with a Catholic educational philosophy and the Five Essential Marks of Catholic Education.

3 credits

EDU 550 The Church's Vision for Catechetics

This course provides an introduction to the history, methods, and contemporary practice in catechetics. The Church's catechetical documents are studied in depth, providing the necessary foundations for the other religious courses. Catechetical skills will be developed by analyzing specific doctrines in order to learn how to handle them in catechetical presentations, determining what is essential in presenting a catechesis that is systematic and organic. In addition, the students will be introduced to the life and educational practice of St. John Bosco and other saintly educators whose charisms have shaped Catholic education. Candidates will also explore the purpose, content, and methods of catechesis within a school setting, considering how to effectively integrate faith and learning in the formation of students.

3 credits

Cross-listed Courses: CAT 204, CAT 517, THE 517

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

EDU 630 Curriculum Models & Assessment Methods

Grounded in a Catholic worldview, this course examines major curriculum models—including, but not limited to, Understanding by Design (UbD), Montessori, Classical, and integrated approaches—alongside assessment methods that align with instructional goals and institutional values. Candidates will analyze the foundations and applications of these models and explore how thoughtful curriculum and assessment design can promote coherence, academic excellence, and the integral formation of students. Particular emphasis is placed on designing curricula that employ evidence-based methods for assessing knowledge, skills, and dispositions while exercising professional discernment regarding which elements of student learning warrant formal evaluation and which are best nurtured through formative, non-evaluative means.

3 credits

Prerequisites: EDU 530 & EDU 531

EDU 631 Pedagogy in Practice

This course offers an in-depth exploration of research-supported instructional strategies, including direct instruction, differentiated instruction, formative assessment models, inquiry-based techniques, multi-modal strategies, and others. Central to this course is the concept of Catholic Academic integration, where faith and reason are harmoniously integrated into one's lesson planning and instruction. Through the study of both perennial and contemporary teaching models, Church documents, and secular and Catholic educational standards, candidates will learn to design and implement lessons that reflect mastery of the art and science of teaching and a commitment to delivering a fully integrated education.

3 credits

Prerequisites: EDU 530 & EDU 531

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

EDU 632 Classroom Organization & Management

This course explores effective classroom organization and management strategies, with an emphasis on fostering environments that support academic excellence, the affective dimension of learning, and the formation of virtue. Topics include proactive versus reactive approaches (such as St. John Bosco's Preventative System), creating a safe and positive classroom environment through Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), setting the tone, discipline strategies, and engaging students' unique gifts. Through theoretical exploration, practical application, and emphasis on cultivating an atmosphere of communion and community, candidates will develop classroom management strategies that promote goodness and reflect professional excellence and commitment to the integral formation of each student.

3 credits

Prerequisites: EDU 530 & EDU 531

EDU 633 Special Education: Principles & Practices

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the foundations of special education, including identification, assessment, instructional strategies, and legal responsibilities in serving students with diverse learning needs. Grounded in research-based methods and informed by Catholic Social Teaching and the Franciscan value of fostering human integrity, the course emphasizes the inherent dignity of every learner, the call to advocate for the marginalized, and the importance of designing solutions aligned to the needs of the learner. Candidates will explore approaches that support families and promote academic success, behavioral growth, and social-emotional development, while engaging in practical applications and reflective practice.

3 credits

Prerequisites: EDU 530 & EDU 531

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

EDU 634 Social Issues in Education

This course critically examines contemporary social issues impacting education through the lens of objective truth, natural law, and the moral teachings of the Church. Topics include the role of the family in education, the proper understanding of human dignity, the effects of secular ideologies on schooling, and the ethical responsibilities of educators. Candidates will assess how educational institutions can respond faithfully to cultural challenges while promoting fraternity, virtue, truth, and the common good. Guided by Franciscan values, this course encourages a response to social issues that is courageous, compassionate, and marked by respect for the dignity of every person. This course prepares educators to serve as Christian witnesses to truth in both thought and practice within today's educational landscape.

3 credits

Prerequisites: EDU 530 & EDU 531

EDU 640 Foundations of Educational Research

This course introduces candidates to foundational concepts in educational research, with particular emphasis on ethical inquiry and research grounded in Catholic principles. Candidates will explore qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods approaches, learn to formulate researchable questions, and critically evaluate scholarly literature. Special attention is given to the role of the educator as a reflective practitioner.

1 credit

Prerequisites: EDU 530 & EDU 531

EDU 641 Research Design

Building upon foundational research concepts, this course guides candidates through the process of designing research studies that address real-world educational challenges. Candidates will learn to select appropriate methodologies, develop data collection strategies, and consider ethical and contextual concerns within educational settings. By the end of the course, candidates will have drafted a preliminary research design tailored to their own professional context.

1 Credit

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

EDU 642 Developing the Educational Research Proposal

In this final course of the sequence, candidates will refine and complete a formal research proposal to be carried out in the Capstone Research Project. Emphasis is placed on aligning research questions, literature review, methodology, and ethical considerations into a coherent and scholarly plan. Candidates will present their proposals for feedback and prepare to implement their research in a professional manner.

1 Credit

Prerequisite: EDU 641

EDU 645 Capstone Research Project

In this culminating course, candidates will complete a research project that responds to a current or emerging challenge in education and contributes new knowledge to the field. Working under the guidance of a faculty advisor, candidates will refine their research skills, synthesize data, and present findings that reflect both academic rigor and a commitment to Catholic teaching and Franciscan values in scholarly inquiry.

3 credits

Prerequisite: EDU 642