



M.ED. (GENERAL) PROGRAM INFORMATION University of Lethbridge

Statement of Purpose

The Master of Education (General) program is intended for practicing educators. While the majority of candidates for the degree will be pursuing careers within the public school system, the program is also available to those candidates whose teaching experience and credentials apply to other educational contexts.

Except for the four core courses which are common to all candidates, the program is designed to reflect a theme of study within the context of the professional educator.

The M.Ed. (General) program operates on a cohort model. A cohort, normally 20 students, are admitted at the same time, and proceed at the same pace through the program.

A group of students (20) with a particular program focus and/or who are located at a distance from Lethbridge may arrange to become a cohort. Students who form a cohort are admitted together and agree to register together in a particular sequence of M.Ed. courses. These courses may be delivered using a combination of face-to-face and on-line formats.

The core of the program, common to all candidates, is based on the principle that professional educators should understand the evolution of theory and practice in education, in curriculum, in educational research and in teaching, and should be able to analyze, interpret, critique and advance current thinking, particularly within the context of their own practice.

The theme of the student's program is also reflected in a required project, thesis, or capstone, which contributes to the advancement of knowledge and practice through scholarly activity and/or creative work.

Requirements for Degree

The Master of Education (General) program consists of three major components: required courses, elective courses, and culminating activity. The three components are outlined below.

1. Required Courses

The following courses are required by all students:

- Education 5200 – Curriculum Studies and Classroom Practice
- Education 5300 – The Foundations of Modern Educational Theory and Practice
- Education 5400 – The Nature of Educational Research
- Education 5500 – Understanding Professional Practice and Professional Development

2. Elective Courses

Elective courses will be offered with each particular program focus. These courses will be used to provide depth and breadth in each cohort's theme of study.

3. Culminating Activity (NOTE: Students must choose **ONE OF** Option A, Option B or Option C in addition to the required and elective courses):

Option A

Capstone course (1 course–credit equivalent); **OR**

Option B

Project (2 course–credit equivalents); **OR**

Option C

Thesis (4 course–credit equivalents) Please refer to the following thesis option description:

Students may apply to take a thesis option. The following applies to students interested in a thesis:

- Students cannot apply for the thesis route until they have completed the 4 core courses within their program.
- The thesis option is subject to availability of appropriate supervision. Students must obtain written consent from a supervisor prior to submitting a request for final approval to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research in Education.
- Final approval for permission to pursue a thesis route is obtained through the Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies and Research in Education.

Note: Students who elect and are approved to complete courses over and above the 12 courses required for the M.Ed. program will be assessed a program fee and tuition fee for each additional course.

Admission Requirements

The general requirements for the Master of Education (General) program are as follows:

1. Grade point average (3.00 on the most recent 20 university–graded courses),
2. B.Ed. or its academic equivalent from a recognized degree–granting institution,
3. 2 years of successful teaching (or other relevant educational experience)

Application

Application deadline: November 1.

Applications must be submitted on the [*Application for Admission – Master of Education Degree Programs*](#) form.

Application Procedure

Along with the application form, candidates are required to submit the following:

- Academic transcripts including proof of a B.Ed. degree or equivalent. Transcripts must be sent directly from the issuing institution to the Registrar’s Office and Student Services (ROSS).
- Three completed letters of reference submitted directly by the referee to ROSS.
 - one referee under whom the applicant has studied at the university level;
 - two referees with whom the applicant has worked professionally.
- Letter of intent indicating the candidate’s reason for applying.
- Curriculum vitae (c.v.) includes a description of the applicant's professional experiences (e.g. teaching experience, involvement in curriculum and other professional development activities).

- The [Verification of Work/Volunteer Experience Form](#) completed by the employer or someone in an equivalent supervisory capacity (such as human resources/payroll office). Evidence of at least 2 years of successful teaching or other relevant educational experience is required.

All documentation must be received by the Registrar's Office and Student Services on or before the November 1 deadline. Documentation received following the deadline will not be considered by the Committee.

Admission Decisions

Admission is determined by the Graduate Programs in Education Committee. Members of the committee base admission decisions on all the available information submitted by or on behalf of the applicant.

Program Approval

Upon acceptance into the Master of Education (General) program, the student will be provided with a cohort course delivery schedule. It is the responsibility of each student to register for the appropriate courses, and in the sequence provided in the delivery schedule. Because the program is delivered in a cohort format, students who do not register for courses in the times they are scheduled for their cohort cannot be guaranteed the opportunity for completing their programs. Choices of options, and decisions regarding capstone, project, or thesis work must be approved by the Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies and Research in Education.

Credit for Previous Work

A maximum of two semester courses beyond those required for admission, which have not already been credited toward a completed university credential, **may** be accepted for transfer into the Master of Education (General) program.