

Master of Education in Professional Development

[At UW-Eau Claire]

The master of education in professional development degree has been designed to help licensed educators and working professionals upgrade their skills and meet the continuing demands on professionals in American education. A specific emphasis in library science and media education is available. A hybrid weekend and online cohort program with an established plan of study in pedagogy is also available. Other emphases may be selected from combinations of the following more general categories: curriculum development techniques, instructional techniques and technology, human relations/communications, evaluation techniques, research techniques, and educational foundations. Opportunity also is provided to strengthen skills and understandings in a teaching subject specialty.

This program is offered by the department of education studies.

Goals

The goals of the MEPD degree include the following:

- To help participants further develop their competencies in the education profession.
- To provide for the continuous service needs of educational personnel.

Requirements

After admission to the program, the student must complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate work in an approved course of study. A minimum of 15 of these credits must be at the 700 level. Additional credits may be required in specific cases where background and needs suggest further study. Along with the 30 semester credits, students must complete CI 788, "Introduction to Educational Inquiry," and Fed 740, "Introduction to Educational Research" if a thesis is chosen as an exit option. Students also may



complete a maximum of 12 credits in content area and a maximum of nine credits of independent study. A maximum of nine credits may be transferred from another accredited institution. Credits earned prior to admission to the program must be approved by the adviser at the time of admission in order to be credited to the program. Required credits in the program must be completed within seven years.

Exit options

The MEPD program offers four exit options:

- Standard written comprehensive examination
- Take-home examination
- Portfolio
- Scholarly paper, research paper or thesis
- All candidates must pass an oral examination prior to graduation.

The standard **written comprehensive with oral exam** is a four-hour written examination consisting of questions compiled by the chair of the program committee, the candidate and the other two members of the committee.

The purpose of the **portfolio with oral exam** is to provide an

in-depth, long-term opportunity for student reflection, self-evaluation and synthesis of intellectual/professional development over the course of the master's program. The decision to compile a portfolio is made well before the students' final semester in the program and in consultation with the primary adviser.

The **take-home and oral exam** consists of two parts: a written open-book examination taken during an agreed-upon period and an oral follow-up of professional concerns and issues related to his/her course work. Specific questions, including information regarding the time period for completion and expected length, are submitted to the graduate studies program assistant when the questions are given to the student.

The student may write a **thesis** for one to six hours of credit or a research or scholarly paper for one to two credits. The thesis problem must be approved by the student's thesis committee. The thesis should be a study of a problem in education and professional development. The thesis should represent new evidence or new interpretation and not simply a chronicling or summary of previously published works.

The **research or scholarly paper** should be a problem or topic related to the candidate's goals in professional development. The student should show exploration of primary sources; secondary sources may be included.

To learn more about the Eau Claire Advantage go to www.uwec.edu/advantage

[Pre-requisites]

- A baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or institution and have met requirements for licensure as a teacher.
- A minimum undergraduate grade-point average of 2.75.
- Two years of teaching or equivalent experience.

[Application requirements]

To apply to the MEPD program, an applicant must submit the following:

- A complete application for graduate admission along with the application fee.
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions previously attended.
- Evidence of certification or eligibility for certification to teach in secondary or post-secondary educational settings, including a copy of your certificate or a letter from your supervisor describing your current responsibilities.
- A description of your teaching experience including location, time period and grade level of each assignment, as well as specific courses you taught; other responsibilities such as school committees, curriculum development activities, etc.; any experimental or innovative projects in which you have engaged during your teaching experience.
- An account of experiences related to teaching, including voluntary as well as salaried activities, community service activities, seminars/workshops, etc., that would not appear on your transcripts.
- A statement of your professional aspirations and related needs.
- A statement of your beliefs about students, the processes of formal education and the responsibilities of professional educators.

Send materials to:

Graduate Admissions
UW-Eau Claire
Schofield Hall 112
Eau Claire WI 54702-4004

For Program Information

Education Studies
Contact: 715-836-2013
www.uwec.edu/es

For more information

For more information about graduate programs:

GRADUATE STUDIES

UW-Eau Claire, Schofield 210
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
715-836-2721 • www.uwec.edu/graduate

For more information about campus:

ADMISSIONS

Schofield Hall 112
UW-Eau Claire Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
715-836-5415 • www.uwec.edu/admissions

note:

- MEPD-PE Weekend Cohort
2 year online and on campus
- MEPD-LS (Library Science) online