Specialization Areas for

Curriculum & Instruction

Ed.D.

Students in the C&I Ed.D. complete 15-18 credits of coursework in an area of specialization\*. Current specializations are listed in alphabetical order below, along with suggested course offerings. Keep in mind that not all courses are offered each semester, so students should work with their assigned faculty advisor to create a satisfactory plan of study. Prospective students are encouraged to contact the Specialization Advisor listed under each area early in the application process for more information.

*Note: faculty members marked with an asterisk (\*) are able to chair dissertation committees. Please visit the faculty directory to learn more about individual faculty member research interests and areas of expertise:* [*ccie.ucf.edu/contacts/facultyandstaff/*](https://edcollege.ucf.edu/contacts/facultyandstaff/)

# Curriculum & Instruction

## About Our Specialization

The Curriculum and Instruction specialization provides students with a broad understanding of the factors affecting education and approaches to addressing systemic problems. For example, a student interested in curriculum development and contemporary instructional practice can explore current issues in curriculum theory and design, as well as theories of learning and instruction. Careers in this specialization area include a wide variety of instructional and training roles, including K-12, higher education, business, and private industry.

Students will work with their advisor to select four specialization courses.

## For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. David Boote ([david.boote@ucf.edu](mailto:david.boote@ucf.edu)), to learn more about the C&I specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Karen Biraimah\* [karen.biraimah@ucf.edu](mailto:karen.biraimah@ucf.edu)

Randy Hewitt\* [randall.hewitt@ucf.edu](mailto:randall.hewitt@ucf.edu)

Gillian Eriksson\* [gillian.eriksson@ucf.edu](mailto:gillian.eriksson@ucf.edu)

Thomas Vitale\* [thomas.vitale@ucf.edu](mailto:thomas.vitale@ucf.edu)

Constance Goodman [constance.goodman@ucf.edu](mailto:constance.goodman@ucf.edu)

Steve Haberlin\* [steve.haberlin@ucf.edu](mailto:steve.haberlin@ucf.edu)

# Educational Psychology

## About Our Specialization

Educational psychology is the study of psychological factors, such as cognition, motivation, and development, which affect learning and instruction to promote learning and optimal human development. Careers in this specialization are varied, including K12, higher education, and industry. Skills developed during this program will allow you to teach educational psychology courses at the college level; consult on learning, development, and instruction; provide organizational training; conduct research; engage in online instruction; and improve learning environments in a variety of settings.

## For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. Michele Gregoire Gill ([michele.gill@ucf.edu](mailto:michele.gill@ucf.edu)), to learn more about the Educational Psychology specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Gillian Eriksson\* [gillian.eriksson@ucf.edu](mailto:gillian.eriksson@ucf.edu)

Michelle Taub\* [michelle.taub@ucf.edu](mailto:michelle.taub@ucf.edu)

Laurie O. Campbell\* [locampbell@ucf.edu](mailto:locampbell@ucf.edu)

Shane Trenta [shane.trenta@ucf.edu](mailto:shane.trenta@ucf.edu)

Taylar Wenzel [taylar.wenzel@ucf.edu](mailto:taylar.wenzel@ucf.edu)

## Recommended Specialization Courses

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Course Prefix and Number | Course Name |
| EDF 6155 | Lifespan Human Development |
| EDP 6213 | Applied Learning and Instruction Seminar I |
| EDP 6217 | Applied Learning and Instruction Seminar II |
| EDF 6216 | Motivation in Learning and Performance |
| IDS 6504 | Adult Learning |
| EDF 6259 | Learning Theories Applied to Classroom Instruction and Management |
| EDF 6141 | Human Intelligence |

# English Language Arts

## About Our Specialization

The English Language Arts specialization includes the study of literacy, literature and diversity, and the role of language and writing in learning and teaching in English Language Arts and cross-disciplinary education. Additional areas of faculty interest and expertise include teachers' narratives, inquiries and reflective practices in local and international educational environments and professional development settings.

## For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. Elsie Lindy Olan ([elsie.olan@ucf.edu](mailto:elsie.olan@ucf.edu)), to learn more about the English Language Arts specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Nicole Damico\* [nicole.damico@ucf.edu](mailto:nicole.damico@ucf.edu)

Jeffrey Kaplan [jeffrey.kaplan@ucf.edu](mailto:jeffrey.kaplan@ucf.edu)

Recommended Specialization Courses

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Course Prefix and Number | Course Name |
| LAE 6296 | Advanced Writing Workshop |
| LAE 6366 | Advanced Studies in Adolescent Literature |
| LAE 6616 | Trends in Language Arts Education |
| LAE 6637 | Research in Teaching English |
| LAE 6936 | Seminar in Language Arts Education |

# Exceptional Student Education

## About Our Specialization

Welcome to Exceptional Student Education (ESE) at the University of Central Florida, a nationally ranked program. Our goal is to assure that all students with disabilities are taught by caring, dedicated, highly qualified and knowledgeable exceptional special education teachers. The Exceptional Education concentration in the Curriculum and Instruction Educational doctorate (Ed.D.) program is intended for individuals who are engaged in working with individuals who have disabilities.

Please go to [ccie.ucf.edu/exed/programs/#cert](https://edcollege.ucf.edu/exed/programs/#cert) to obtain information about the graduate certificates in Exceptional Student Education.

## For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. Matthew Marino ([matthew.marino@ucf.edu](mailto:matthew.marino@ucf.edu)), to learn more about the ESE specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Mary Little\* [mary.little@ucf.edu](mailto:mary.little@ucf.edu)

## Recommended Specialization Courses

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Intervention Specialist Certificate**  *(all courses listed are required; students must apply for the certificate;* [*Apply Now*](https://applynow.graduate.ucf.edu/apply/)*)* | | |
| Course Prefix and Number | Course Name | |
| EEX 6218 | Diagnostic Assessment and Intervention Planning in Exceptional Education | |
| MAE 6517 | Diagnosis/Remediation of Difficulties in Mathematics for the Classroom Teacher | |
| RED 5517 | Classroom Diagnosis and Development of Reading Proficiencies | |
| SPS 6700 | Advanced Psychoeducation and Data-based Decision Making | |
| **Special Education Certificate**  *(see below for required courses; students must apply for the certificate;* [*Apply Now*](https://applynow.graduate.ucf.edu/apply/)*)* | | |
| Course Prefix and Number | | Course Name |
| EEX 6295 | | Assessment and Curriculum Prescriptions for the Exceptional Population |
| EEX 6612 | | Methods of Behavioral Management |
| Complete at least ***1*** of the following: | | |
| EEX 5051 | | Exceptional Children in the Schools |
| EEX 6107 | | Teaching Spoken and Written Language |
| Complete at least ***1*** of the following: | | |
| EEX 6061 | | Instructional Strategies Pre-K-6 |
| EEX 6065 | | Programming for Students with Disabilities at the Secondary Level |

# Gifted Education

## About Our Specialization

The Gifted Education Program has responded to the need to train teachers and administrators at the doctoral level to meet the guidelines of ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act, 2015) using the Key Principles of Teacher Leadership and the ADVANCED standards for Professional Development of Teacher Leaders set by the National Association for Gifted Children and the Council for Exceptional Children (NAGC/CEC 2014). Key research areas include an examination of critical issues about the identification, nature and development of Giftedness and Creativity; Curriculum Design and Services; Special Populations including the Twice-Exceptional Learner; and Socio-emotional Development.

This Curriculum and Instruction Ed.D, Gifted program is fully differentiated and includes personalized learning, curriculum compacting, training in teacher leadership and professional development of others, training in designing curriculum and research on problems of practice relevant to each candidate’s research interests and educational context.

## For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. Gillian Eriksson ([gillian.eriksson@ucf.edu](mailto:gillian.eriksson@ucf.edu)), to learn more about the Gifted Education specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Steve Haberlin\* [steve.haberlin@ucf.edu](mailto:steve.haberlin@ucf.edu)

## Recommended Specialization Courses

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Gifted Education Certificate**  *(all courses listed are required; students must apply for the certificate;* [*Apply Now*](https://applynow.graduate.ucf.edu/apply/)*)* | |
| Course Prefix and Number | Course Name |
| EGI 6051 | Understanding the Gifted/Talented Student |
| EGI 6245 | Curriculum and Instruction for Teaching Advanced, Gifted and Talented Learners |
| EGI 6246 | Education of Special Populations of Gifted Students |
| EGI 6417 | Guidance and Counseling Strategies for Teachers of Gifted and Talented Individuals |
| EGI 6305 | Theory and Development of Creativity |

# Global, International, and Comparative Education

## About Our Specialization

This specialization will help prepare students to engage in global and international organizations and programs such as NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations), UNESCO, International Schools, etc.  Possible careers extend beyond enriching curriculum and instruction within the K-12 environment and include a broad range of international opportunities.  For example, graduates of this specialization might serve as program officers in educational development programs in emerging nations, or serve as technical experts in programs sponsored by the World Bank, UNESCO, UNICEF, or USAID.

## For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. Karen Biraimah ([karen.biraimah@ucf.edu](mailto:karen.biraimah@ucf.edu)), to learn more about the Global, International, and Comparative Education specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Randy Hewitt\* [randall.hewitt@ucf.edu](mailto:randall.hewitt@ucf.edu)

Gillian Eriksson\* [gillian.eriksson@ucf.edu](mailto:gillian.eriksson@ucf.edu)

Anna Wolford [anna.wolford@ucf.edu](mailto:anna.wolford@ucf.edu)

## Recommended Specialization Courses

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Course Prefix and Number | Course Name |
| EDF 6809 | Introduction to Comparative and International Education |
| SSE 5391 | Global Education: Theory and Practice |
| EDF 6855 | Equitable Educational Opportunity and Life Chances: A Cross-National Analysis |
| EDS 6365 | Education and National Development |
| EDF 6886 | Multicultural Education |

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# Health and Human Performance

## About Our Specialization

The Health & Human Performance specialization in the Curriculum and Instruction Ed.D. program provides advanced studies in the areas of coaching, strength and conditioning, training, exercise science, sport and human performance enhancement. The program is designed to prepare health and human performance practitioners for successful careers in teaching and clinical practice, particularly in leadership and supervisory roles. Doctoral students in the specialization work closely with an interdisciplinary faculty and experienced mentors.

Students interested in the Health and Human Performance specialization in the Curriculum and Instruction Ed.D. program typically come from the biological and health-related professions, kinesiology, exercise science, physical education, or athletic training.

The Health and Human Performance specialization in the Curriculum and Instruction Ed.D. program requires 54 credit hours beyond the master’s degree. Students must complete18 credit hours of core courses, 15 credit hours of specialization courses, 3 hours of Research Electives, and 18 credit hours of dissertation. All students must also complete the three required program milestones.

For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. Thomas Fisher ([thomas.fisher@ucf.edu](mailto:thomas.fisher@ucf.edu)), to learn more about the Heath and Human Performance specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Thomas Fisher\* [thomas.fisher@ucf.edu](mailto:thomas.fisher@ucf.edu)

Anna Valdes\* [anna.valdes@ucf.edu](mailto:anna.valdes@ucf.edu)

Mike Redd\* [redd@ucf.edu](mailto:redd@ucf.edu)

Allison Redd [allison.redd@ucf.edu](mailto:allison.redd@ucf.edu)

Recommended Specialization Courses

**Students must choose at least three of the courses listed below.**Students may also work with an adviser to choose at least two additional 6000 or 7000 level courses with the following prefixes: APK, EDF, EDG, EDP, EEX, EGI, EME, LAE, MAE, PET, RED, SCE, SSE, or TSL.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Course Prefix and Number | Course Name |
| PET 6357C | Environmental Perturbation & Human Performance |
| PET 6515 | Assessment & Evaluation in Kinesiology |
| PET 6096 | Youth Physical & Athletic Development |
| PET 6395 | Program Design in Strength & Conditioning |
| PET 6690 | Exercise Prescription for Special Populations |
| PET 5216 | Motivational Aspects of Coaching |

# Instructional Design and Technology

## About Our Specialization

Instructional Design & Technology is the science and art of designing innovative, effective, and engaging training and educational programs in business and industry, K-12, and Higher Education. The eLearning Track is designed for educators and instructional designers across settings. eLearning focuses on the design, delivery, and evaluation of high-quality e-learning materials that are used for both online and blended (hybrid) learning environments. The Educational Technology Track prepares educators in PreK-20 to become highly skilled at successfully integrating technology into the curricula.

## For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisors, Dr. Glenda Gunter at [glenda.gunter@ucf.edu.](mailto:glenda.gunter@ucf.edu) to learn more about the ID&T specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Atsusi Hirumi\* [atsusi.hirumi@ucf.edu](mailto:atsusi.hirumi@ucf.edu)

## Recommended Specialization Courses

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **E-Learning Professional Development Certificate Courses**  *(all courses listed are required; students must apply for the certificate;* [*Apply Now*](https://applynow.graduate.ucf.edu/apply/)*)* | |
| Course Prefix and Number | Course Name |
| EME 6613 | Instructional System Design |
| EME 6507 | Multimedia in Education and Training |
| EME 6457 | Distance Education |
| EME 6417 | Interactive Online and Virtual Teaching Environments |
| EME 6458 | Virtual Teaching and the Digital Educator |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Educational Technology Certificate Courses**  *(all courses listed are required; students must apply for the certificate;* [*Apply Now*](https://applynow.graduate.ucf.edu/apply/)*)* | |
| Course Prefix and Number | Course Name |
| EME 6507 | Multimedia in Education and Training |
| EME 6613 | Instructional Systems Design |
| EME 6053 | Teaching & Learning with Emerging Technologies |
| EME 6405 | Adapting & Integrating Innovative Technologies in Education |
| EME 6602 | Integration of Technology into Learning Environments |

# Methodology, Measurement, & Analysis

## About Our Specialization

The Methodology, Measurement, and Analysis (MMA) specialization area will help students develop their skills to conduct (1) empirical research studies and program evaluations with solid research designs to answer both practical and theoretical questions, (2) data analyses to provide essential information for successful decision making, and (3) develop and improve a variety of measures (tests, inventories, questionnaires and behavioral rating scales) to assess students, clients, consumers and employees.

## For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. Debbie Hahs-Vaughn, [debbie@ucf.edu](mailto:debbie@ucf.edu), to learn more about the MMA specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Haiyan Bai\* [haiyan.bai@ucf.edu](mailto:haiyan.bai@ucf.edu)

MH Clark\* [m.h.clark@ucf.edu](mailto:m.h.clark@ucf.edu)

Joshua Guillemette [joshua.guillemette@ucf.edu](mailto:joshua.guillemette@ucf.edu)

Stephen Sivo\* [stephen.sivo@ucf.edu](mailto:stephen.sivo@ucf.edu)

Audra Skukauskaite\* [audra@ucf.edu](mailto:audra@ucf.edu)

Bonnie Swan [bonnie.swan@ucf.edu](mailto:bonnie.swan@ucf.edu)

## Recommended Specialization Courses

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Advanced Quantitative Methodologies Graduate Certificate** *(select 4 courses from the list; students must apply for the certificate;* [*Apply Now*](https://applynow.graduate.ucf.edu/apply/)*)* | |
| ***Course Prefix and Number*** | ***Course Name*** |
| EDF 7403 (W) | Quantitative Foundations for Educational Research |
| EDF 7405\*\*\* | Quantitative Methods II |
| EDF 7406 | Multivariate Statistics in Education |
| EDF 7410\*\* | Application of Nonparametric and Categorical Data Analysis in Education |
| EDF 7415\*\*\* | Latent Variable Modeling in Education |
| EDF 7427\*\* | Psychometrics |
| EDF 7463 | Analysis of Survey, Record, and Other Qualitative Data |
| EDF 7474**\*** | Multilevel Data Analysis in Education |
| EDF 7476 | Advanced Research Methods |
| EDF 7488\*\*\* | Monte Carlo Simulation Research in Education |
| EDF 7489 | Quantitative Research Synthesis |
| \*Evenings (begins 5:30pm or later) \*\*Video Mode \*\*\*Evenings and video mode (W) Web-based | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Qualitative Methodologies Graduate Certificate** *(select 4 courses from the list; students must apply for the certificate;* [*Apply Now*](https://applynow.graduate.ucf.edu/apply/)*)* | |
| ***Course Prefix and Number*** | ***Course Name*** |
| Complete at least ***3*** of the following courses: | |
| EDF 7477 | Qualitative Research Design (Spring) |
| EDF 7473 | Ethnography in Educational Settings (Fall) |
| EDF 7499 | Discourse Analysis (Spring) |
| EDF 7479 | Qualitative Data Analysis (Summer) |
| Complete ***1*** of the following courses: | |
| One additional course from those listed above (specifically, EDF 7473, EDF 7479, EDF 7477, or EDF 7499) ***OR*** one of the following: | |
| ANG 6498 | Psychometrics |
| EDF 7463 | Analysis of Survey, Record, and Other Qualitative Data |
| EDF 7474**\*** | Multilevel Data Analysis in Education |
| EDF 7476 | Advanced Research Methods |
| EDF 7488\*\*\* | Monte Carlo Simulation Research in Education |
| EDF 7489 | Quantitative Research Synthesis |
| \*Evenings (begins 5:30pm or later) \*\*Video Mode \*\*\*Evenings and video mode (W) Web-based | |

# Reading Education

## About Our Specialization

Graduates of the UCF Ed.D. Curriculum & Instruction, Reading Education specialization, will be prepared to address the intersections of theory, research, policy, and practice. As a result, they will have a number of career options in any of the following sample areas:

1. Reading/Literacy leadership in educational settings (e.g., K-12, district, higher education, community, state, or federal government agencies).
2. Leadership positions in professional and non-profit organizations (including centers, foundations, and consulting organizations) that advocate for children's reading/literacy development and services.
3. A variety of educational and administrative careers in the public and private sectors, government, academia, and non-profits that strive for social change related to reading/literacy.

## For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. Vicky Zygouris-Coe ([vassiliki.zygouris-coe@ucf.edu](mailto:vassiliki.zygouris-coe@ucf.edu)), to learn more about the Reading Education specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Michelle Kelley\* [michelle.kelley@ucf.edu](mailto:michelle.kelley@ucf.edu)

Karri Williams\* [karri.williams@ucf.edu](mailto:karri.williams@ucf.edu)

Andrea Gelfuso\* [andrea.gelfuso@ucf.edu](mailto:andrea.gelfuso@ucf.edu)

## Recommended Specialization Courses

Before taking these courses, students must complete M.Ed. Reading Education or the equivalent (to be determined by program area advisor).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Course Prefix and Number | Course Name |
| RED 7797 | Theoretical Processes of Reading Comprehension |
| RED 7743 | Reading and Writing Processes |
| RED 7648 | Analysis and Evaluation of Trends and Issues in Literacy Education |
| RED 7745 | Research in Reading Education Seminar |
| RED 7697 | Literacy for the Twenty-First Century |

# Social Science Education

## About Our Specialization

The Social Science Education specialization in the Education Ed.D. program is designed to prepare social science educators for successful careers in teaching and research. The program assists students in furthering careers in K-12 teaching, curriculum & leadership roles in schools and districts, and college/university curriculum and supervision roles. Doctoral students in the track engage in activities with an interdisciplinary faculty and are mentored by experienced and successful university education faculty.

## For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. William Russell ([russell@ucf.edu](mailto:russell@ucf.edu)), to learn more about the Social Science Education specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Scott Waring\* [scott.waring@ucf.edu](mailto:scott.waring@ucf.edu)

## Recommended Specialization Courses

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Course Prefix and Number | Course Name |
| SSE 6348 | Foundations and Fundamentals of Teaching History in the K-12 Classroom |
| SSE 6396 | Teaching with Primary Sources in the History Classroom |
| SSE 6387 | Teaching with Film |
| SSE 6636 | Contemporary Social Science Education |

## **TESOL**

## About Our Specialization

The TESOL specialization offers in-depth study and field-based experiences in the research, theory, and practice of second language teaching and learning. The degree is intended for professionals in the TESOL field who work in a variety of settings, including schools, colleges, universities, and industry. The program prepares students to research and develop practice-based solutions concerning issues in the TESOL field, and to engage in data-driven decision making that leads to real-world solutions for second language learning.

## For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. Donita Grissom ([donita.grissom@ucf.edu](mailto:donita.grissom@ucf.edu)), to learn more about the TESOL specialization

Additional Program Faculty

Joyce Nutta\* (co-advisor) [joyce.nutta@ucf.edu](mailto:joyce.nutta@ucf.edu)   
Michele Regalla\* [michele.regalla@ucf.edu](mailto:michele.regalla@ucf.edu)

## Recommended Specialization Courses

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Course Prefix and Number | Course Name |
| TSL 6643 (V) | Dichronic Analysis of Second Language Acquisition Processes |
| TSL 6379 (V) | Second Language Literacy |
| TSL 6600 (W) | Second Language Vocabulary Acquisition |
| TSL 6440 (W) | Assessment Issues in TESOL |
| TSL 7006 (V) | Second Language Teacher Education |
| (V) Video-live mode (W) Web-based | |

**K-8 Mathematics Education**

About Our Specialization

The K-8 Mathematics Education Specialization within CIEDD is designed for teachers, teacher leaders, coaches, and administrators with positions connected to elementary/middle school mathematics who desire to improve the quality of teaching and learning in grades K-8 mathematics. The K8ME specialization is structured as cohorts of graduate students who engage in synchronous learning in a virtual setting. The cohorts are guided by faculty who are nationally recognized experts in the fields of mathematics education and integrated STEM education.

The program is designed to be completed in three years and includes 57 credit hours of course work and dissertation hours. The specialization in K-8 Mathematics Education is built on the foundational belief that each and every student deserves an education that is equitable, just, and inclusive.

Note: Admission to the K-8 Mathematics Education Specialization is every other year on odd years. The next admission cycle for this Specialization Area will be Fall 2023.

For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. Juli Dixon ([juli.dixon@ucf.edu](mailto:juli.dixon@ucf.edu)) to learn more about the K-8 Mathematics Education Specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Lisa Brooks [lisa.brooks@ucf.edu](mailto:lisa.brooks@ucf.edu)Sarah Bush [sarah.bush@ucf.edu](mailto:sarah.bush@ucf.edu)   
Farshid Safi [farshid.safi@ucf.edu](mailto:farshid.safi@ucf.edu)

Recommended Specialization Courses

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Course Prefix and Number | Course Name |
| MAE 7805 | Policies, Practices, and Structures in K-8 Mathematics Education |
| MAE 7817 | Content Knowledge for Teaching K-8 Mathematics I |
| MAE 7930 | Seminar in K-8 Mathematics Education |
| MAE 7804 | Content Knowledge for Teaching K-8 Mathematics II |
| MAE 7367 | Instructional Coaching in K-8 Mathematics |
| MAE 7819 | Professional Leadership in K-8 Mathematics |