College of Community Innovation and Education

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: https://ccie.ucf.edu/faculty-directory/

General Courses

These are general courses that a student may consider, with their advisor, for inclusion as one of the specialization area courses in their Plan of Study.

Course Prefix and Number	*Course Name*
LAE 6296	Advanced Writing Workshop
EDF 7916	Analysis and Synthesis of Educational Literature - Literature Review Class
EDG 7951	Professional Scholarship and Grant Writing in Teaching, Learning, and Development

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.

For More Information

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

Additional Program Faculty

Steve Haberlin*	steve.haberlin@ucf.edu..
Thomas Vitale*	thomas.vitale@ucf.edu
Constance Goodman	constance.goodman@ucf.edu

Recommended Specialization Courses

In consultation with their advisor, students may also choose at least two additional 6000 or 7000 level courses, that support their research focus, with the following prefixes: EDF, EDG, EDH, EDP, EEX, EGI, EME, IDS, LAE, MAE, RED, SCE, SSE, or TSL.

Course Prefix and Number	*Course Name*
ESE 6217	Curriculum Design
ESE 6416	Curriculum Evaluation

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), to learn more about the Educational Psychology specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Michelle Taub*	michelle.taub@ucf.edu
Shane Trenta	shane.trenta@ucf.edu
Taylar Wenzel	taylar.wenzel@ucf.edu
Laurie Campbell*	locampbell@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 examines how transdisciplinary and digital literacies intersect with education. It focuses on the role of literature, language, and writing in English Language Arts teaching and learning, as well as in professional development across local and international contexts. Faculty also bring expertise in teacher narratives, inquiry, and reflective practices in diverse educational settings.

For More Information

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

Additional Program Faculty

Vanessa Vega* vanessa.vega2@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

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 ensure 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 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), to learn more about the ESE specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Elizabeth Dooley* elizabeth.dooley@ucf.edu.
Soyoung Park soyoung.park@ucf.edu.
Olivia Fudge Coleman* olivia.coleman@ucf.edu.

Recommended Specialization Courses

Specialization Course Options	
Course Prefix and Number	***Course Name***
EEX 6218	Diagnostic Assessment and Intervention Planning in Exceptional Education
EEX 6342	Seminar in Critical Issues in Special Education
EEX 6524	Organization and Collaboration in Special Education
EEX 6608	Concepts and Principles in Behavior Analysis
EEX 6612	Methods of Behavior Management
EEX 6619	Advanced behavior Analysis
EEX 7527	Professional/ Grant Writing
EEX 7766	Technology Research Training in Special Education
EEX 7936	Current Trends and Issues in Special Education

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 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 & Human Performance specialization in the Curriculum and Instruction Ed. D. program requires 54 credit hours beyond the master's degree. Students must complete 18 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), to learn about the Health and Human Performance specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Mike Redd*	redd@ucf.edu.
Anna Valdes	anna.valdes@ucf.edu.
Allison Redd	allison.redd@ucf.edu.

Recommended Specialization Courses

Students must choose at least three APK courses, 6000 level or above, with the permission of the student's advisor.

Students may also work with their advisor to choose at least two additional 6000 or 7000 level courses with the following prefixes: **EDF, EDG, or other;** to be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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. Richard Hartshorne (richard.hartshorne@ucf.edu) or Dr. Laurie Campbell (locampbell@ucf.edu), to learn more about the ID&T specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Atsusi Hirumi* atsusi.hirumi@ucf.edu

Recommended Specialization Courses

E-Learning Professional Development Certificate Courses *(all courses listed are required)*	
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
Instructional Design Certificate Courses *(all courses listed are required)*	
Course Prefix and Number	***Course Name***
EME 6613	Instructional System Design
EME 6507	Multimedia for Education and Training
EME 6607	Planned Change in Instructional Technology
EME 6705	Administration of Instructional Systems
EME 6226	Instructional Development and Evaluation

Instructional Design and Technology Courses *(Optional)*	
Course Prefix and Number	***Course Name***
EME 6346	Story Design for Instruction
EME 6226 (PR EME 6613)	Instructional Development and Evaluation
EME 6646	Learning, Instructional Design and Cognitive Neuroscience

Educational Technology Certificate Courses *(Choose EME 6417 OR EME 6209 OR EME 6613 plus 12 other credits from the courses listed)*	
Course Prefix and Number	***Course Name***
EME 6417	Interactive Online and Virtual Teaching Environments
EME 6209	Multimedia Instructional Systems II
EME 6613	Instructional Systems Design
EME 6053	Teaching & Learning with Emerging Technologies
EME 6405	Adapting & Integrating Innovative Technologies in Education
EME 6507	Multimedia in Education and Training
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 with solid research designs to answer both practical and theoretical questions, (2) data analyses to understand complex problems and provide essential information for successful decision making, and (3) develop as well as improve a variety of research methods and measures (e.g., tests, inventories, interview guides, document and discourse analysis, observation practices, questionnaires and behavioral rating scales) to understand social contexts and outcomes of students, clients, consumers and employees.

For More Information

Please contact the Specialization Advisor, Dr. Stephen Sivo (stephen.sivo@ucf.edu), to learn more about the MMA specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Debbie Hahs-Vaughn*	debbie.hahs-vaughn@ucf.edu
Haiyan Bai*	haiyan.bai@ucf.edu
MH Clark*	m.h.clark@ucf.edu
Bonnie Swan	bonnie.swan@ucf.edu
Joshua Guillemette	joshua.guillemette@knights.ucf.edu
Audra Skukauskaite*	audra@ucf.edu

Recommended Specialization Courses

Advanced Quantitative Methodologies Certificate *(select 4 courses from the list)*	
Course Prefix and Number	***Course Name***
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 7474	Multilevel Data Analysis in Education
EDF 7488	Monte Carlo Simulation Research in Education

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:

a. Reading/Literacy leadership in educational settings (e.g., K-12, district, higher education, community, state, or federal government agencies).

b. Leadership positions in professional and non-profit organizations (including centers, foundations, and consulting organizations) that advocate for children's reading/literacy development and services.
c. 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. Vassiliki (Vicky) Zygouris-Coe (vassiliki.zygouris-coe@ucf.edu), to learn more about the Reading Education specialization.

Additional Program Faculty

Michelle Kelley* michelle.kelley@ucf.edu
Earlisha Whitfield* earlisha.whitfield@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