

MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION, CERT

for the Graduate Certificate in Middle Grades Education

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign offers a Graduate Certificate (CERT) in Middle Grades Education, requiring 33 credit hours of coursework. This CERT prepares professionals holding a bachelor's degree to teach in grades 5-8. The program meets the needs of non-licensed paraprofessionals who are working in classrooms to become licensed teachers. The online program, offered summers and evenings, combines foundational knowledge and practical experiences to fill the need for outstanding teachers at the middle grades level throughout the state of Illinois. The Middle Grades Education (CERT) program will be offered with endorsements in two areas (Literacy and Science), but candidates may choose to concentrate in one area alone. The coursework leads to licensure to teach in grades 5-8. Upon completing the CERT, students will be able to:

- Utilize content and general teaching methods.
- Apply an understanding of adolescent development in teaching methods.
- Pursue teaching positions in middle schools in Illinois.
- Teach in subject areas of literacy and science depending on concentration selections.

Admission

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction carefully considers all applicants for graduate study. Interested applicants should start at the College of Education Graduate Programs website (<http://education.illinois.edu/programs/grad/>). The quality of the applicant's undergraduate and graduate training and grade point average are primary considerations. Other important factors evaluated include the three letters of recommendation and statement of purpose. International applicants must submit a TOEFL score.

Faculty Research Interests

For information about specific faculty research interests, current grants, and publications, please visit the Faculty Finder (<https://education.illinois.edu/faculty-finder/>).

Facilities and Resources

Departmental resources consist of cooperation with Children's Research Center, Center for Small Urban Communities, as well as other resources in the College. Students who are interested in second language acquisition can become a part of the SLATE program. The department is connected to the University of Illinois Writing Project and the following journals: *International Journal of Education & the Arts*, *Journal of Curriculum Studies*, and *American Educational Research Journal*. The department also has available resources and some workshops provided during the academic year. Program areas (including CREATE, DELTA, Language & Literacy, and MSE) offer discipline-specific resources.

The College of Education also has many resources to assist graduate students through their academic career. The Bureau of Educational Research works with students to secure research funding. The Council on Teacher Education (<http://cote.illinois.edu/>) entitles candidates seeking a Professional Educator License and provides accreditation of professional education programs. Each student completing a degree program is

assigned a graduate adviser, who is available to assist the student with planning the program of study and determining degree requirements, courses and timelines for degree completion.

Information on university resources can be found at the GradMap pages website (<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/current-students/>).

Financial Aid

Please contact University of Illinois Student Financial Aid directly at (217) 333-0100 or finaid@illinois.edu for any questions you may have related to financial aid.

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Graduation Requirements

Minimum Cumulative GPA: 3.0

Minimum hours required for certificate completion: 33 hours

Students who pursue an EDM in Curriculum and Instruction following completion of this certificate can use these certificate courses to satisfy most degree requirements for the Masters program. Students pursuing that route will still need to satisfy requirements for foundations courses and a total of 12 credit hours of 500 level coursework.

Coursework Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Professional Education		
CI 402	Teaching Diverse Middle Grade Students (Science Section)	3-6
AND/OR		
CI 402	Teaching Diverse Middle Grade Students (English Language Arts Section)	
CI 404	Teaching and Assessing Secondary School Students	3
CI 410	Middle School Instruction, Philosophy and Structures	3
CI 415	Language Varieties, Cultures and Learning	3
CI 471	Principles and Practices to Foster Independence in Reading	3
CI 474	Multiliteracies with Diverse Students (Multiliteracies and Literature)	3
EDPR 442	Educational Practice in Secondary Education (Section MG)	4
EDPR 550	School and Community Experience	4
EPSY 430	Early Adolescent Development	3-4
SPED 517	Disability Issues in Special Education	4
Total Hours		33-37

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Department of Curriculum & Instruction

Interim Head of the Department: Helen Neville

Director of Graduate Studies: Emma Mercier

Graduate admissions information: Mitzi Koeberlein

Department of Curriculum & Instruction website (<http://education.illinois.edu/ci/>)

Curriculum & Instruction Faculty (<https://education.illinois.edu/faculty-finder/ci/>)

142 Education Building, 1310 South Sixth Street, Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 244-3542
Graduate Student Services Office email
(gradservices@education.illinois.edu)

College of Education

College of Education website (<https://education.illinois.edu/programs/grad/how-to-apply/?url=/programs/grad>)
College of Education Programs (<https://education.illinois.edu/faceted-search/programs/>)

Admissions

College of Education Admissions & Requirements (<https://education.illinois.edu/programs/grad/how-to-apply/?url=/programs/grad>)
Graduate College Admissions & Requirements (<https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>)