



Master of Education

in

Middle Grades



with Kannapolis City and Cabarrus County Schools

**Offered
at
Concord Middle School
Concord, NC**

Fall 2008 to Fall 2010

Program Description

The Master of Education in Middle Grades has been developed specifically for experienced teachers in middle schools who are seeking an opportunity to integrate advanced study in content and pedagogy with their teaching experiences. For example, students in the Middle Grades track are required to take Teacher Leadership in their final semester, a course that will better prepare them to become content department chairs, interdisciplinary team leaders, or staff development specialists. Furthermore, by admitting only experienced teachers, students will serve as resources for one another and become a community of professionals who are knowledgeable, reflective, responsive, and effective practitioners. Finally, because this degree focuses on a teacher's professional growth, it requires a research project as the capstone experience.

Program Goals

Successful graduates will possess a comprehensive pedagogical, conceptual, and reflective knowledge base that can be applied to their classrooms through well-honed and effective skills set. This developed and applied knowledge will be, in turn, shared with other professionals through a variety of leadership opportunities. Both the College's Conceptual Framework and the following goals provide structure for the entire program. Program graduates will be able to do:

1. Self-direct their personal and professional growth;
2. Respond effectively to adolescent differences, which are influenced by development, exceptionalities, and diversity;
3. Demonstrate advanced knowledge of the content and pedagogy of the curriculum;
4. Improve educational practice through self-reflection, self-evaluation, and applied research; and
5. Serve as collaborative educational leaders.

Distance Education

This degree requires a total of 39 hours of coursework in middle grades education. While the majority of courses will be taught on-site at Concord Middle School, some content and/or methods courses will be taken on the UNC

Charlotte campus. It is the responsibility of students who enter the existing cohort, after initial cohort courses have been offered, to complete the missed courses at the UNC Charlotte campus.

Dates

Coursework for this program begins in Fall 2008 (August) and ends in Fall 2010. A tentative schedule of classes is included in this brochure. UNC Charlotte reserves the right to change the schedule of courses.

Textbooks

Textbook information and purchasing options will be provided prior to the beginning of each semester. Students can purchase textbooks from the University bookstore, through a local bookstore, or through an on-line book vendor.

Cost

Tuition is set each year by the North Carolina Legislature. Resident tuition and fees for distance education courses for the Fall 2008 through Summer 2009 academic year are \$479.90 for 3 credit hours, and \$955.50 for 6 credit hours. Non-resident tuition and fees are \$1,981.40 for 3 credit hours, and \$3,958.50 for 6 credit hours. It is anticipated that tuition and fees will increase each year. Students will have additional expenses for textbooks and other course materials.

Financial Aid

Students are eligible for financial aid under the same guidelines/regulations as students admitted to on-campus programs. Please check the Financial Aid website at www.uncc.edu/finaid.

Admission Requirements

1. A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
2. A North Carolina "A" license in Middle Grades, or the equivalent from another state
3. Teaching experience in a middle grades classroom
4. An undergraduate GPA of 2.75 overall and 3.0 in the junior/senior years
5. An acceptable score on the GRE (Graduate Record Examination) or the MAT (Miller Analogies Test)

Application Process

You will find all application materials needed online at <http://graduateschool.uncc.edu>. Please read and follow directions carefully.

Limited Seating

There are approximately 25 seats available in this program. A sufficient number of applicants will be required to begin the program.

Deadline to Apply

The Graduate School Application deadline for the Fall 2008 semester is May 1, 2008.

Advising

After admission to the program, each student will be assigned an education faculty member who will serve as his or her adviser for the duration of the degree program.

Library Resources

Students will have access to the Atkins Library on the UNC Charlotte campus, including its electronic databases, through the Internet (as well as through visits to the campus at the student's option). A Distance Education Librarian is available for student consultation.

Orientation

At the beginning of the program, there will be a required orientation for all students admitted to the off-campus program. The orientation will provide students with an opportunity to familiarize themselves with campus resources and with the services that the Distance Education Office provides. The orientation will provide students with the opportunity to get their UNC Charlotte ID card. Detailed information will be provided shortly after you are admitted to the program.

Technology Skills and Internet Access

At the instructor's discretion, course assignments may be delivered electronically. Sometimes assignments are submitted via the student's UNC Charlotte email. When submitting assignments via email, students must do so from a computer that (1) allows personal, convenient and extended web access, and (2) supports the minimum technical requirements. Public access computer terminals, such as those in public libraries or places of employment, may be hampered or limited by "firewalls" (electronic/digital controls) that prevent unlimited access to some websites, document downloads, email exchange, etc. If you do not have a personal computer to support the technology, UNC Charlotte has several on-campus computer labs, some available 24 hours a day, seven days a week:

www.labs.uncc.edu/oncampus/sclabs.html

A typical listing of technical requirements could include but not be limited to the specifications included in the following document:

<http://www.distanceed.uncc.edu/Docs/TechSpecs.pdf>

For additional information, application forms and materials contact:

Debra Brooks, Senior Program Manager
Office of Distance Education, UNC Charlotte
9201 University City Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28223

Phone: 704- 687-3058 or 1-877-583-2966, option 2

Email: dybrooks@uncc.edu

For academic information, contact:

Dr. Jeanneine Jones
Dept of Middle, Secondary & K12 Education
UNC Charlotte

9201 University City Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28223

Phone: 704-687-8876

Email: jpjones@uncc.edu

For additional information on:

Graduate Admissions:

<http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/future-students.html>

Financial Aid: <http://www.uncc.edu/finaid>

Residency for Tuition Purposes:

www.resdetermination.uncc.edu

UNC Charlotte College Catalog:

<http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/academics/catalog.html>

Proposed Schedule of Courses for M.Ed. in Middle Grades Education

with Kannapolis City and Cabarrus County Schools

**COURSE SCHEDULES ARE CONTINGENT UPON VIABLE ENROLLMENTS
PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS.**

FALL 2008:

- MDSK 6150: Models of Teaching
- MDSK 6220: Adolescence and Learning

SPRING 2009:

- MDLG 6225: Issues in Middle Grades Education
- RSCH 6101 082: Educational Research Methods

SUMMER 2009:

- Two content courses taught at UNC Charlotte; to be determined by content advisers in MDSK and the College of Arts and Sciences

FALL 2009:

- MDSK 6356: Curriculum Studies
- Elective (to be determined by the cohort and taught on site)

SPRING 2010:

- MDSK 6260: Teacher Leadership
- Advanced Methods taught at UNC Charlotte by MDSK and Arts and Sciences faculty. Some of you will possibly take this in summer and insert content course here

SUMMER 2010:

- Two content courses taught at UNC Charlotte; to be determined by content advisers in MDSK and Arts and Sciences

FALL 2010:

- MDSK 6691: Seminar in Professional Development
- Graduation



MASTER OF EDUCATION IN MIDDLE AND SECONDARY GRADES MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION

Overview

Faculty in the Department of Middle Grades, Secondary, and K-12 Education invite professionals with an interest in the early adolescent learner to work collaboratively with them in addressing the rewards and challenges found in teaching contemporary young adolescents. Those who join this program will graduate as reflective thinkers who have strong academic backgrounds, solid research agendas, and informed commitments to young adults. Members of the Middle and Secondary Grades Graduate Faculty at UNC Charlotte are dedicated to the preparation of quality professionals who are excellent lifelong learners and leaders. Successful completion of this program leads to M level certification.

The Program

This 39-hour program is designed to provide a course of advanced study which is built upon a body of knowledge and expertise common to middle grades professionals. The program graduates knowledgeable, effective, reflective and responsive practitioners who will become leaders in the profession. In order to do so, it includes study in areas such as educational research methodology, curriculum theory, analysis of teaching, and curriculum and material development, which includes the application of technology in teaching. In addition, candidates study advanced methodology and content in their discipline (i.e., Social Studies, English, Science, and Mathematics). Courses are also appropriate for teacher licensure renewal or individual professional growth.

Program Goals

Successful graduates will possess a comprehensive pedagogical, conceptual, and reflective knowledge base that can be applied to their classrooms through a well-honed and effective skills set. This developed and applied knowledge will be, in turn, shared with other professionals through a variety of leadership opportunities. Structure for the entire program is provided by both the College's Conceptual Framework and the following goals:

- ◆ Self-direct their personal and professional growth;
- ◆ Respond effectively to children's differences which are influenced by development, exceptionalities, and diversity;
- ◆ Demonstrate advanced knowledge of the content and pedagogy of the curriculum;
- ◆ Improve educational practice through self-reflection, self-evaluation, and applied research; and
- ◆ Serve as collaborative educational leaders.

Departmental Admission Requirements

- ◆ A Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university.
- ◆ An overall 2.75 GPA (3.0 in last 60 hours) in undergraduate work.
- ◆ A satisfactory score on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT).
- ◆ A North Carolina Class A teaching license in an appropriate Middle Grades field.
- ◆ A minimum of two years' teaching experience.
- ◆ Strong letters of recommendation.

Financial Support

The Department has a limited number of graduate assistantships. Applications are available from Kathie Goldman, Office Manager, Department of Middle Grades, Secondary and K-12 Education, 704-687-8875.

For More Information

For more information about the academic program, contact: Dr. Warren DiBiase, Graduate Coordinator, Dept. of Middle Grades, Secondary and K-12 Education, UNC Charlotte, 9201 University City Blvd. Charlotte, NC 28223-0001. 704-687-8881