



# Master of Education

## Curriculum Design

The University of San Diego's online Master of Education (M.Ed) program is designed for practicing K-12 teachers with a minimum of two years of teaching experience in a wide variety of classroom settings, including public district, charter, private, independent and non-traditional schools. This 100% online program provides asynchronous coursework, so projects can be completed on your own schedule while still meeting deadlines. Please note, this program does not confer graduates with a teaching credential nor an admin credential for those pursuing the School Leadership specialization.

This 30-unit program can be completed in five terms where students complete six units per term, focusing on one course at a time. Applications are accepted all year round. Students may start the program in either the Fall, Spring or Summer. Program courses will prepare students with the knowledge and skills they need to enhance their teaching with an emphasis on 21st century skills, equity and social justice, classroom inquiry and a professional response to the Common Core Standards.

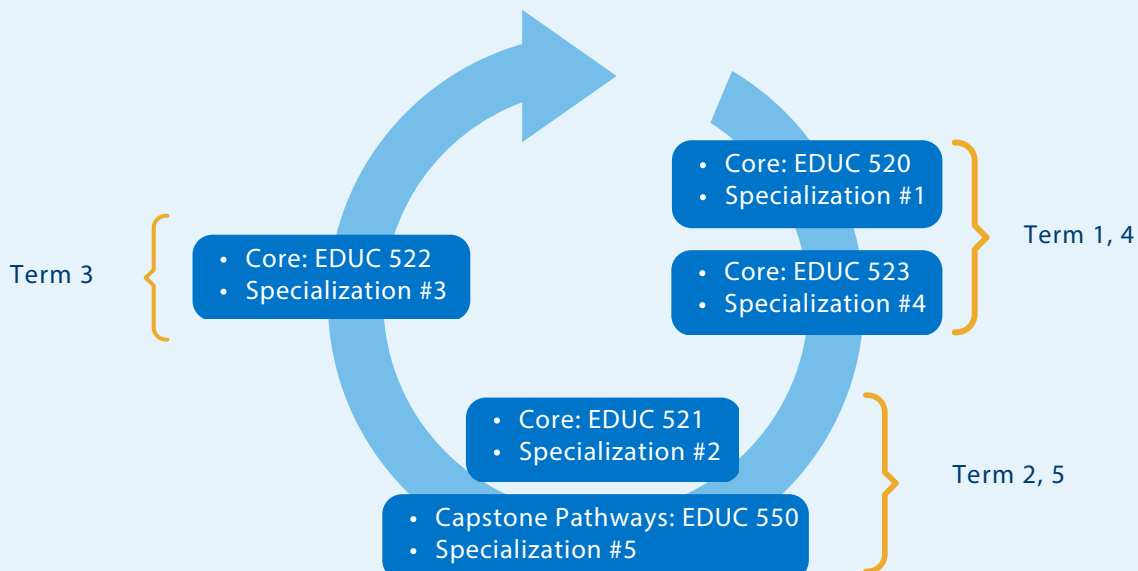
### CONTACT US

**Learn more at**  
[MEDOnline.SanDiego.edu](http://MEDOnline.SanDiego.edu)

**Call**  
(619) 260-4580 or  
(888) 832-0239

**Email**  
[medonline@sandiego.edu](mailto:medonline@sandiego.edu)

### Foundational, Specialization and Capstone Courses



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## SPECIALIZATIONS

Along with five foundational courses, each Master of Education student will take five courses from their chosen specialization (15 units). For detailed descriptions of specialization courses, please reference the separate brochure for each respective specialization or review them on our website at [medonline.sandiego.edu](http://medonline.sandiego.edu).

### CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

### INCLUSIVE LEARNING: SPECIAL EDUCATION AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN (UDL)

### SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

### STEAM (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS AND MATHEMATICS)

### TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

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## CORE COURSES

The foundation of the Master of Education online program consists of five core courses including a capstone action research project. The five core sources (15 units) are:

### **EDUC 520 - Social Justice and Educational Equity**

Analysis of the American educational system with a particular focus on issues of diversity, inequity, conflict and social justice within a school context. Historical case studies, contemporary policies and practices and international comparisons compel consideration of the social construction of education.

### **EDUC 521 - Cognition and Learning**

Explore key cognitive studies on human cognition and learning. You will critically discuss research and contemporary debates on cognitive processes, learning, memory, reasoning, problem-solving, developmental mechanism, cognitive styles, motivation and the socio-cultural foundations of learning with an emphasis on the implications for educators and educational researchers.

### **EDUC 522 - Education Research Methodology**

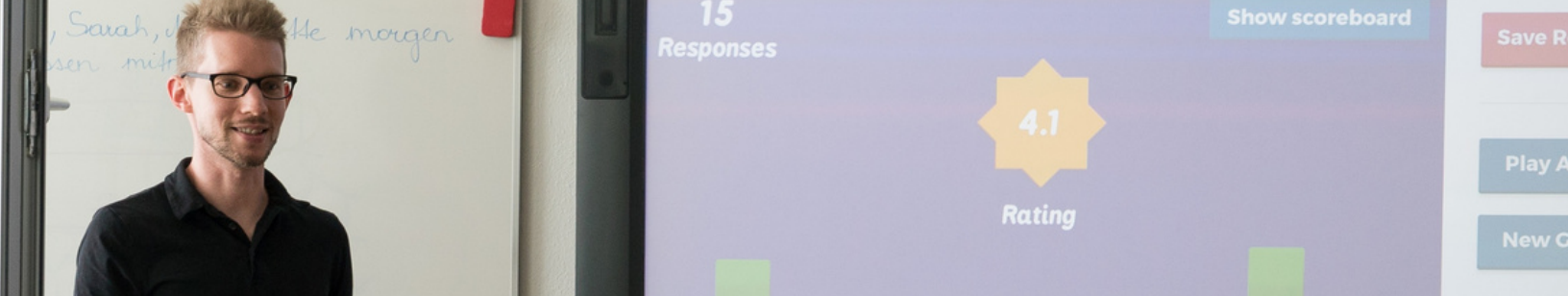
Introduction to the major educational research methods and paradigms with an emphasis on reflective, practitioner-directed inquiry. The course encompasses quantitative methods, qualitative methods, mixed methods and action research frameworks. Particular emphasis is placed on action research as a reflective and collaborate inquiry for improving educational practices.

### **EDUC 523 - Qualitative Methods in Education Research**

Applied exploration of qualitative research methodologies such as ethnography, grounded theory, case-study and cross-case comparisons, surveys, observations, document analyses, focus groups and interviews. Opportunity to learn and apply a variety of techniques to analyze data and interpret findings.

### **EDUC 550 - Capstone Seminar**

The capstone seminar is the final course in the online M.Ed. program sequence. This course supports candidates as they engage in an action research project appropriate to their area of specialization and responsive to the needs of their classroom. The action research project is a requirement to earn a degree in this program.



## SPECIALIZATION: TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Technology is rapidly changing the face of education — both by creating powerful new learning tools and strategies, and by facilitating remote and virtual education. This Master of Education degree specialization is focused on helping educators develop a deep understanding of how traditional educational research, standards, frameworks, techniques and best practices can be integrated with technology to promote equitable, engaging digital learning experiences for all learners.

### CORE COURSES

- **EDUC 520 - Social Justice and Educational Equity**
- **EDUC 521 - Cognition and Learning**
- **EDUC 522 - Education Research and Methodology**
- **EDUC 523 - Qualitative Methods in Educational Research**
- **EDUC 550 - Capstone Seminar**

### SPECIALIZATION COURSES:

#### **EDUC 517 - Digitized Learning with Technology**

This course will address virtual learning by using technology and digitized learning education material that is accessible for all types of learners. Students will learn the foundations and frameworks of educational technology. Students will learn how to use digital content via the Internet and technology tools to transform traditional instruction.

#### **EDUC 518 - Changemaking with Technology**

Changemaking involves taking creative action to solve a social problem. This course provides students with meaningful learning experiences using technology to promote social change. Students will be challenged to think about how technology impacts our daily lives, the way we learn, and how we utilize it in our day to day lives. Students will also gain understanding of how technology can be leveraged to personalize learning for all types of learners including adults.

#### **EDUC 519 - Instructional Design for Leaders**

This course addresses the systematic design of learning experiences and environments. Students learn about the use of instructional design (ID) models and predominant learning theories (behaviorist, cognitive and constructivist) to create effective learning experiences.

#### **EDUC 524 - Universal Design through Technology**

In this course, students plan, develop, evaluate and manage the implementation of technology in various learning environments so that all students are learning at their potential. This is accomplished by exploring the “what” of learning, relating to the need to present material in multiple formats.

### FINAL SPECIALIZATION COURSE:

In the final term, along with a Capstone Seminar project, students are required to take one elective course from one of the following USD M.Ed. specialization tracks:

- Inclusive Learning: Special Education and Universal Design (UDL)
- Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM)
- School Leadership

Students will only be able to choose from the specific courses that are offered during that term. For more information on the courses available per term as well as their descriptions, please visit the [Specializations](#) page on our website (available for download under "View Course Schedule").