



# 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.

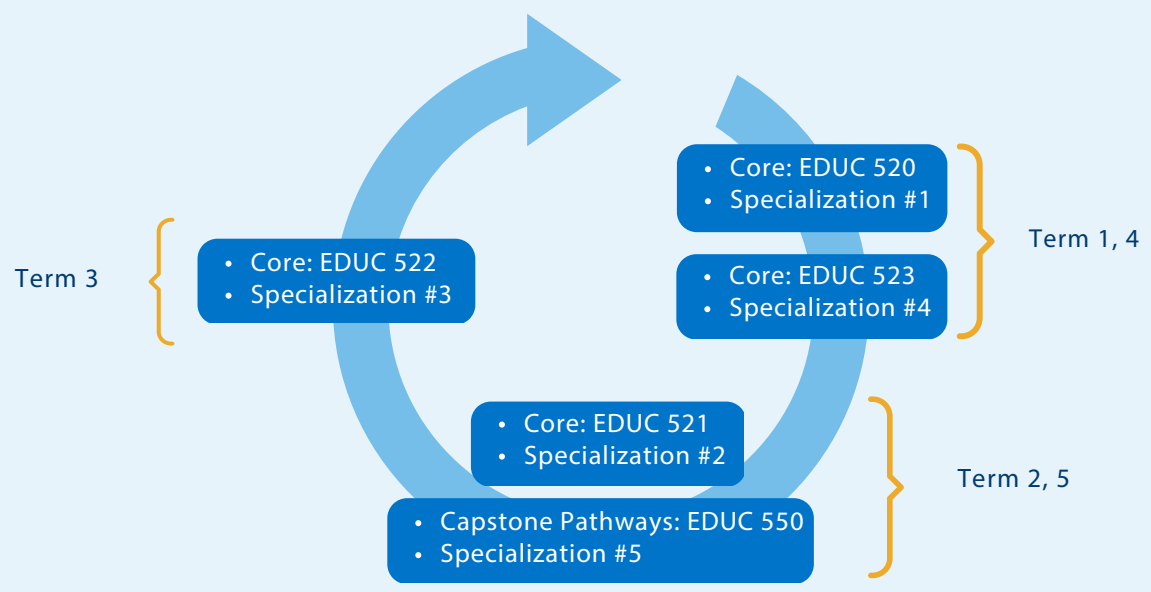
### CONTACT US

**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: INCLUSIVE LEARNING: SPECIAL EDUCATION & UNIVERSAL DESIGN

Inclusive learning provides all students with access to flexible learning choices and effective paths for achieving educational goals in spaces where they experience a sense of belonging. As special and general education teachers move toward creating more inclusive classrooms, the frameworks of Disability Studies in Education and Universal Design for Learning employ strategies to meet the expectations of IDEA and expand understanding of student ability. Students will learn how to engage all learners in the classroom as you challenge the status quo, remove curriculum barriers, present educational goals in interesting ways and serve all students equitably.

### 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 533 - Designing Learning Environments for All**

Theoretical and practical exploration of the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL). Investigation of brain research into recognition networks, strategic networks and affective networks and consideration of how these networks can inform instructional design decisions.

#### **EDUC 538 - Identifying and Responding to the Needs of Diverse Learners**

Examination of variability of ability and experience among students. Investigation and application of assessment tools and instructional design strategies that provide differentiated support for the success of all students.

#### **EDUC 586 - Teaching Students on the Autism Spectrum**

Exploration of our evolving understanding of autism in the research literature, educational practice and popular imagination. Examination and application of instructional strategies for supporting autistic students in communication, organization and social interaction.

#### **EDUC 587 - Co-Teaching: Collaborating in an Inclusive Environment**

Examination of research, policy and practice of co-teaching and collaboration models that support general education and special education students in inclusive classrooms.

#### **EDUC 588 - Disability in Education Policy and Law**

Investigation of the historical, philosophical, legal, political and sociological constructions of disability in education. Analysis of application of current law to classroom and school policies and practices.