The GCES - Teaching Students with Significant Disabilities is a four-course experience designed to meet the needs of educators.

Through the certificate, you will learn to:

• Develop an understanding of the barriers to learning that are experienced by students with significant disabilities, and how to reduce them

• Investigate evidence-based practices associated with recruiting and sustaining student interest and engagement

• Analyze materials and methods that can support students with significant disabilities to be actively involved in the learning process, with an explicit focus on language, communication, numeracy and literacy

• Explore the use of assessment tools and practices for monitoring student progress and program planning

Rise to the challenges of teaching every student.

The Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies (GCES) is for teaching professionals and other educational specialists seeking advanced professional education. The program consists of four-courses (12 credits) centered on teaching students with significant disabilities.

The GCES is a cohort-based, part-time, varied-delivery program that suits your schedule and timelines.

THE PROGRAM

Become a leader in the education of students with significant disabilities.

The Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies - Teaching Students with Significant Disabilities - provides both foundational and practical knowledge in teaching and learning for children with significant disabilities. They are students with intellectual, physical, communication, and/or multiple disabilities, and may include students with autism. These students experience communication challenges and impairment in receptive and/or expressive language and may also have sensory impairments such as vision or hearing loss or challenges with processing visual or auditory information.

The certificate is built to facilitate studying without taking a leave from your career. You will be engaged in authentic tasks and experiences directly linked to working with students with significant disabilities.

COURSES

Fall Term
EDU 595 TSSD: Designing for Diversity

Winter Term
EDU 595 TSSD: Numeracy Knowledge

Spring Term
EDU 595 TSSD: Language and Literacy

Summer Term
EDU 595 TSSD: Literacy

The Graduate Certificate may be laddered into some M.Ed. Programs (see reverse).

APPLICATIONS OPEN:

November 1 - May 31
(Start in fall term)

For more information:

uab.ca/gces
gcesinfo@ualberta.ca

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

• Four-year baccalaureate degree (or equivalent) from a recognized academic institution and a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0

• Two years of teaching experience

• English Language Proficiency (more information on website)
Laddering a Graduate Certificate into the Master of Education in Educational Studies (MES)

A Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies (GCES) or Graduate Certificate in School Leadership (GCSL) provides students with up to 12 credits in advanced standing in the MES program. Students who bring in one of the two approved Graduate Certificates will be admitted into the certificate cohort* with the following program plan:

Summer I
**EDU 510 Fundamentals of Educational Research**
Students learn how to understand and apply educational research to educational problems. Specific focus on conceptualizing methods of educational research to specific and individual educational sites and issues.

**EDU 514 Planning for Educational Change**
Students learn how educational research can enhance educational change toward school improvement, and focus on the creation of a site-based research proposal which utilizes appropriate research methods.

Fall
**EDU 515 Conducting Educational Research**
Students complete a supervised research assignment specific to their educational context. They will develop and apply knowledge and skills related to data collection, data analysis techniques and research report presentation.

Winter
Elective I
Professional Learning Electives

Spring
Elective II

Summer
**EDU 900 Program Synthesis**
A reflection and synthesis of learning from the Master of Education in Educational Studies in relation to the concepts of school/educational improvement that are the foundations of the program.

**Other Laddering Options**
The GCES and GCSL can ladder into the M.Ed. Elementary Education - Curriculum and Pedagogy. Contact elemgrad@ualberta.ca for more information.

Additionally, the GCSL can ladder into the M.Ed. in Studies in Educational Leadership. Contact epscoord@ualberta.ca for more information.

*This pathway will begin in Summer 2023. Completion of the GCES or GCSL does not guarantee acceptance into any Master's program.

**Students who are employed by school divisions that are part of the CAP program require additional approval which results in those students taking an elective in the Fall term and conducting research in the Winter term.