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 program that suits your schedule and timelines. Courses are presented online with some synchronous components.

Rise to the challenges of teaching every student.

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

**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

**COURSES**

Fall I
EDU 595 History and Ethics of Inclusive Education

Winter I
EDU 595 Educational Foundations

Fall II
EDU 595 Access to Curriculum

Winter II
EDU 595 Supporting Meaningful Lives

The Graduate Certificate may be laddered into some M.Ed. Programs.
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 are admitted with one of the two approved graduate certificates will follow this tentative program plan (subject to change):

### 2024 – 2025 Tentative Schedule – General Cohort

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer 2024</th>
<th>Fall 2024</th>
<th>Winter 2025</th>
<th>Spring 2025</th>
<th>Summer 2025</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDU 510/514</td>
<td>EDU 515**</td>
<td>Elective I</td>
<td>Elective II</td>
<td>EDU 900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Courses to Complete the M.Ed.**

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Plus two Professional Learning Electives.**
Note: These must be taken prior to taking EDU 900, unless permission has been received from the department for an altered course of study. Not all electives are offered each semester; check the website for current offerings.

**Other Laddering Options**
The GCES and GCSL can also ladder into the M.Ed. Elementary Education - Curriculum and Pedagogy. Contact essgrad3@ualberta.ca for more information.

Additionally, the GCSL can ladder into the M.Ed. in Studies in Educational Leadership. Contact essgrad2@ualberta.ca for more information.

**Faculty of Education, Professional Learning**
Website: uab.ca/prolearn | Contact: pluinfo@ualberta.ca

*Completion of the GCES or GCSL does not guarantee acceptance into any Master’s program. Course availability is dependent upon sufficient enrollment. Alternate schedules may be available for future years.*

**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.*