**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY EDUCATION**

The School of Education’s Master of Science in Elementary or Secondary Education degree program is recommended for teachers who wish to increase their effectiveness as educators and advance their skills in teaching students with a wide range of abilities and needs.

The School of Education (SOE) collaborates with other educational institutions, external partners, and surrounding communities to further excellence in educational processes and enhance the overall quality of life in those communities.

One mission of the SOE is to prepare professional educators who have the knowledge, skills and dispositions essential for becoming lead teachers. Lead teachers are those who incorporate a rich understanding of content knowledge and best professional practices to renew themselves and their professional practice through inquiry and leadership.

The advanced programs in the School of Education (SOE) are built on models that have research-based conceptual frameworks.

**DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

Candidates for admission to the graduate degrees in education must have graduated from an accredited institution of higher education with a grade point average of 2.5 or higher. The student must also hold a valid teacher’s license and submit two letters of reference from K-12 school officials.

Graduate students who are working toward a master’s degree must maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average. The student must complete a minimum of 33 credit hours of graduate courses that are appropriate to the particular graduate degree program.

**COURSEWORK**

Required coursework includes various courses in school and community relations; curriculum development; statistical data; race, class and gender issues; special education; individual instruction; classroom behavior; instructional media and technology; and strategies for educational inquiry.

Before completing the master’s degree program, each student shall complete a portfolio demonstrating his/her mastery of the program outcomes.

Students should consult with the department for additional information concerning course content and academic counseling.

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools fully accredit IU Northwest. The Indiana Professional Standards Board has approved all IU Northwest SOE programs for teacher and administrative licensing through the bachelor’s and master’s levels.

The elementary/secondary master’s degrees are based on the Lead Teacher model. This model has five program outcomes: teacher effectiveness; information technologies; curriculum design and delivery; education equity; and leadership.

The advanced programs in the SOE are built on models that have research-based conceptual frameworks.

**WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY EDUCATION?**

Teachers with master’s degrees are prepared to take on additional leadership responsibilities in their schools. They can serve as lead teachers or department chairs. They are also prepared to become more effective educators.

**HANSD-ON LEARNING**

Candidates in the graduate programs in elementary or secondary education complete field assignments in the schools where they teach.

**CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES**

Membership in the following organizations are available to students:

- Council for Exceptional Children - Indiana Northwest Chapter
- National Education Association

Both of these organizations offer more opportunities for learning and experience related to a student’s formal education.

**RELATED DEGREE OPTIONS**

Concentrations in the SOE’s graduate degrees in education include the Master of Science in Educational Leadership; the Master of Science in Secondary Education with an urban focus; the Master of Science in Elementary or Secondary Education with a special education focus; and various graduate licensure programs.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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