

# EDUCATION MA

## Program Mission

We believe in the power of education to create a strong democratic and sustainable society that honors diversity and inclusivity. The mission of the School of Education, in collaboration with our community partners, is to support the development of effective, reflective, and engaged educators who value the identities of all students, their families, and the communities they serve. We are committed to scholar-practitioner inquiry and responsible praxis-based pedagogies that serve as tools toward cultivating socially and ecologically just practices in classrooms, local communities, and beyond.

## Graduate Advising Requirement

Advising is recommended each semester for MA in education students. Upon admission to the program, graduate students are assigned a faculty advisor. Graduate students are encouraged to meet with their assigned advisors as they begin their program and each semester thereafter. The School of Education Graduate Coordinator oversees the MA in education faculty advisors. All forms and approvals requiring the signature of the graduate coordinator must be processed by the department housing the advising option.

## Requirements for the MA in Education

Requirements for the Master's Degree in Education are established by the School of Education, the student's master's advisory committee, and Graduate Studies. They include:

1. Completion of an approved program consisting of a minimum of 30 units of 400/500/600-level courses as follows:
  - a. At least 18 units in the discipline of education.
  - b. At least 18 units required for the degree in 600-level courses.
  - c. A maximum of 30 percent of the units counted toward the degree requirements may be Open University or other special session credit earned in non-matriculated status combined with all transfer coursework.
  - d. Not more than a total of 10 units of Independent Study (EDMA 697) and Master's Project (EDMA 699P) or Master's Thesis (EDMA 699T) may be applied to the degree. The Master's Project (EDMA 699P) or Master's Thesis (EDMA 699T) may not be more than six units.
  - e. Completion of required courses.
  - f. Completion of a culminating activity, courses associated with that culminating activity, and approval by the MA advisor and the department graduate coordinator. The specific culminating activity is determined in consultation with assigned advisor and/or student's masters committee.
  - g. Thesis or project: students complete EDMA 611 and EDMA 699T or EDMA 699P.
  - h. Master's degree students are required to be enrolled continuously from the time they begin their program until the degree is awarded. Continuous enrollment may be maintained either through registration as a matriculated student or through adjunct enrollment. See Graduate Education Policies (<https://catalog.csuchico.edu/graduate-requirements/graduate-education-policies/>) for a full description of continuous enrollment.

2. Recommendation for the degree by the department graduate coordinator and the Graduate Council on behalf of the faculty of the University. All forms and approvals requiring the signature of the graduate coordinator must be processed by the department housing the option.

It is the student's responsibility to meet all requirements and submit application forms for changes in graduate status. Forms for advancement in status are available from Graduate Studies and the department offices. Forms must be submitted to the appropriate graduate coordinator for approval.

## General Overview

The MA in Education is a multidisciplinary program designed for credentialed K-12 teachers or others who work in education settings. The MA program is a minimum of 30 units.

Course	Title	Units
<b>Foundation</b>		
BLMC 672	Linguistically and Culturally Responsive Educational Practices	3
EDCI 611	Analysis of Instruction	3
EDMA 600	Critical Perspectives in Education	3
EDMA 610	Introduction to Inquiry in Education	3
SPED 661	Inclusive Theories and Practices in Special Education	3
<b>Culminating Activity</b>		
Select three units from the following:		3
EDMA 696	Synthesizing Experience in Education	
EDMA 699P	Master's Project <sup>1</sup>	
EDMA 699T	Master's Thesis <sup>1</sup>	
<b>General Electives</b>		
Limited to two 500-level courses. Thesis/Project students must take EDMA 611.		
Select 12 units from the following:		12
BLMC 518	The Language and Communication Skills of English Learners	
BLMC 536	Introduction to Multicultural Education	
EDCI 656	Rural and Small School Education	
EDCI 657	Seminar in Literature for Children and Young Adults for a Multicultural World	
EDCI 675	Digital Media & Online Learning	
EDMA 611	Research Seminar in Education	
EDTE 663	Literacy Development and Assessment	
EDUC 504	Teaching with Technology	
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>30</b>

<sup>1</sup> Must be taken for three units.

## Graduate Grading Requirements

All courses in the major (with the exceptions of Independent Study - 697, Comprehensive Examination - 696, Master's Project - 699P, and Master's Thesis - 699T) must be taken for a letter grade, except those courses specified by the department as ABC/No Credit (400/500-level courses), AB/No Credit (600-level courses), or Credit/No Credit grading only. A maximum of 10 units combined of ABC/No Credit, AB/No Credit, and Credit/No Credit grades may be used on the approved program (including

697, 696, 699P, 699T and courses outside the major). While grading standards are determined by individual programs and instructors, it is also the policy of the University that unsatisfactory grades may be given when work fails to reflect achievement of the high standards, including high writing standards, expected of students pursuing graduate study.

Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 grade point average in each of the following three categories: all coursework taken at any accredited institution subsequent to admission to the master's program; all coursework taken at California State University, Chico subsequent to admission to the program; and all courses on the approved master's degree program.

Continuous enrollment is required. At the discretion of the academic program, a maximum of 30 percent of the units counted toward the degree requirements may be special session credit earned in non-matriculated status combined with all transfer coursework. This applies to special session credit earned through Open University, or in courses offered for academic credit through Professional & Continuing Education. This also applies to coursework completed for a preliminary teaching credential at Chico State. Correspondence courses and UC Extension coursework are not acceptable for transfer.

## Graduate Time Limit

All requirements for the degree are to be completed within seven years of the end of the semester of enrollment in the oldest course applied toward the degree. See Master's Degree Requirements (<https://catalog.csuchico.edu/graduate-requirements/masters-degree-requirements/>) for complete details on general degree requirements.

## Graduate Requirement in Writing Proficiency

All students must demonstrate competency in writing skills as a requirement for graduation. Students in the MA in education demonstrate writing proficiency through a combination of exercises beginning with the Initial Education Writing Assessment, submitted as part of the program application process, and continuing throughout the program. Specifically, with the application for Advancement to Candidate status, students submit a selected EDMA 610 writing assignment and a second writing assignment specified by program option faculty. These assignments are evaluated to determine graduate-level writing proficiency.

## Admission and Advancement in the MA in Education

To be admitted to the MA in education, students must hold an acceptable baccalaureate from an accredited institution and have attained grade point averages of at least 2.5 overall, 2.75 in the last 60 units, and 3.0 in the last 30 units. Students must also pass the Initial Education Writing Assessment sent to them at the time of application for admission. Students meeting these requirements will be admitted to Classified Status.

Students who do not meet all requirements above may be admitted to Conditionally Classified status to address needs through additional preparation. Conditionally Classified students will complete 12 units of courses designated by the department's Graduate Coordinator with a minimum GPA of 3.0 and will satisfy any program specified criteria for admission to Classified Status.

Graduate students having Classified Status can apply for Advancement to Candidate status after successfully completing 15 units of program courses, including EDMA 610, with a GPA of 3.0 or higher, the second writing proficiency assessment, and filing a master's degree program plan. Students submit an application for Advancement to Candidate status to their MA advisor/committee chair. Approval of the department's Graduate Coordinator is also required.

For additional information, see the Graduate Requirements (<https://catalog.csuchico.edu/graduate-requirements/>) and check with department offices in the School of Education.