

FACULTY CONTACT

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Visit East Carolina University online at www.ecu.edu.



Tomorrow starts here.

East Carolina University is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, creed, sexual orientation, or disability. An equal opportunity/affirmative action university, which accommodates the needs of individuals with disabilities.

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COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Education (MAEd) in Adult Education

MAEd IN ADULT EDUCATION

Education is a lifelong journey. While learning takes place inside and outside the classroom, professional educators play a special role in that journey, and they make a positive difference in the lives of their students in varied and significant ways.

In the field of adult education, the best teachers are those who are committed to promoting the diversity of adult learners. They must be knowledgeable, proficient, and reflective in their practice. They must be critical in their thinking. They must be committed to the social and intellectual empowerment of others. They must be active as advocates for learning throughout adulthood, both for themselves and for others.

East Carolina prepares those kinds of educators.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The adult education program at ECU began in 1976 and responds to the needs of professional educators in a wide variety of settings. This program is designed for instructors, trainers, administrators, and others who teach adults or design or evaluate educational programs for adults wherever they work, learn, or live. As a student in this program, you will focus on developing the theoretical and practical foundation for critical thinking and effective practice that you will need as a professional. Your course work will prepare you to initiate, develop, implement, and evaluate effective educational programs for adults.

Adult education students come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences that enrich the program's diversity. Students work in community colleges and higher education, adult literacy, health care, law enforcement, business and industry, government and military, and community-based organizations. The majority of students are part-time, and classes are offered online, via other distance education means, and at night.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applications may be submitted electronically or downloaded and mailed to the Graduate School. For additional information and assistance, call 252-328-6012 or visit www.ecu.edu/gradschool.

Admission to the program is based on the following:

1. Official transcripts from schools attended and an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher.
2. Test scores from the MAT or GRE. (To register for the test at ECU, call the Testing Center at 252-328-6811.)
3. Three sealed letters of recommendation, addressed to the graduate coordinator of the adult education program, from supervisors, former professors, and others who can attest to the applicant's ability to do academic work and potential as a future adult educator.

Applicants who meet the minimum admission standards are invited for a personal interview with the adult education faculty and are asked for a spontaneous writing sample at that time.

Factors such as relevant work experience, motivation, and future career goals are considered in addition to academic requirements.

The faculty will then make a recommendation to the Graduate School and the Graduate School will notify the applicant regarding official admission status.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

The Graduate School
Ragsdale Hall, Room 131
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858-4353
252-328-6012
www.ecu.edu/gradschool/

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The MAEd program requires a minimum of 36 semester hours, including 18 hours of core courses and 18 hours of electives chosen in consultation with an advisor. Completion of a thesis or internship is optional. Students prepare and present a culminating adult education reflective portfolio as part of their degree-completion requirements.

Core courses focus on the fundamentals of adult and continuing education, including learning theory and development, instructional strategies and program planning, organization and administration, research, and the historical and philosophical foundations of the discipline. Electives include such topic areas as training and HRD, gerontology, literacy, community colleges, effective instruction, and grant writing. Please see a full listing and description of courses online at www.ecu.edu/cs-educ/coad/aecoursedescriptions.cfm.

OTHER ELECTIVES

Students may take all their course work in adult education or they may take up to 9 hours of electives in an area outside of adult education. Elective courses are chosen by the student and advisor according to career goals, interests, and previous experience.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE INSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE

If you are a community college instructor, guest lecturer, program director, or continuing education staff or faculty member, you can earn a certificate in community college instruction from East Carolina. During this 15-hour distance education program, you will prepare a portfolio you can present to current and prospective employers to demonstrate your proficiency in the field.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

A limited number of graduate assistant positions are available each semester in the department and across campus for ten or twenty hours per week. Students may apply for an assistantship after admission to the program. Students may also contact the Office of Financial Aid at 252-328-6610 or the Student Professional Development office at 252-328-6050.

Graduate Fellowship awards are available to graduate students accepted for admission and enrolled in adult education. Selection of the fellowship award is based on scholarship and commitment to the field of adult education.