

GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAM



The Gifted Education program provides educators with the skills and knowledge necessary to work with gifted and able students. The curriculum is appropriate for teachers, whether they provide instruction in gifted programs or teach in inclusive settings. The M.Ed. in gifted education, graduate certificate in the gifted education, and gifted endorsement are designed to meet the needs of busy education professionals.

In the gifted education courses, faculty use cutting-edge expertise to facilitate the exchange of ideas and networking. The core courses, area of specialization and practicum will challenge and reward students in this program.

DEGREES/CONCENTRATIONS

The coursework for each program fully meets the requirements for the next larger program, providing students with the flexibility to build upon their previous coursework.

ENDORSEMENT IN GIFTED EDUCATION 12-credit program

The fundamental goal of the Pennsylvania Department of Education-approved gifted education endorsement is to prepare teachers who will be effective in helping gifted students achieve social, emotional and academic success in the school setting. This fully online program is intended to provide teachers with the knowledge and skills needed to work with students, families and the community to provide a continuum of services and a nurturing learning environment for a diverse range of gifted learners. The endorsement can be completed in three semesters, with offerings provided during the fall, spring and summer semesters.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN GIFTED EDUCATION 18-credit program

The certificate program is a fully online distance-learning program that can be completed in four semesters, with offerings provided during the fall, spring and summer semesters. The certificate program is delivered in an asynchronous online format to enhance convenience and access for students. The completed certificate can be applied in its entirety towards the requirements for the Master of Education degree in gifted education.

THE MASTER OF EDUCATION IN GIFTED EDUCATION (M.ED.) 36-credit program

The Master of Education degree in gifted education is designed to provide the specialized knowledge needed by teachers and other educational personnel who work with gifted and able students (K-12). The curriculum is appropriate for teachers, whether they provide instruction in special programs for the gifted or teach in inclusive settings. The M.Ed. degree in gifted education does not confer teacher certification.

The Department of Early, Middle and Exceptional Education (EMEE) is responsible for the gifted education program, although the program itself is multidisciplinary. Courses in the gifted education program are taught by graduate faculty members from the EMEE, educational foundations and psychology departments. In addition to the core courses students are required to take, the program allows for students to choose an area of specialization.

- Structured for full-time and part-time students.
- Can be taken 100% online in an asynchronous format.
- The coursework is applicable for educators working in public schools and non-public school settings.
- More than half of the faculty members serve on the executive board of the Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education (PAGE) and are actively involved in research and advocacy for gifted learners.
- Most of the face-to-face course options are offered in the evening and over the summer to accommodate teachers' schedules.
- The M.Ed. in gifted education is multidisciplinary.



OPPORTUNITIES

Students in each of our programs have multiple opportunities for field experiences to observe and work directly with gifted students.

GRADUATES

Students in the gifted education program will gain the knowledge and skills necessary to work with K-12 students who are identified as gifted and talented.

The Master of Education in gifted education, graduate certificate in gifted education, and the gifted endorsement will prepare students for professional careers as educators of the gifted. Through each of these programs, they will have obtained the research-based skills needed to work with gifted students in regular education classrooms or in settings specifically designed for gifted students.

FACULTY

The members of the faculty are experts in their fields. Faculty members have extensive combined experience as gifted support teachers and coordinators in K-12 classrooms.

Many of the faculty members serve on the executive board of PAGE and are actively involved in research and advocacy for gifted learners.

FACTS

- Flexible course offerings (fall, spring and summer).
- Online degree program.
- Gifted education endorsement can be completed in three semesters.
- Gifted education certificate can be completed in four semesters.

OUR GRADUATES



"In education there is a growing need for rigorous and relevant teaching to meet the unique social, emotional and intellectual needs of students with exceptionalities. Millersville University's gifted program prepared me, as a practicing professional to empower, advocate for, and motivate gifted learners within the classroom. The program

explores essential and crucial topics to create a foundation for innovative educational practices, creative strategies and effective programming to impact gifted learners."

~Nicole Reppert (M.Ed. 2013)



"It took the opportunity to get a degree in gifted education for me to finally pursue my master's degree. I was very happy with the knowledgeable faculty and the coursework that was offered. Even after spending many years in the field of gifted, I feel the experience was beneficial to my job as a gifted support teacher."

~Amy D'Amico (M.Ed. 2014)



"Too often our gifted and talented students are pushed to the back of the classroom and are forgotten. I chose to further my education specifically in Gifted Education to gain the knowledge and skills to better provide differentiation and support for our advanced learners so that they are not left behind. Millersville fostered my passion for this group of students and has prepared me even more as a teacher and advocate for this small population. I am

stronger and more knowledgeable of the gifted learner as a whole and am much more confident in my abilities when working with classroom teachers thanks to this program."

~Stacey Hughes (M.Ed. 2016)



"In addressing the curricular, social, and emotional needs of gifted students, my Millersville coursework prepared me for life as a teacher of gifted students in a way that I could not have been before. My professors were experts in the field and came equipped with an array of experiences and suggestions to ensure that when I worked with my students, they were receiving an experience that was tailored to meet their individual goals and

needs. Without my time in Millersville University's gifted program, I do not believe I would be as successful in meeting the diverse needs of my gifted students as I am today."

~Ryan Humphries (M.Ed. 2016)