

Master of Education Comprehensive Exam

Core Study Guide

Elementary Education, Montessori Education, Secondary Education, and Special Education M.Ed. Programs

Students are permitted three (3) hours to complete the comprehensive exam. The exam is online, using Respondus Lockdown Browser. You may complete the exam at a location of your choice. You are not permitted to use any resources (books, websites, notes, etc. during the exam).

The Master of Education Core consists of three courses. They are as follows:

EDFD 500 History and Philosophy of American Education

EDFD 505 Organization of Education Systems in U.S.

EDFD 507 Educational Research

The material on the comprehensive exam is covered in the Master of Education Core.

Please be prepared to respond to essay questions on the following topics, from the Master of Education Core courses, through the lens of your concentration area (Elementary, Montessori, Secondary, or Special Education):

1. Philosophical Orientation to Teaching

Identify and define two major philosophies or theories of education through the lens of your concentration area (Elementary, Montessori, Secondary, or Special Education) and connect those ideas to your own philosophy of education. How do you, or will you, apply it?

2. Social Justice and Education Equity

Consider the policies, processes, and mandates that are part of the educational system. Select an event, a policy, or relevant research or scholarship, and critically analyze it through an equity lens.

3. Student Research

Outline your research and research process. Write a reflection about how this research will impact and inform your professional practice moving forward.

4. Organizational Structure, Culture, Policy, and Change in Education

Critique at least two educational structures, policies, or trends, that have historically and/or in the present influenced the field of education. (Please do not repeat examples from 2nd topic above.)