

## Gifted Education

What does it mean to be “gifted”? How are teaching strategies for advanced and gifted students different from effective practices that are relevant for all students? What are the unique socio-emotional needs of high-ability and gifted students that should be considered in an affective curriculum and counseling? How should culturally and linguistically diverse high-ability students be identified and served? How can teachers nurture the development of creative productivity? These questions will be addressed throughout the Gifted Education program.

## Benefits of the Program

The UCF Department of Learning Sciences and Educational Research provides a unique opportunity for teachers and other professionals to earn a graduate certificate online while balancing the responsibilities of work, family, and professional development.

- Web-based delivery of gifted courses
- Experienced, expert, international faculty
- Coursework uses National Teacher Preparation Standards for Gifted Education in the Certificate, and Advanced Standards in Gifted Education Teacher Training in the Master’s Degree (NAGC/CEC)
- All certificate credits (15) may be applied toward a master’s degree in Curriculum and Instruction
- Individualized advisement and field research and observations
- Modification of content for teacher's context and research interests
- The development of a cumulative Professional Portfolio in Gifted
- Enhancement of knowledge and skills related to gifted education
- Professional credentials

## Target Audiences

The Gifted Education graduate certificate program is designed for:

- K-12 classroom teachers
- Counselors
- Administrators
- UCF CEDHP graduates
- Gifted education professionals
- Others interested in gifted education

The Masters in Curriculum and Instruction

Gifted Track:

- Develops teacher leaders in Gifted Education
- Focuses on gifted curriculum design, development and implementation
- Includes action research on problems of practice
- Advanced professional practice and responsibilities in gifted education

## Admission

In addition to the admission criteria established by the university, applicants must have a valid teaching certificate OR graduate degree.

*Training provided by local school districts does not qualify for course credit within the program. However, experienced teachers in gifted education can compact the curriculum to work on advanced content or research to meet their academic and professional development needs.*

**For information about the Gifted Education program, please contact the program coordinator:**

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# Graduate Certificate

## Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction

(Teacher Leadership)

# Gifted Education

(Web-based Gifted courses)

College of Community Innovation and Education



UNIVERSITY OF  
CENTRAL FLORIDA

## Gifted Education Courses Required for Graduate Certificate

The Gifted Education graduate program prepares educators to facilitate the unique learning skills of advanced, high-ability, gifted and talented learners and ensures preparedness to provide a range of services and programs, with enriched and accelerated academic opportunities for students with advanced educational needs.

UCF's program uses the National Standards for Professional Development of Teachers of the Gifted (National Association for Gifted Children and Council for Exceptional Children). The 15 credit hours earned in the certificate program fulfill the professional development requirements necessary to apply for an endorsement to the Florida teaching certificate in gifted education.

In addition, these credits can be applied toward a Master's degree in Education (MEd.) program in Curriculum and Instruction Gifted Track (Teacher Leadership) at UCF (which requires 30-36 credit hours minimum beyond the Bachelor Degree, with either a thesis or non-thesis option). The MEd requires a course-based action research study and completion of a capstone experience (research report or thesis). The Gifted Track for Teacher Leadership program addresses teacher empowerment and leadership in the expanded roles and responsibilities of teachers in schools, including data-driven assessment for school improvement, professional learning communities, applying research to practice, improving instruction and student learning outcomes, and collaboration with families and communities.

Further, the Masters Degree (M.Ed.) can serve as the foundation for higher level research leading to doctoral research as an Educational Specialist degree.

**EGI 6051 Understanding Gifted/Talented Students** Explore the nature of giftedness and the learning needs of students in relation to their intelligence, creativity, and culture.

**EGI 6245 Curriculum and Instruction for Teachers of Advanced, Gifted and Talented Learners** Develop skills and strategies for planning appropriate continuum of services and programs through a differentiated curriculum that is challenging, rigorous and contextually relevant.

**EGI 6246 Education of Special Populations of Gifted Students** Examine critical issues that impact special populations of gifted students including: underserved; the culturally and linguistically diverse; economically disadvantaged, marginalized, underachievers, twice-exceptional, highly-gifted, and young gifted. Addresses multicultural gifted education.

**EGI 6417 Counseling and Guidance Strategies for Teachers of Gifted and Talented Individuals** Develop skills and strategies to implement Affective curriculum guidance and counseling programs for the unique socio-emotional needs of the gifted/ talented student. Differentiated for both teacher and counselor roles and responsibilities.

**EGI 6305 The Nature and Development of Creativity** Explore research about the nature and development of creativity, the creative person, the creative process and creative productivity.

**Elective (required for M.Ed):**

**EGI6247 Developing Advanced Curriculum Programs and Services: Acceleration and Enrichment for Academically and Intellectually Gifted Learners** Address current trends and research-based strategies to implement acceleration and enrichment approaches and examine differentiated assessment strategies. Applies to a specific content area - Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Languages, Art

Courses in this program have been specifically designed for delivery online and integrate the most efficient group communication technologies to create interactive, collaborative learning communities. New and emerging technologies are infused in course content, delivery and productivity with alternative formats for assignments, learning tasks and research. Students with advanced knowledge or experience can compact specific sections to work on higher level curriculum extension activities or research.

Faculty members are highly qualified instructors with diverse professional backgrounds and have received international recognition for excellence in the field of gifted education.

The certificate program can be completed in one year (2 in Fall, 2 in Spring, 1 in Summer). Students are able to continue working and/or teaching while completing authentic, relevant, online learning assignments tailored to their needs.

Please refer to the Graduate Catalog for the authoritative program description. <http://www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu>