

LSU SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN GIFTED EDUCATION

Thank you for your interest in LSU's graduate programs in Gifted Education. We are proud to offer mentorship and coursework that is based upon Louisiana certification requirements and nationally adopted standards for graduate programs in this field. Successful completion of these degrees will prepare graduate students for classroom teaching, district administration, and high level scholarly research.

In the School of Education, we offer four programs for those interested in gifted education:

Master of Education

The **M.Ed.** degree is designed for the professional development of teachers seeking a master's degree and preparation as teachers of the academically gifted. The program is flexible enough to accommodate both full-time and part-time graduate students, yet maintain the cohort model. Most courses are offered on a 12-month cycle. The M.Ed. in Gifted Education requires six hours in research and assessment, 18 hours in gifted education, nine hours of electives in one content/teaching field, and a three-hour practicum in gifted education. LSU requires that a master's degree be finished in five calendar years.

Add-On Certification

For students who have already earned master's degrees in other areas of education, we offer all of the courses required by the Louisiana Department of Education for certification as a teacher of the gifted.

Certificate of Education Specialist

The **Ed.S.** certificate is intended primarily for teachers, counselors, supervisors, and administrators in elementary and secondary schools. This program provides in-depth opportunities for further professional growth and specialization for persons who have completed the master's degree. A minimum of 60 hours of graduate credit—which may include hours earned in the master's degree—is required. Individuals interested in pursuing an Ed.S. certificate with specialization in gifted education should consult one of the program's faculty members. There is no time limit on this degree, but you must be continually enrolled.

Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction

The **Ph.D.** in Curriculum and Instruction is structured to support interdisciplinary studies and individualization for researchers and practitioners. Advanced course work and research in the liberal arts and social sciences are emphasized. Individuals interested in pursuing a Ph.D. with specialization in gifted education should consult one of the program's faculty members. You have seven years (post-masters or post-Ed.S.) to complete the Ph.D.

Information about each of these programs is attached.

In this packet you will find:

- a list of contacts
- directions on how to get started with the application process

- Graduate School requirements for each degree
- a worksheet listing courses required
- catalog descriptions of each course with semesters most commonly offered
- most common course sequences
- an introductory information sheet for you to fill out and return

FACULTY IN GIFTED EDUCATION:

Dr. Neil Mathews, Program Director

fnathe1@lsu.edu

225.578.6867

223 Peabody Hall

L.S.U. GRADUATE SCHOOL:

GRADUATE ADMISSIONS 131 David Boyd Hall 578-2311

GRADUATE RECORDS 114 David Boyd Hall 578-3181

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION:

Dr. Kristin Gansle Director of Graduate Programs

kgansle@lsu.edu

225.578.6780

Peabody Hall

Ms. Lois Stewart

lstewart@lsu.edu

225.578.6810

223 Peabody Hall

CHECKLIST FOR GETTING STARTED

_____ Get a copy of the **LSU GRADUATE CATALOG** (LSU Bookstore or online), which lists program requirements, financial aid opportunities and courses offered.

_____ Get a DVD copy (from the Graduate School in DAVID Boyd Hall) or bookmark the website of the **LSU GRADUATE SCHOOL BULLETIN**, which contains current Graduate School regulations, applications, fees, deadlines, and checklists.

_____ Print out a copy of the current **Academic Calendar** from the **www.lsu.edu**.

_____ Make two copies of **your transcripts** for all undergraduate and graduate courses you've completed. (The Graduate School will require official copies of your transcripts; and your advisor will appreciate copies to help you plan your program.)

_____ Apply under one of the categories listed on the following page. (**M.Ed., Ed.S., Ph.D.**)

_____ Submit three letters of recommendation on letterhead for the graduate program in gifted education, and an essay, to Ms. Lois Stewart in the Department of Educational Theory, Policy and Practice.

Essay topic: *Please make a brief statement concerning your proposed program of graduate study. In your statement, you should address such matters as areas of interest, your plans for development, and (for applicants to the doctoral programs) possible dissertation topics. The essay should be typed and approximately 500 words in length.*

_____ **Meet with an advisor. Bring a copy of your transcripts with you!**

If you are seeking a master's degree or certification only, please contact Dr. Jolly (jjolly@lsu.edu) for assignment to an advisor. Ed.S. and Ph.D. candidates are encouraged to meet with each of the faculty and select an advisor congruent with their interests.

Here are some of the things that we will try to take care of in your first meeting:

- If you are taking courses for **certification only** (not a masters degree), we will go over the state certification requirements and suggest coursework you need.
- If you are applying for the **M.Ed. in Gifted Education**, we will give you a course checklist and record any of those courses you may have already taken.
- If you are applying for the **Ed.S. Certificate**, we will help you submit the department's *Program Change form* (if applicable) and department's *Education Specialist Worksheet*. (Prior to your final semester you will also need to submit the *Certificate of Education Specialist Application for Degree* found on the Graduate School website under Forms.)
- If you are applying for the **Ph.D., and you have met the additional Gifted Education program requirements**, we will help you submit the department's *Program Change Form* (if applicable) and the Graduate School's *Program of Study for the Doctoral Degree*. At this time, you will also choose an Advisory Committee.
- We will help you decide what classes to schedule for your first several semesters.

AS YOU PROGRESS: Plan to meet with your advisor every semester, **especially the semester before the semester in which you hope to graduate!** There is quite a bit of paperwork required for the **Gifted Education Praxis Exam** and for the awarding of your degree. Committee members are busy and may not be available every semester due to sabbatical or other leaves. Don't wait until the last minute to check that all requirements have been met.

GRADUATE SCHOOL ADMISSION CATEGORIES

Regular Admission (sometimes called Degree-Seeking) Students are those new to the LSU graduate school. You must submit the completed application, an application fee, transcripts from all universities attended, and GRE scores. At this time, you should also notify Ms. Lois Stewart in our department's office.

Provisional Admission Students are those who will probably be admitted but have not had time to submit all of the required credentials. After being accepted through Provisional Admission, you have 60 days (45 in summer) to submit whatever is missing. Be careful! You can only take six hours under this category (they must be continuous), and if you are fully admitted later, they will be counted as transfer credits (of which there are specific limits).

Probationary Admission Students are those who fail to meet one of the requirements for regular admission, but there is other "evidence of the capacity to do satisfactory work" in graduate school. You may be admitted on probation for a total of nine hours, but you must maintain a 3.0 GPA.

Non-Degree Admission (also called Non-Matriculating) Students are those who aren't sure yet if they want a degree or those who already have a Masters degree and only need a few hours for additional certification. However, there are limits to this category. You must register for at least one course every semester. You cannot take more than six hours numbered 6000 and above. No more than 12 hours of non-matriculating credit (*combined with credit transferred from other universities*) can be applied toward a masters degree.

International Graduate Students: There are more specific requirements for you. Please seek the help of an admission specialist in the Graduate School office.

Special Cases:

If you have completed an **LSU Holmes Program** master's degree recently, or are enrolled in the Holmes graduate year, and you want to add certification in Gifted Education, you do not have to reapply, but you should contact Dr. Culross for a program advisor. There is a *Program Change Form* which will move you from a masters program into the **Ed.S.** program. (Gifted certification requires at least 15 hours which you have not had, which is too many hours to be able to use the Non-Matriculating option.)

If you have a masters degree from LSU, you can apply for an **Ed.S.** in the same way as Holmes students do. (This certificate has sometimes been referred to – erroneously - as a "Plus 30" in the past.)

If you are interested in applying for a **Ph.D.**, you should meet with faculty members first. There are more stringent application requirements for this degree.

Both the **Ed.S.** and the **Ph.D.** require a "Program of Study" and an advisory committee be put into place.

REQUIREMENTS FOR LOUISIANA STATE CERTIFICATION IN GIFTED EDUCATION

(from Louisiana Department of Education website)

Fifteen (15) graduate hours of prescribed coursework from the following list either within a Master's degree program or as an add-on to an existing Master's degree:

Characteristics/Study of Gifted Individuals (EDCI 7760 at LSU)

Methods of Teaching the Gifted (EDCI 7761 at LSU)

Creative Thinking and Problem Solving **OR** (EDCI 7762 at LSU)
Curriculum Development for the Gifted (EDCI 7763 at LSU)

Social and Emotional Needs of the Gifted (EDCI 7764 at LSU)

Educational Technology (ELRC 4507 at LSU)

Three (3) hours in a practicum for academically gifted;
or an internship for college credit in academically gifted;
or three (3) years of successful teaching in academically gifted.

NOTE:

Academically gifted certification will be valid only in the teaching area(s) in which one is certified. The secondary teacher of academically gifted students who is to award Carnegie Units in the secondary subject area(s) must be certified in the subject area(s) in which Carnegie Units are awarded. Elementary and secondary teachers who are also certified in academically gifted may offer approved special education elective (enrichment) courses at either the elementary or secondary level.

L.S.U. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER'S DEGREE

Satisfaction of the minimum requirements of the Graduate School does not relieve master's students of the responsibility for satisfying any additional requirements deemed appropriate by the graduate faculty of the degree program in which they are enrolled.

Hours Required

In programs not requiring a thesis, the minimum requirement is normally 36 semester hours. At least one-half of the minimum required credit in the student's master's program must be in courses at or above the 7000 level. Transfer work from other institutions may not be counted toward this requirement. A student's efforts will be concentrated in one major field, but a department may require a minor of six or more semester hours of credit in one or more related fields.

A *maximum* of 12 semester hours of transfer credit from other schools and/or credit taken while classified as a non-matriculating student may be used in a master's degree program if approved by the department chair and the dean of the Graduate School.

Application for Degree

Early in each semester, there is a deadline for submitting the "Application for Degree" to the Graduate School. Master's candidates are required to submit the "Application for Degree" cover sheet along with the Master's Application for Degree forms. On these forms a student lists all course work taken that applies toward the degree. Submission of the application carries with it the implication that the student intends to graduate that semester

Time Limit

Programs for master's degrees must be completed within five years from entrance into a degree program. Credit for individual courses taken at LSU more than five years before the termination of a program may be re-validated by the student's graduate committee, usually through an examination. The results of such an examination must be signed by all members of the committee and reported to the Graduate School before the request for the student's final examination will be approved. For regulations regarding time limits and eligibility of transfer work, see the section "Transfer of Credit."

Comprehensive Final Examination

Candidates for master's degrees in most programs are required to pass a comprehensive final examination. This examination may be oral, written, or both, depending on the requirements of the department concerned. In non-thesis programs, greater weight is ordinarily given to this examination, and it will probably be broader in scope than the examination given to a student who completes a thesis. Normally, a candidate for the master's degree will take the final examination during the semester in which he or she plans to graduate. To be eligible to take the final exam, the student must have a 3.00 cumulative average. Examinations may not be scheduled between semesters.

At least three weeks prior to the time this examination is to be given (and by the current semester deadline, if the student is a degree candidate), the student's department should submit to the Graduate School a request for appointment of the examining committee. The major professor serves as chair or co-chair of the examining committee.

Courses Specific to Gifted Education

EDCI 7760 Nature and Needs of the Gifted and Talented (3 credit hours)

Historical perspective, social, emotional, and educational characteristics; administrative considerations; major sociological and psychological studies; special populations of gifted and talented students.

OFFERED FALL SEMESTER (hybrid course)

EDCI 7761 Models and Strategies for Teaching the Gifted (3 credit hours)

An examination of the curricular models, teaching strategies and resource materials for planning appropriate learning experiences for gifted and talented students in diverse settings.

OFFERED SPRING SEMESTER

EDCI 7762 Creative Behavior (3 credit hours)

The nature and analysis of creative behavior; the appraisal and implementation of specific process designed to encourage creative productivity.

OFFERED FALL SEMESTER

EDCI 7763 Developing Curriculum for the Gifted (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: EDCI 7760 and EDCI 7761

An examination of curricular theories for planning appropriate learning experiences for the gifted and talented, including the development and evaluation of educational plans for individuals and groups.

OFFERED SUMMER SEMESTER (hybrid course)

EDCI 7764 Social and Emotional Development of the Gifted (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: EDCI 7760

In-depth study of the social and emotional development of the gifted; specific emphasis on under-achievement, counseling, youth with special needs, and working with other mental health professionals in the school setting.

OFFERED SPRING SEMESTER

ELRC 4507 Computer Technology in Education (3 credit hours)

Applications of computers in instruction; educational data processing, computer-assisted and computer-managed instruction; information storage and retrieval; use of micro/mini computers.

OFFERED FALL, SPRING, SUMMER

EDCI 7768 Practicum in Education for the Gifted (3–6 credit hours)

Prerequisites: EDCI 7760, 7761, 7763, 7764, ELRC 4507, and consent of instructor

Planning, implementing and evaluating strategies, materials, and counseling techniques in a school setting.

OFFERED SUMMER SEMESTER

EDCI 7930 Seminar in Gifted Education (special topics) (3-6 credit hours)

OFFERED AS NEEDED

COURSEWORK REQUIRED—M.Ed. in Gifted Education

I. RESEARCH AND MEASUREMENT—6 hours required

ELRC 4249 Understanding and Applying Research in Education

ELRC 4006 Applied Statistics in Education

II. GIFTED EDUCATION CONCENTRATION—21 hours required

All of the following courses must be taken:

EDCI 7760 Nature and Needs of the Gifted

EDCI 7761 Models and Strategies for Teaching the Gifted

EDCI 7762 Creative Behavior

EDCI 7763 Developing Curriculum for the Gifted

EDCI 7764 Social and Emotional Development of the Gifted

EDCI 7768 Practicum in Gifted Education

ELRC 4507 Computer Technology in Education (or equivalent)

IV. ELECTIVE TEACHING FIELD—9 hours required

elementary majors: EDCI 7105, 7108, 7109, 7110; 7111, 7130, 7131, 7312, 7313, 7314, 7315,

7843, 7844, 7845, 7846, 7930 or approved courses outside the School of Education.

secondary majors: 9 hours of advanced coursework in one content area, **for example:**

Math 4024, 4158, 4200, 4700; **Biol** 4015, 4055, 4155, 4253; **Chem** 4010, 4150, 4596, 6001;

Geol 4066, 4067, 4081, 4666; **Phys** 6111, 6121, 6141, 6991; **Hist** 4065, 4079, 4100, 7908;

Engl 4001, 4007, 4055, 4071; **Fren** 7042, 7051, 7206; **Span** 4005, 4147, 4201, 7983.....

Course sequence alternatives:

We value the development of a community of learners among graduate students in gifted education and, therefore, strive to organize cohorts of students that progress through courses together. For this reason, we strongly recommend that you begin coursework in the Fall semester if at all possible.

<u>SEMESTER</u>	<u>MASTERS</u> <u>3 HRS. PER SEMESTER</u>	<u>MASTERS</u> <u>6 HRS. PER SEMESTER</u>
FALL 1	EDCI 7760	EDCI 7760, research
SPRING 1	EDCI 7761	EDCI 7761, research
SUMMER 1	EDCI 7763	EDCI 7763, ELRC 4507
FALL 2	EDCI 7762	EDCI 7762, elective
SPRING 2	EDCI 7764	EDCI 7764, elective
SUMMER 2	ELRC 4507	elective, EDCI 7768
FALL 3	elective	
SPRING 3	research	
SUMMER 3	research	
FALL 4	elective	
SPRING 4	elective	
SUMMER 4	EDCI 7768	

<u>SEMESTER</u>	<u>CERTIFICATION ONLY*</u> <u>3 HRS/ SEM.</u>	<u>CERTIFICATION ONLY*</u> <u>6 HRS/ SEM.</u>
	* for students who already hold Master's degrees	
FALL 1	EDCI 7760	EDCI 7760, EDCI 7762
SPRING 1	EDCI 7761	EDCI 7761, EDCI 7764
SUMMER 1	EDCI 7763	EDCI 7768, ELRC 4507
FALL 2	ELRC 4507	
SPRING 2	EDCI 7764	
SUMMER 2	EDCI 7768	

Please complete this sheet and bring it to your advisor.

STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET

NAME _____ LSU I.D. # _____

ADDRESS _____ E-MAIL _____

_____ ADVISOR _____

PHONE (HOME) _____ BEST TO USE WHEN? _____

PHONE (CELL) _____ BEST TO USE WHEN? _____

PHONE (WORK) _____ BEST TO USE WHEN? _____

DEGREES COMPLETED: DEGREE UNIVERSITY YEAR

TEACHING EXPERIENCE :

CURRENT: SCHOOL GRADE GIFTED? HOW MANY YEARS?

PAST:

WHAT GIFTED COURSES HAVE YOU ALREADY COMPLETED?

COURSE INSTRUCTOR UNIVERSITY