

Fitchburg State University

&

**Massachusetts Association of
Vocational Administrators**

Master of Education

Pedagogy & Learning Program

(Formerly Curriculum and Teaching)

Master of Education Program

Pedagogy & Learning, MEd (non-licensure)

Program designed to assist practicing educators in developing advanced skills in teaching, including curriculum development, adaptation for diverse learners, and enhancing content knowledge in your field of licensure.

Program Overview

The MEd in Pedagogy and Learning is a non-licensure degree program designed to enhance teaching skills in key areas. **However**, for those students seeking to further their licensure with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), this program offers the flexibility to accumulate the required graduate-level credits in their teaching field and apply them to a master's degree.

Earn your master's degree in as little as two years with flexible online or hybrid classes.

For Vocational Teachers

You can apply all of your 6 OCED licensure courses (up to 18 credits) towards this program as long as you have taken the licensure courses at the graduate level for credit. You can also apply the 3 graduate credits from the SEI Endorsement Course.

In addition, if you have completed the MAVA Leadership Academy 1, you can apply the additional 6 graduate credits to this program.

This means.....

Instructors in the Vocational areas can use their Graduate Level licensure courses to fulfill up to 21 of the 36 credits required for the MEd in Pedagogy and Learning.

6 OCED licensure courses = 18 credits

1 SEI Endorsement course = 3 credits

Up to 21 Credits

Applied to this program

Pedagogy and Learning Program Plan of Study

18 Credits Core:

- 3cr Dynamic Perspectives in Education
- 3cr Course in Curriculum (licensure course)
- 6cr from two of the following areas:
 - Education Technology
 - Special Education (licensure course)
 - Literacy (or SEI)
- 3cr Research in Education
- 3cr Capstone

18 Credits Electives (including four licensure courses):

- 9cr Content
- 9cr Pedagogy

Total: 36 Credits

OCED Master of Education: Pedagogy and Learning

MAVA Plan of Study

Required CORE Courses

FSU Program Requirements	MAVA Licensure Courses
EDUC 9005 Dynamic Perspectives in Education (3)	
A course in curriculum design/development (3)	OCED 7232 Dev Imp Standards Based Cur
A course in special education (3)	OCED 7230 Address Needs Students with Disabilities
A course on literacy development or technology relevant to the license under which the student is teaching (3)	SEI Course or EDUC 7203 Using Technology to Enhance Student Achievement
EDUC 9300 Educational Research (3)	
EDUC 9150 Capstone: Implementation of Best Practices (3)	

MAVA Plan of Study (Cont.)

Elective courses in Content and Pedagogy

Strand I Content Courses (9 credits)

	Courses for Vocational Teachers
content course (3)	OCED 7240 Teaching Method: Educating and Assessing
content course (3)	OCED 7233 Teach Meth Using Res. Based Practices
content course (3)	SPED 7024 Understanding Diversity and Disabilities

Strand II Pedagogy Courses (9 credits)

	Courses for Vocational Teachers
pedagogy course (3)	OCED 7239 Sem Beg Voc Tech Teacher
pedagogy course (3)	OCED 7238 Teach Meth Voc Tech
pedagogy course (3)	EDUC 7235 Culturally Responsive Instruction

Total number of Credits = 36

Chronological Sequence of Courses

Each semester MAVA offers multiple OCED licensure courses and one MEd course. The MEd courses and schedule are listed below.

MEd Courses	Date Offered
EDUC 9005 Dynamic Perspectives in Education	Spring 2025
SPED 7024 Understanding Diversity and Disabilities	Summer 2025
EDUC 7203 Using Technology to Enhance Student Achievement	Fall 2025
EDUC 7235 Culturally Responsive Instruction	Spring 2026
EDUC 9300 Educational Research	Summer 2026
EDUC 9510 Capstone	Fall 2026
EDUC 8045 SEI course	Every Fall and Spring

Endorsement from a Graduate

“My degree from Fitchburg State gave me the boost I needed in the career path I have chosen. Everyone from the registrar to the professors was supportive in helping me attain my goal. They were there for me the entire time and wanted me to be successful. I was working during the program but with their support, I was able to accomplish my goal. Thank you Fitchburg State!”

Angelica Corcoran, Vocational Teacher



Endorsement from a Graduate

“As an academic teacher new to Massachusetts, the need to further my education and teaching license led me to Fitchburg State University’s Masters Degree program through MAVA. The timing and availability of the courses allowed for me to work, coach, and complete my degree within 2 years. I was able to apply the information I learned in my courses directly into my classroom. Everyone was beyond helpful and made the entire process from my matriculation to filling out my graduation paperwork seamless. Thanks!”

Richard Chouinard



Admissions Process

Apply online: <https://admissions.fitchburgstate.edu/apply>

You will need to submit the following components:

- Official transcript of Bachelor's Degree
- Official transcript of any Graduate Level Coursework (if applicable)
- Graduate Credit Transfer Request and Course Descriptions (if applicable)
- Professional Resume
- Personal Statement
- Three Letters of Recommendation
- \$50 Application Fee

Admissions Process (cont.)

Three Letters of Recommendation:

- Recommenders should know you in a professional capacity, such as supervisors, colleagues, or teachers/professors.
- List names and emails of recommenders in the online application.
- An automatic email with the recommendation form is sent to them securely.
- References fill it out, attach a recommendation, sign & submit the form which is automatically uploaded to the applicants file.
- You can check the status of your application by logging back into your pending application.

<https://admissions.fitchburgstate.edu/apply/status>

Course Discount

Courses can be taken through MAVVA or Fitchburg State directly.

Courses will be at a discounted rate if taken through MAVVA.

Prior Graduation Credits

- **A Total of *only* 12** FSU graduate credits can be taken prior to acceptance into the Master's degree program. Please contact your advisor, Lynn D'Agostino, for questions.

And/or

- **A Maximum** of 6 graduate credits from other institutions can be applied to your degree program.

("3.0" minimum grade in transfer courses)

How long do I have to complete the program?

There is a **six year** window to complete this degree, with “the clock” beginning with the oldest course, including transfer courses.

MAVA Extended Campus Coordinator

Sheila Harrity, EdD SheilaHarrity@mava.us

MAVA Program Advisor and Pedagogy & Learning Chair:

Lynn D'Agostino, EdD ldagosti@fitchburgstate.edu

Plan of study:



Please contact Sheila Harrity or Lynn D'Agostino for more information on how to join the next MAVA Master of Education Pedagogy & Learning Program Cohort and for advice on course selection.

Check out the Fitchburg State University website (<https://www.fitchburgstate.edu/admissions/>) or the MAVA website (<https://www.mava.us/>) for more information.