

**Fitchburg State University
&
Massachusetts Association of Vocational
Administrators**

**Master of Education
Pedagogy & Learning Program**

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

Core Degree Purpose

The **MEd in Pedagogy and Learning** is a non-licensure degree program designed to enhance teaching skills across key instructional areas.

DESE Licensure Pathway

For students seeking licensure advancement with the **Massachusetts DESE**, this program offers flexibility to accumulate required graduate-level credits in your field and apply them directly to a master's degree.

Earn your master's degree in as little as 2 years

Flexible online and hybrid classes tailored for working educators.

Pedagogy and Learning Program Plan of Study

18 Credits Core

- 3cr Dynamic Perspectives in Education
- 3cr Curriculum
- 3cr Education Technology, Literacy, or SEI
- 3cr Special Education
- 3cr Research in Education
- 3cr Capstone

12 Credits Electives

Electives in content and pedagogy

Total: 30 Credits

Complete program requirement for Master of Education

For Vocational Teachers

OCED Licensure Courses

Up to 18 Credits

You can apply 6 OCED licensure courses towards this program, as long as you have taken the licensure courses at the graduate level for credit.

SEI Endorsement Course

3 Graduate Credits

You can also apply the 3 graduate credits from the SEI Endorsement Course towards your degree requirements.

Remaining 3 MEd courses are offered through MAVA

Maximize your graduate-level coursework toward the Master of Education program.

For Academic Teachers

MAVA MEd Courses

18 Credits

Each semester MAVA offers one MEd course.

Fitchburg State Courses

12 Credits

You only need 4 additional graduate courses taken directly through Fitchburg State to complete the degree.

Combine Coursework to complete all 30 Credits

Maximize your graduate-level coursework toward the Master of Education Pedagogy and Learning program.

Master of Education: Pedagogy and Learning, Self-Designed Concentration

MAVA Plan of Study (Vocational Teachers) 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 (3)	SEI Course or EDUC 7203 Using Technology to Enhance Student Achievement
EDUC 9300 Educational Research (3)	
EDUC 9510 Capstone: Implementation of Best Practices (3)	

MAVA Plan of Study (Vocational Teachers - Cont.)

Elective courses in Content and Pedagogy

Choose 4 courses (12 credits):

OCED 7240E

Teaching Methods for Vocational Technical Education: Educating and Assessing the VTE Learner

OCED 7233E

Teaching Methods for Vocational Technical Education: Using Research-Based Practices to Develop Effective Instructional Strategies

SPED 7024E

Understanding Diversity and Disabilities

OCED 7239E

Seminar for the Beginning Vocational Technical Education Teacher

OCED 7238E

Teaching Methods for Vocational Technical Education Instructional Strategies

EDUC 7235E

Culturally Responsive Instruction

Master of Education: Pedagogy and Learning, Self-Designed Concentration

MAVA Plan of Study (Academic Teachers) Required CORE Courses

FSU Program Requirement	Where to take the course
EDUC 9005 Dynamic Perspectives in Education	MAVA
A course in curriculum design/development	Fitchburg State - Choose 1 EDUC 8034 or EDUC 7610 or EDUC 7234
A course in special education	MAVA - SPED 7024E Understanding Diversity and Disabilities
A course on literacy development or technology	MAVA - EDUC 7203E Using Technology to Enhance Student Achievement
EDUC 9300 Educational Research	MAVA
EDUC 9510 Capstone: Implementation of Best Practices	MAVA

MAVA Plan of Study (Academic Teachers - Cont.)

Elective courses in Content and Pedagogy

Choose 4 courses (12 credits)

Options include MAVA and Fitchburg State courses.

MAVA Course: EDUC 7235E Culturally Responsive Instruction

Fitchburg State Course Options

EDUC 7122 Introduction to Strategies for Teaching Students in Middle and High Schools

EDUC 7124 Creating a Positive Learning Environment

EDUC 8040 Family, School, and Community Collaboration (5-12)

SPED 7410 Strategies for Teaching Students with Emotional Disabilities

EDUC 7636 Essential Linguistics for Educators

EDUC 7221 Teaching with Technology

Graduate History and English courses

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 2027
SPED 7024 Understanding Diversity and Disabilities	Summer 2027
EDUC 7203 Using Technology to Enhance Student Achievement	Fall 2027
EDUC 7235 Culturally Responsive Instruction	Spring 2028
EDUC 9300 Educational Research	Summer 2028
EDUC 9510 Capstone	Fall 2028
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

STEP 01

Online Application & Program Selection

- Begin by submitting an online application [here](#).
- Select **Master of Education - Pedagogy and Learning** (Concentration: Self-Directed) with **MAVA** as the extended campus partner.

STEP 02

Required Documentation

- Official transcript of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution.
- Three letters of academic and/or professional recommendation.
- Professional resume & graduate application with \$50.00 fee.
- Official transcripts of any graduate-level coursework (if applicable).

STEP 03

Admissions Essay (1 Page Maximum)

Respond to **one** of the following prompt topics:

- A positive situation where you helped a person and made a significant difference.
- Key factors in establishing long-term working relationships with students/peers.
- A significant event involving a teaching/helping role (describe situation, actions, feelings, and reflection).

Admissions Process

Three Letters of Recommendation

GUIDELINES & SUBMISSION PROCESS

01 Select Your Recommenders

Recommenders should know you in a professional capacity, such as supervisors, colleagues, or teachers/professors.

02 Submit Details in Application

List the names and email addresses of your recommenders directly in the online application.

03 Automated Secure Request

An automated email containing the official recommendation form will be sent securely to your references.

04 Completion & Upload

References complete, sign, and submit the form with their recommendation letter, automatically attaching it to your application file.

Track Application Status: [Admissions Link](#)

Course Discount



Enrollment Options

Courses can be taken through MAVA or Fitchburg State directly.



MAVA Partner Rate

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

Prior Graduation Credits

12

FSU Graduate Credits

A Total of only 12 FSU graduate credits can be taken prior to acceptance into the Master's degree program.

6

Transfer Credits

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

3.0 Minimum Grade

Required in transfer courses.

Please contact your advisor, Lynn D'Agostino, for questions.

How Long Do I Have to Complete the Program?

6

Year Completion Window

There is a six year maximum window allowed to finish all degree requirements.

"The Clock" Rules

Start Date

Calculated beginning with your oldest applicable course.

Transfer Credits

Transfer courses are included when determining the initial start date of your timeframe.

Have questions about transfer courses or your specific timeline?
Contact your advisor.

Program Contacts and Next Steps

Program Contacts

Extended Campus Coordinator

Sheila Harrity, EdD

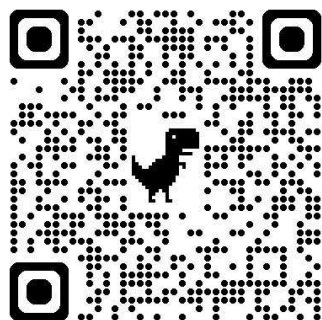
SheilaHarrity@mava.us

Program Advisor & Chair

Lynn D'Agostino, EdD

ldagosti@fitchburgstate.edu

[Plan of Study](#)



Next Steps

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.

Useful Resources

Fitchburg State Admissions

fitchburgstate.edu/admissions

MAVA Official Website

mava.us