



# Master of Science

General Information  
Overview and Frequently Asked Questions

**For**

**2010-2011**

**College of Education  
Eastern Oregon University  
One University Blvd  
La Grande, OR 97850  
Phone: (541) 962-3772  
Fax: (541) 962- 3701**



## College of Education Master of Science (MS) Degree

### **Admission Requirements**

The Master of Science (MS) degree requires two types of admission: (a) Admission to the MS program; and (b) Admission to Eastern Oregon University with "Graduate Student" status. Both applications should be submitted concurrently. Details are as follows:

Admission requirements for the MS program:

1. Completion of ED 500 with grade of "B" or better.
2. Grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0, calculated on either of the following two options:  
(a) Last 60 quarter hours completed of undergraduate upper-division coursework; or  
(b) 15 quarter hours of approved graduate-level coursework.
3. Two letters of professional reference attesting to the applicant's ability to be successful in a graduate program.
4. Personal essay.
5. Admission to Eastern Oregon University with "Graduate Student" status.

*Note: Effective December 2008, the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is no longer required for admission to the MS program.*

Students not meeting the required minimum GPA as outlined above have the option of taking additional graduate-level classes for purposes of raising the GPA to the required 3.0.

### **Transfer Credits**

The MS Program allows a limit of 15 graded graduate-level credits (quarter hours) to be transferred from another accredited graduate-level institution.

All graduate-level courses taken prior to program admission, and all graduate-level transfer courses, will be reviewed for appropriateness of transfer into the MS program. Courses will not be accepted that are not appropriate to the MS degree requirements.

Courses completed prior to seven academic years before admission will be reviewed for appropriateness of transfer into the MS program, but are not guaranteed to be accepted.

## Steps in Applying for the MS Program

**Step 1:** Complete ED 500. This course is offered online every term, and program admission is not required for enrollment.

**Step 2:** Upon completion of Ed 500 with grade of "B" or better, submit *both* the MS Program Application *and* the EOU Graduate Admission application, along with all required supporting documents, fees, and official transcripts.

Enclose *all* admissions materials in one envelope and mail to:

MS Program Admissions  
College of Education- ZH 261  
One University Blvd  
La Grande OR 97850

### ***Special note regarding admission to EOU.***

All MS students are required to be fully admitted to the MS program and EOU in order to complete the MS degree. However, some students may desire to enroll in Focus Area courses or Elective courses on a part-time/non-admitted status. (Enrollment in Professional Core courses requires full MS program and EOU graduate student admission.) Part-time and/or non-admitted course enrollment is allowed, but with the following important exceptions:

(1) Graduate student admission to EOU *is* required if a student will be registering for more than eight credits in any given term.

(2) Graduate student admission to EOU *is* required, *regardless of the number of registered credits per term*, in order to receive financial aid. Financial aid is available both for full-time and part-time graduate students. Contact the EOU Financial Aid office at 541-962-3550 for information regarding submission of the FAFSA form and application procedures.

**Remember:** *All* MS students must be fully admitted both to EOU and the MS program in order to enroll in any of the Professional Core courses and to receive the MS degree. Students are strongly encouraged to apply for admission early in the program.

Please contact our office (541-962-3772) for assistance with any application items.



## Master of Science Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Circle below the Focus Area you wish to pursue:**

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Curriculum and Instruction  | Physical Education and Health |
| Literacy  | ESOL                          |
| Special Education*<br>(* Separate cohort admission required.<br>Please contact our office for details.) | Teacher-Librarian             |

Administration - Lewis and Clark College Administration program. Students seeking the MS degree from EOU may use the Lewis and Clark school administration classes as one of their cognate areas. For information about the Lewis and Clark program, go to: <http://education.lclark.edu/dept/eda/>.

**2. BA or BS Degree Information:**

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Year Graduated: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Major: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**3. List all colleges and universities attended. Enclose *official* copies of transcripts from *all* colleges and/or universities attended.**

University/College	From:	To:	Degree (if applicable):
Please attach additional sheet if necessary.			

**4. Last 60 hours (quarters) of undergraduate upper-division coursework; or 15 hours (quarters) of graded graduate of course work:**

GPA (3.0 Minimum) \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Please provide two letters of professional reference from individuals familiar with your academic qualifications and/or ability to speak to your potential success as a graduate student. Examples of such individuals are: School principal, district curriculum director, superintendent, or college faculty. Please indicate those individuals below. Letters of reference should be included along with all other application materials.**

Name	Phone #	Email	Professional title and relationship to you as a referent

**6. In no more than three double spaced pages, attach an essay in which you provide the answers to the following three (3) questions:**

- Question 1: What is your experience within education and/or teaching (e.g., classroom teacher, administrator, education consultant, etc.)?
- Question 2: Why do you want to earn an MS degree?
- Question 3: What is your experience with online learning? Please comment on your ability to succeed in an online-based instructional program. Include a description of your access to daily email and the internet.

**7. Admission to EOU with graduate status.** You should apply simultaneously for both MS program admission (this form) and Graduate Student admission to EOU (separate form). You may download the EOU Graduate Admission form at: <http://www.eou.edu/admissions/documents/gradapp.pdf>

**Official Transcripts required from *all* colleges and universities attended.**

**8. Send *all* MS Program and EOU Graduate Admission documents, along with all required supporting items and fees, together in one packet to:**

Ms. Janet Frye  
RE: M.S. Application  
College of Education –ZH 261  
Eastern Oregon University  
One University Blvd  
La Grande, OR 97850



## MS Professional Core (15-17 Credits)

The Professional Core courses are designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary in developing the skills of a “teacher researcher.” As such, students study the content and processes related to selecting, planning, implementing, and reporting a classroom- or school-based research project.

Enrollment in the Professional Core courses is restricted to students that have been admitted to the MS program. Furthermore, the Professional Core courses normally should not be taken until the student has completed approximately 2/3 of the necessary coursework in the Focus Area of interest.

### **Program Admission Pre-requisite course:**

**ED 500 MS Seminar (2 cr)**— ED 500 is not a course in the Professional Core, but it is required for MS program admission. It may be taken any term, and program admission is **not** required for registration. This course presents the basics involved in writing professional academic papers, and thus forms a foundation for the level of graduate writing expected in later MS courses. Completion of the course in one term with a grade of “B” or better is required.

### **The courses of the Professional Core:**

**ED 515 (3 cr) Quantitative Research Designs**—This course is an introductory-level course to basic quantitative research designs. Topics covered include sampling techniques, basic descriptive designs, correlational designs, and experimental/quasi-experimental designs.

**ED 516 (3 cr) Qualitative Research Designs**—This course is an introductory-level course to basic qualitative research designs. Topics covered include concepts and strategies of qualitative-based data collection and analysis, case studies, participant/observer approaches to data collection, interviewing, and field note collection.

**ED 517 (3 cr) Literature Reviews in Education**—This course presents basic concepts of how educational research is written and reported. Topics covered include in reading and understanding educational research, and learning the process of writing a literature review appropriate for a focused research proposal. This course provides the background knowledge for the literature review to be developed later within the student’s research proposal (ED 518) and final research paper (ED 519/506).

**ED 518 Research Proposal (2 cr)**—In this course, students are expected to synthesize the knowledge and skills acquired in ED 515, ED 516, ED 517, and the Cognate courses, and thereby develop and present an appropriate topic and research design for a classroom- or school-based “teacher researcher” project. As part of this course, students will also establish a thesis committee, secure necessary permissions for the study, and finalize the research design and procedures.

**ED 519 Research Completion (4 cr)**—In this course, students implement the research project as designed and approved in the ED 518 course. Students are expected to enroll in this course during the initial term in which the research will be conducted. The major focus for this course is that of data collection, analysis and interpretation, and the writing and presenting of the final draft of the research paper (i.e. the thesis).

Exceptionally well-designed research projects may be completed in a single term. However, most students find that at least two terms are required in order to complete the thesis. Projects needing additional terms will receive “incomplete” grades for ED 519 until complete. Furthermore, for each additional term, students will be required to enroll in **ED 506 (2 cr)**. Thus, the entire thesis project might require six or more total credits.

**Enrollment in Professional Core courses.** Because enrollment in Professional Core courses is restricted to students that have been admitted to the MS program, online registration is not possible. Please contact our office at 541-962-3772 for the necessary enrollment forms and procedures.

**Professional Core Sequence.** The courses in the Professional Core are intended to be taken in a specific sequence. Students should begin by first completing both ED 515 and ED 516. Either course may be taken before the other. Following completion of ED 515 and ED 516, students then complete the Professional Core with ED 517, ED 518, ED 519 (and if necessary ED 506) in that order.

## Focus Area Coursework (15 Credits)

### Focus Areas

In addition to ED 500 and the Professional Core courses, students choose a Focus Area, a set of courses that develop knowledge and skills in a specific field of study. The Focus Area is 15-credits of courses that form an emphasis area that is specific to each individual student.

Students choose one of the following Focus Areas, and "round out" the degree with either a second area or a set of approved Elective courses.

Together, the combination of ED 500, the Professional Core courses, the Focus Area, and the Electives must reach a minimum of 45 credits.

**Literacy**—The Literacy Focus Area is intended for classroom teachers that seek to improve their knowledge and expertise related to literacy in the classroom setting. Students choose fifteen credits from any of the following courses: ED 560, ED 561, ED 562, ED 564, ED 567, ED 568, ED 569, ED 581, READ 512, READ 513, READ 514, READ 531, READ 536, READ 550, READ 575, READ 576, READ 594, READ 595.

Please note that completion of the literacy Focus Area does not qualify one for the Reading Specialist license endorsement. Individuals seeking that license endorsement must follow the course of study at [http://www.eou.edu/ed/graduate/grad\\_lit\\_program.html](http://www.eou.edu/ed/graduate/grad_lit_program.html) and pass the PRAXIS Reading Specialist exam. Those students completing the Reading endorsement courses may apply all 22 credits to the master's degree, thus reducing the number of remaining electives by 7 credits.

Contact Kristin Johnson for additional information: [Kristin.Johnson@eou.edu](mailto:Kristin.Johnson@eou.edu) or 541-962-3529.

**Curriculum and Instruction in Elementary and Secondary Instruction**—The Focus Area in Curriculum and Instruction is intended to increase the classroom teacher's general knowledge about classroom issues and practices. It requires completion of one course in Curriculum, one course in Educational Psychology (learning theory, constructivism, development, etc.), one course in Educational Foundations, one course in Current Issues/Topics in Education, and one course in Literacy or ESOL. A minimum of 15 credits is required for this Focus Area.

**ESOL—English for Speakers of Other Languages** The Focus Area in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) is a prescribed course of study primarily designed for those seeking an endorsement in ESOL. However, students not seeking the ESOL endorsement are welcome to complete the courses. Candidates may add this endorsement to a license by completing the course of study below, including 90 clock hours of practicum, and obtaining a passing score on the Praxis II TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language). For ESOL endorsement or Focus Area advising, please contact Dr. Lee Ann McNerney at 503-491-7398 or [lmcnerne@eou.edu](mailto:lmcnerne@eou.edu).

**ED 544** Language and Cognition in Second Language Learners (3)  
**READ 514** Linguistics for Teachers (3) or **ED 556** Applied Linguistics (3)  
**ED 545** Foundations of Second Language Acquisition and ESOL Strategies (3)  
**ED 548** Second Language Acquisition and ESOL Strategies (3)  
**ED 547** ESOL Practicum (3)

**Physical Activity and Health**— Fifteen quarter credits of courses within the Physical Activity and Health program (PHYSH) may be selected from the courses listed or arranged as individual study. There are no required courses and courses are scheduled on an independent basis with an appropriate instructor in the PHYSH Division. There may be some regularly scheduled graduate level courses offered online and also in the summer session. For additional information contact the PHYSH Division Chair, Dr. Dan Mielke at 541-962-3399 or [dmielke@eou.edu](mailto:dmielke@eou.edu).

**PES 507** Seminar (1-6)  
**HWS 510** Selected Topics (1-6)  
**HWS 522** Health Promotion in Schools (1)  
**EXS 544** Advanced Studies in Adapted Physical Activity (2)

**Special Education**— Students who have completed the Special Education program may apply 30 quarter hour credits from the completed endorsement program to satisfy the Focus Area and Elective areas required for the Master of Science (MS) degree. Students will need to complete ED 500 and the Professional Core courses in the MS program in addition to the Special Education program in order to attain the MS degree.

Those wishing to pursue a Special Education Endorsement must apply and be admitted to the Special Education program. Contact Dr. Virginia C. Kelly at (541) 962-3537 or [vkelly@eou.edu](mailto:vkelly@eou.edu) for program information and advising. General program information is also available at [http://www.eou.edu/ed/graduate/special\\_ed.html](http://www.eou.edu/ed/graduate/special_ed.html)

**Teacher-Librarian**—This Focus Area is designed for those seeking skills and knowledge in Educational Media. Candidates may add this endorsement to a license by completing the Focus Area courses (15 credits), plus a three credit practicum, and obtaining a passing score on the Praxis II Library Media Specialist test. Program prerequisites include LIB 388: Children's Literature or READ 594: Young Adult Literature. Equivalent courses from other institutions must be approved.

Contact either Sharon Porter at 541-962-3780, [sporter@eou.edu](mailto:sporter@eou.edu) or Sally Mielke 541-962-3865, [smielke@eou.edu](mailto:smielke@eou.edu), for additional program information.

**Electives (13-15 Credits)** To fulfill the 45 minimum credit requirements for the MS degree, students may choose a second Focus Area or a set of approved Elective courses. Electives must be approved by an advisor.

Enrollment in Focus Area and Elective Courses:

Admission to the MS program is not required in order to enroll in Focus Area or Elective courses. (Admission to EOU with graduate student status *is* required if enrolling for more than eight credits per term or if receiving financial aid.) However, some courses may require instructor permission.

Registration for Focus Area and Elective courses is completed online, following normal EOU course enrollment procedures. Go to [www.eou.edu/advising/how\\_to\\_start.html](http://www.eou.edu/advising/how_to_start.html) for information about online registration, or call 1-800-452-8639. Registration for courses in the Professional Core is restricted to students admitted to the MS program, and thus is not completed online. Please contact our office for registration instructions when you are ready to begin these courses.