Teacher Leadership Program, Ed.S.

■ About Our Program

The Graduate program in Teacher Leadership is exclusively for certified teachers who are seeking advanced certification (Class AA) and an educational specialist degree. The program is open to teachers in grades P-12 and all subject areas. It is an innovative program designed to equip and empower teachers to assume more active roles in school improvement and effective collaboration. The focus is on the development of knowledge, skills, and dispositions to enable Teacher Leaders to facilitate efforts to improve schools and positively impact student achievement through curriculum and instruction, assessment, school culture, and educational equity.

The Teacher Leadership program provides teachers the opportunity to increase instructional expertise, foster excellence in teaching and learning, advocate for students and communities, and engage in educational research.

■ Admission Requirements

Candidates for program admission must:

- Hold a valid Alabama Class A professional educator's certificate in any teaching field or area of instructional support.
- Have a minimum of three full years of full-time teaching experience in a P-12 setting.
- Submit a portfolio containing:
  - Three letters of recommendation
  - Evidence of ability to positively affect student achievement
  - Evidence of collaborative leadership potential

■ Completion Requirements

Students must complete all curriculum requirements with at least a 3.50 grade point average and successfully deliver a presentation of their action research projects—integrated with technology and supported by a written report, which serves as the comprehensive examination for this program.

■ Program Requirements

Program courses provide students with an opportunity to engage critical issues impacting teacher leaders and develop the skills necessary to support continuous school improvement, including:

- Professional Standards
- Accountability
- Curriculum Development
- Mentoring and Coaching
- Public Relations
- Community Resources
- School Climate
- Educational Equity
- Action Research

■ Course Overview

SPED 507 (required if not previously completed)

Program Courses (15 hours):
EDL 690: Teacher Leadership for the 21st Century (3)
EDL 606: Leading Learning through Mentoring and Professional Development (3)
EDL 645: Data-Driven Models for Curriculum Development (3)
EDL 648: Leadership for Edu. Equity and Social Justice (3)
EDL 612: Strengthening Community Relations through Restorative Leadership (3)

Required Support Course (3 hours):
ED 629: Survey of Instructional Technology Leadership (3)

Action Research Project (6 hours):
EDL 691: Research and Planning for School Improvement (3)
EDL 692: Implementation and Evaluation of School Improvement (3)

Electives (6 hours):
Two 600-level advisor approved electives.

**Applicants to the TL Program are also eligible to dually enroll in the Reduced Hours Option (Instructional Leadership Certification Program). Dually enrolling in these programs will allow the student to earn both a Class AA certification in Teacher Leadership and a Class A in Instructional Leadership with only 19 additional hours. Candidate must meet the admission requirements for both degree programs to apply for the dual enrollment option.

■ For Additional Information

If you would like to learn more about earning a degree in this degree, please contact us.

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