

Cohort Master’s Programs

M.A. in Executive Leadership Studies

For:

Current teachers or administrators who wish to enhance their skills and knowledge in educational leadership while working towards North Carolina state licensure as a School Administrator.

What you learn:

The M.A. in Executive Leadership Studies focuses on preparing experienced teachers to serve as educational leaders; it is designed to relate to the needs of educators in both theory and practice. The program is designed to meet the following program goals for prospective school administrators: (1) provide a foundation in the principles and procedures of educational administration, curriculum development, and instructional improvement; (2) promote the development of the ability to implement and evaluate models of instruction and methods of supervision in the classroom and other school settings; (3) foster the development of the ability to evaluate classroom teachers within an academic environment; (4) develop the capacity to interpret and implement educational research in the total school program; and (5) provide preparation for service as instructional and educational leaders.

How you learn:

A five-semester Executive Leadership Program with an integrated curriculum will be offered. Each semester will consist of six integrated semester hours with one two-hour internship during the first, third, and fifth semesters.

Face to Face: In face-to-face classes, coursework will be delivered primarily in a face-to-face format and augmented by online activities designed by the instructor for assessment, enrichment and collaboration. You will meet one night per week face-to-face from 4:45 until 8:45 p.m. in the Fall/Spring semesters, and one night per week face-to-face from 4:00 to 9:30 p.m. in the Summer term. Online activities may include but are not limited to the following: interactive webinars through WebEx, recorded webinars, discussion threads, collaborative assignments, and assessments. Blackboard is the portal used to deliver course material to students and serves as the platform for organizing class activities electronically. Students will be asked to demonstrate their competency with Blackboard by taking an introductory course on Blackboard. The electronic portfolio, a requirement for your degree and for a North Carolina license, will be created and stored online in TaskStream.

Fully Online: You will log into Blackboard to complete assignments, participate in online discussions, and complete group activities. While there are no face-to-face meetings, some of the activities may include chats, discussion boards, recorded and/or live webinars, and various web links for viewing. While your classes will operate in Blackboard, your final project will be stored as an electronic portfolio using another product called TaskStream. The electronic portfolio is required for North Carolina licensure. Upon full acceptance to the online program you will be required to complete online certification to verify your proficiency in an online environment.

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of this program, students will have earned a Master of Arts in Executive Leadership Studies and will be subject to state licensure requirements in order to receive North Carolina state licensure as a School Administrator. Students who have already earned a Master’s degree have the option to take a subset of the coursework outlined below to earn add-on licensure as a School Administrator.

Prerequisites:

Students in the M.A. in Executive Leadership Studies program will hold at least a Bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution with a minimum 2.50 grade point average. Recommendation for School Administration licensure requires a minimum of 3 years NCDPI recognized teaching experience.

Degree Requirements:

MELS 601	Executive Leadership in a 21st Century Change Environment	6
MELS 697	Executive Leadership Internship	2
MELS 602	Research and Assessment for 21st Century Executive Leaders	6
MELS 603	Resource Management for 21st Century Executive Leaders	6
MELS 697	Executive Leadership Internship	2
MELS 604	21st Century Curriculum & Instructional Development	6
MELS 605	21st Century School Leadership	6
MELS 697	Executive Leadership Internship	2
Total Credit Hours:		36