

TEACHER LEADERSHIP in SCHOOL-BASED AGRICULTURE

Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies

The GCES - Teacher Leadership in School-Based Agriculture is a four-course experience designed to meet the needs of educators.

Successful completion of this graduate certificate will enable teachers to:

- *Apply foundational theories of experiential learning to design engaging lessons emphasizing hands-on learning and real-world application;*
- *Create and implement cross-curricular lessons in core and complementary subjects by using an agricultural lens;*
- *Develop confidence in agriculture knowledge such as food systems, and environmental stewardship and sustainability applicable to their urban or rural contexts;*
- *Employ principles of teacher leadership to contribute to the enhancement of students' learning experiences; and*
- *Create a research-based, experiential learning project that promotes active learning and interdisciplinary connections.*

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

March 31, 2025

(Start in summer term)

For more information:
uab.ca/gces
gcesinfo@ualberta.ca

Rise to the challenges and opportunities of 21st century education.

The Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies (GCES) is for teaching professionals and other educational specialists seeking advanced professional education. The program consists of four-courses (12 credits), outlined below.

The GCES is a cohort-based, part-time, varied-delivery program that suits your schedule and timelines.

THE PROGRAM

Whether your school has space for big initiatives or small-scale projects, this program will help you integrate agriculture into your curriculum, fostering hands-on learning that enhances student engagement and understanding across subjects. Using agriculture as a lens for innovation can inspire awe in your students—an often overlooked but powerful driver of learning—while connecting lessons to real-world applications. This certificate is for teachers in both rural and urban settings who are eager to enrich their pedagogy and make learning a dynamic, awe-inspiring process.

COURSES

 Full course descriptions on reverse.

Summer

EDU 595 Integrating Agriculture into Curriculum: Field-Based Learning

Fall

EDU 595 Foundations of Teacher Leadership and Experiential Learning

Winter

EDU 595 Agricultural Literacy for Teachers

Spring

EDU 595 Curriculum-Mapping for School-Based Agriculture: Applied Project

The Graduate Certificate may be laddered into some M.Ed. Programs (see reverse).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Four-year baccalaureate degree (or equivalent) from a recognized academic institution with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0
- Two years of teaching experience
- English Language Proficiency
(*more information on website*)



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Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies

Course Descriptions

EDU 595 Integrating Agriculture into Curriculum: Field-Based Learning

This course will provide learners with opportunities - through lectures and field trips - for direct interaction with agri-sector experts so they can deepen their knowledge for exploration of cross-curricular connections between agriculture and Alberta curriculum. By experiencing agriculture firsthand, learners will enhance their ability to create engaging, real-world learning opportunities that resonate with their K-12 students in both rural and urban contexts.

EDU 595 Foundations of Teacher Leadership and Experiential Learning

This course will explore foundational theories, models, and research in teacher leadership and experiential learning to provide a foundation for integrating hands-on learning into K-12 instruction. Learners will explore key thinkers in these fields and examine practical applications for effective implementation in diverse classroom contexts.

EDU 595 Agricultural Literacy for Teachers

This course will afford learners the opportunity to deepen their knowledge about agriculture as it relates to our food, fiber, and energy systems; science, technology, and environment; health and lifestyle; and culture, society, economy, and geography. The intent of this course is to provide them with knowledge to increase their confidence when preparing learning opportunities for their students.

EDU 595 Curriculum-Mapping for School-Based Agriculture: Applied Project

In this culminating course, learners will focus on designing and mapping curriculum that integrates agricultural education with provincial curriculum. Learners will align school-based agricultural projects with Alberta's curriculum in core and complementary subjects culminating in a school-based experiential project. The course will provide the opportunity for learners to apply theoretical knowledge and practical skills gained throughout the certificate program.

Laddering into a Master's Degree

The Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies can be laddered into two Master's programs:

- *Master of Education in Educational Studies (MES - details below)*
- *Master of Education in Elementary Education - Curriculum and Pedagogy*
Contact: essgrad3@ualberta.ca

Both programs are 10-courses (30 credits); eight core courses and two additional electives. Students with a GCES receive 12 credits in advanced standing for the four courses in the certificate towards the program of their choice, reducing the number of courses in the master's to six.

Courses in the MES:

EDU 510
Fundamentals of Educational Research

EDU 514
Planning for Educational Change

EDU 515
Conducting Educational Research

EDU 900
Program Synthesis

Plus two graduate-level electives

Details on the MES Ladder are available at uab.ca/mes or contact us at mesinfo@ualberta.ca.



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