

**Northern Kentucky University**

**Name of Program: Planned Program for Rank 1**

**Certification Level:  
Advanced Specialist**

**Program Codes:  
Rank 1 (3377)**

**Modes of Delivery: Hybrid: Some courses are online and some are face to face**

**2016-17 Catalog URL: <http://nku.catalog.acalog.com/index.php?catoid=7>**

## Educational Specialist (Rank One)

The Educational Specialist degree in Teaching & Leading is for teachers who wish to enhance their teaching, leadership and mentoring skills. Applicants should be certified teachers who hold a Master's degree and are ready to become mentors to the next generation of teachers. This Educational Specialist program engages students in learning and practicing principles and skills of collaboration, mentorship, and research-based practice, leading to improved skills for graduates, the teacher candidates under their influence, and the P-12 students in their classrooms. A job-embedded component of the required coursework will include completion of co-teaching training and mentoring of a teacher candidate or a less experienced teacher. Program completers would be eligible for rank change in Kentucky (Rank I).

Program outcomes – completers will

- Demonstrate the knowledge, skills and dispositions of informed, collaborative leaders who contribute to the continuous improvement of P-12 education.
- Demonstrate effective mentoring of teacher candidates in field and/or clinical experiences, implementing co-teaching strategies and providing useful feedback.
- Conduct action research in an educational setting, and use the resulting data resulting in educational decision-making.
- Demonstrate knowledge, skills & dispositions to effectively address achievement gaps.

All admitted students are responsible for the Graduate Honor Code and Codes of Ethics adopted by the College of Education and Human Services.

The Educational Specialist in Teaching and Learning has a dual focus on applied action research to inform continuous improvement, and mentorship of the next generation of teachers. The action research focus results in a capstone action research project that demonstrates effective intervention to address achievement gaps. The mentorship focus would be addressed by a course in collaborative practices, and a course in supervision of field and clinical experiences. Each student would also select a concentration area in which they expand and refine their own knowledge, skills and dispositions to contribute to the continuous improvement of P-12 education.

### **Research Core**

EDG 605 Applied Educational Research I (3 credit hours)

EDG 702 Research Based Teaching (3 credit hours)

EDG 703 Capstone in Action Research (3 credit hours)

### **Mentoring Core**

EDG 667 Collaboration & Inclusive Practices (3 credit hours)

EDG 701 Supervision of Field & Clinical Experiences (3 credit hours)

The Research Core and Mentoring Core make up the 15 credit hours that are required of all Ed.S. candidates. The other 15 hours comes from a specialization selected by the candidate. If a candidate selects one the specializations that requires only 12 credit hours, that candidate must take a 3-hour elective course, as approved by his/her advisor.

### **Specializations (students select one)**

\*English as a Second Language Endorsement 15 hours

\*Environmental Education, 12 hours

General Content, 12-15 hours (courses related to what your initial area of certification was. For example: if you are a secondary social studies teacher you would take graduate level History, Geography, etc. courses.)

\*Gifted and Talented Endorsement 12 hours

\*Instructional Computer Technology Endorsement 15 hours

\*Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education (birth-5 years) 21 hours

\*\*Learning Behavior Disorders Certification (P-12) : 33-36 hours

\*\*Moderate to Severe Disabilities Certification (P-12) 19 hours (if candidate does not hold an LBD certification, MSD is 34 hours)

\*Reading Endorsement (P-12)

Special Education (not for certification or endorsement) 12 hours

\*students may add an endorsement to their Kentucky Teacher certificate if they successfully complete the required coursework and earn a passing score on the required PRAXIS exam(s).

\*\*students may earn an additional certification if they successfully complete the required coursework and earn a passing score on the required PRAXIS exam(s).

All courses are taught either fully online, in hybrid format, or in technology enhanced classrooms with Smart Boards, document cameras, and LCD projectors.

The various curriculum contracts are at this link:

<https://inside.nku.edu/coehs/collegeaccreditation/caep/EPsBProgramSubmissions/EducationalSpecialistTeachingLearning/EdSCCX.html>

Each contract states the admission and exit requirements, course requirements, and other information about the options available through the EdS Rank 1 program.