

November 7, 2016

Dear Teachers:

The Office of Graduate Studies invites you to consider Shepherd University's Special Education Endorsement. The multi-categorical special education endorsement (5 courses/15 credits) prepares teachers to teach students with specific Learning Disabilities, Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities, and Intellectual Disabilities by creating teachers who are knowledgeable of learners with exceptionalities and their diverse needs. In addition, the endorsement prepares teachers to pass the Praxis II in this specialization area. Students pursuing the Special Education Endorsement must have already received their initial licensure in either Elementary or Secondary Education in one of the five content areas: Social Studies, Math, English, Science, or Biology.

Shepherd's Special Education Endorsement is designed to be convenient for current teachers with courses offered during the evening at Shepherd's Martinsburg Center (<http://www.shepherd.edu/martinsburg-center>). Faculty and staff are committed to working with teachers to achieve their personal or professional goals.

The completion of the endorsement may also lead to a Masters of Art in Curriculum and Instruction (MACI) with a specialization (concentration) in Multi-categorical Special Education. The Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction is designed to help teachers and professional educators enhance their professionalism, improve their quality of instruction, and better prepare them for leadership roles within their school districts.

The MACI program website (<http://www.shepherd.edu/maci/>) provides additional information, including admission requirements, program and course content. Application procedures and an online application can be found at <http://www.shepherd.edu/graduate-studies/apply-graduate>. Shepherd University will waive the application fee for all teachers applying for the Special Education Endorsement and/or MACI degree program.

Thank you for taking the time to consider Shepherd University!

Sincerely,



Dr. Scott Beard, Associate Provost
Dean, Graduate Studies
304-876-5313 / sbeard@shepherd.edu



Dr. Georgiann Toole, Associate Professor
MACI Program Coordinator
304-876-5069 / gtoole@shepherd.edu

What students are saying about the MACI program: "The professors in the MACI program are caring, knowledgeable, and responsive to student needs. They made the time spent in the program worthwhile! Experiences and learning from the program will aid me professionally."

Master of Arts in CURRICULUM and INSTRUCTION

The Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction is designed for public school teachers and other educators whose goal is to facilitate high levels of professionalism, improve the quality of instruction, and prepare for leadership roles within educational settings. Allowing professional educators the flexibility to craft their own program of study, the M.A.-CI program provides its graduates with an enhanced level of professional knowledge.

The M.A.-CI's core coursework provides exploration and enhanced expertise in educational practice, pedagogical approaches, and current trends in the field. Electives allow students to select courses in specific areas of professional interest. In addition, research courses are designed to familiarize students with the strategies to put theory and methodology into action by completing a capstone thesis project of their own design. Throughout the program, students are encouraged to apply their learning to an in-depth examination of their own teaching practice.

The Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction is a 33-credit hour program of study. Students select either an individualized concentration allowing for maximum flexibility, or a concentration/endorsement in multi-categorical special education. The program includes 12 credits in educational pedagogy, nine credits in education research methodology, and additional credits in courses from a variety of subject areas. (Students in the multi-categorical special education concentration should see the specific requirements for that program.)

For more information about Shepherd University's Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction (MACI), contact:

Graduate Studies Office

304-876-5313 (phone)

304-876-5690 (fax)

maciprogram@shepherd.edu

www.shepherd.edu/maci