

SOE - Professional Studies in Education Graduate Programs

Institute for Professional Studies in Education (<https://www.uwlax.edu/academics/department/professional-studies-in-education/>)

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Programs & Purpose

The Institute for Professional Studies in Education (IPSE) offers a variety of Master of Science in Education (MSED) degrees and Wisconsin teacher and administrative license programs. Our programs serve a broad range of education professionals — from practicing classroom teachers to those who work in other educational roles outside the traditional classroom. Through these programs, IPSE prepares educators to lead with empathy, purpose, and lasting impact. Grounded in constructivism, experiential learning, and authentic relationship-building, our graduate programs develop the pedagogical knowledge, cultural understanding, and practical skills needed to create inclusive classrooms where every student can thrive. We believe great teachers are more than instructors — they are servant leaders who advocate for others, inspire their communities, and model lifelong learning through continuous reflection and growth. By fostering a dynamic, collaborative community of dedicated professionals, we equip candidates to transform not just their classrooms, but the broader schools, districts, and communities they serve — shaping a future where every child is affirmed in who they are and inspired by what they can become.

Program length

Program length is based on how long the required UWL coursework would take to complete for a full-time student who does not need to complete any prerequisite coursework. Program length may be extended if students attend part-time (departmental approval required) or due to the requirements of an individual student's plan of coursework, research or capstone project.

- The Master of Science in Education (MSED) in Experience-Based Learning and the Master of Science in Education (MSED) in Learner-Focused Instruction programs are typically four-term programs.
- The Master of Science in Education (MSED) in Reading programs and the Master of Science in Education (MSED) in Educational Leadership programs are typically five-term programs.
- Graduate certificate programs are typically three-terms.
- Add-On certifications are typically one-term.

2026-27 Faculty/Staff

The following is the graduate faculty and staff as of the publication date of this catalog. This list will not be updated again until the next catalog is published in July.

Institute for Professional Studies in Education (IPSE) Director

Jeannette Armstrong, Ed.D.

IPSE Administrative Support

Cindy George, Senior Marketing Specialist

Rochelle Hoffman, Regional Recruitment and Enrollment Specialist

Adjunct Instructors & Program Directors

Kimberly Edwards, Lecturer

A directory of adjunct instructors and program directors is available on the *Our People* link on the IPSE webpage (<https://www.uwlax.edu/academics/grad/professional-studies-in-education/about-us/our-people/>).

Graduate degrees

- **Professional Teaching Program:**
 - Professional teaching: educational leadership emphasis - MSED (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/graduateeducation/professional-teaching-educational-leadership-msed/>)
 - Professional teaching: experience-based learning emphasis - MSED
 - Professional teaching: learner-focused instruction emphasis - MSED (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/graduateeducation/professional-teaching-learner-focused-instruction-msed/>)
- **Reading Program:**
 - Reading - MSED (non-certification) (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/graduateeducation/reading-noncertification-msed/>) (not accepting new students)
 - Reading: reading teacher (1316) emphasis - MSED (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/graduateeducation/reading-teacher-msed/>)
 - Reading: reading specialist (5017) emphasis - MSED (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/graduateeducation/reading-specialist-msed/>)
 - Reading: reading teacher (1316) and reading specialist (5017) emphasis - MSED (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/graduateeducation/reading-teacher-and-specialist-msed/>)

Certificates

- Educational leadership (5051) - certificate program (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/graduateeducation/educational-leadership-certificate/>)
- Reading teacher (1316) - certificate program (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/graduateeducation/reading-teacher-certificate/>)
- Special education (2081) - certificate program (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/graduateeducation/special-education-certificate/>)
- Teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) (1395) - certificate program (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/graduateeducation/tesol-certificate/>)

Add-on certifications

- Director of instruction (5010) - add-on certification (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/graduateeducation/director-instruction-certification/>)

- Reading specialist (5017) - add-on certification (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/graduateeducation/reading-specialist-certification/>)
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