

TEACHER LEADERSHIP (EDS)

Program Overview

The Specialist in Education (Ed.S.) program in Teacher Leadership is designed for certified educators who want to remain in classroom teaching while, at the same time, extend their influence beyond the walls of their own classrooms. The program is designed to help teachers improve their knowledge and skills in teaching their own content areas as well as in leadership where they develop expertise in leading other educators to improve teaching and learning across all subject areas and grade levels. The Teacher Leadership program addresses the expanded roles and responsibilities of teachers in schools, including data-driven assessment and decision making for school improvement, leading professional learning communities, applying research to practice, improving teaching and learning, and collaborating with families and the community.

The 30-semester hour program includes six hours of foundational courses, nine hours of teacher leadership courses, nine hours of content area pedagogy courses, and six hours of internship. Candidates complete the internship during the final two semesters of coursework where they gain experience as teacher leaders under the supervision of P-12 and university coaches and mentors.

The program integrates theoretical frameworks with practical and performance based experiences by combining academic content with field experiences and internships. The program model also provides candidates access to graduate-level instruction from faculty in multiple disciplines which allows them the opportunity to broaden their understandings of the total school community and expose them to a wide variety of P-12 educational processes.