EdSp in Information Science and Learning Technologies with Emphasis in Learning Systems Design and Development

The Educational Specialist degree in Learning Systems Design and Development at MU is your portal to excellence and leadership in designing, developing, and implementing technology in education, training and performance support. In the LSDD emphasis area you will develop the knowledge and skills to design learning systems and develop the digital media and network applications need to implement them. The courses emphasize learning by doing. You will take on challenging assignments and work collaboratively with both faculty and other students to produce a portfolio that documents your work and accomplishments. Working with a faculty advisor, each student develops a customized program of study. You pick the professional goal that makes sense to you, and our faculty will help you transform your goal into reality.

Your degree in Learning Systems Design and Development will open an array of career options. Some graduates work in K-12 schools, others work in corporations, and still others apply their skills in government, healthcare, higher education, and other settings. For example, some of our recent graduates are Software Designers and Developers, Learning Strategy Managers, Adaptive Technology Specialists, Training Designers, School Technology Coordinators, and Online Instructors. Whatever the setting, you will graduate with a skill set that will serve you well in the future.

Degree Requirements

The Educational Specialist degree is a 30-hour program of specialization built upon the Master's degree. It requires 30 graduate credit hours, with a minimum of 15 at the 9000 level or above. At least 15 credit hours must be at the 8000/9000 level.

Sample Plan of Study

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Total Credits: 30

Comprehensive Examination Process

In your final semester, you will develop and present a portfolio of your work to demonstrate your mastery of the competencies specific to your focus area. The portfolio contains descriptions of competencies and what they mean to you, explanations of artifacts, and reflections. You should start on your portfolio early in your coursework.

Portfolios can be submitted spring, fall, and summer semesters. Portfolios must be submitted to the assigned portfolio coach for review no later than three (3) weeks prior to the last day of classes; you will be notified by the SISLT Student Services Office of the specific date at the beginning of your final semester.

The student will work with the portfolio coach who will provide feedback and support to the student as she/he prepares the portfolio for review.

The review process asks three basic questions:
1. Does the portfolio demonstrate the student's knowledge of what the competencies mean?
2. Does the portfolio demonstrate the student's mastery of the competencies?
3. Does the portfolio present the student in a positive and professional manner?

Once a portfolio is deemed acceptable or unacceptable by the portfolio coach, the coach will notify the student and the SISLT Student Services Office. Should the portfolio be deemed unacceptable by the portfolio coach, the student may appeal this decision by petitioning the Director of SISLT and requesting that two other faculty review the portfolio.

Admissions

Email: sislt@missouri.edu
SISLT Student Services Coordinator
304 Townsend Hall
Columbia, MO 65211
Phone: 573-882-4546 or toll free 877-747-5868
http://edtech.missouri.edu/lsdd

Applicants are required to meet two sets of minimum qualifications for admission: the requirements of the EdSp in Information Science and Learning Technologies program (http://edtech.missouri.edu/#admission) and the minimum requirements of the Office of Graduate Studies (http://gradstudies.missouri.edu/admissions/eligibility-process/minimum-requirements.php). Because requirements vary, you must refer to a degree program's graduate admission page to learn about specific admission criteria, application deadlines, eligibility and application process. Your application materials will be reviewed by both the Office of Graduate Studies and the degree program to which you've applied before official admission to the University of Missouri.