

Master of Education (MEd) Concentration in Adult Education and E-Learning



OVERVIEW

Learning is different for adults than for children, and educational solutions are not universal. Adults have different learning needs and circumstances, which impact how instruction must be administered and evaluated. AIU's Master of Education degree with a concentration in Adult Education and E-Learning explores the adult learner as a whole person, taking into account physiological, emotional, and intellectual differences, complex lifestyles, and innovative education research.

The MEd degree with a concentration in Adult Education and E-Learning is designed for candidates looking to prepare to pursue leadership and curriculum design roles in the fields of corporate training, career and professional development, higher education, and K-12 administration. The program focuses on helping candidates prepare to leverage industry-authentic tools and assessments to work to develop career-relevant skills in preparation for the next steps in their career path.

CURRICULUM INCLUDES

The MEd with a concentration in Adult Education and E-Learning introduces the various models and theories of adult learning. Courses emphasize the practical implications of cognitive science, learning approaches, and e-learning best practices. Candidates have access to hands-on training of innovative tools for real-world design implementation. Classes focus on high-level skills while delving into nuanced instruction and learning theory, such as:

Learning Theory Foundations: introduces the various schools of thought on how people learn, emphasizing the practical implications of cognitive science. Learning theories, including cognitivism, behaviorism, and constructivism are explored. An in-depth study of contemporary leadership issues and theories gives candidates an opportunity to develop a concept of professional behavior and performance.

Adult Learner Characteristics and Facilitation: delves into adult learning theories, including andragogy, adult developmental stage theories and action learning. Additional focus is placed on assessing learning needs and evaluating education and training outcomes among adult populations.

Designing Instruction and E-Learning for Adults: explores instructional design for various venues, groupings, and situations common to adult learning environments, including vocational classrooms, field training, and individual and group learning. Topics ranging from technical skills to management training and education are covered.

Assessing and Evaluating Adult Learning: studies the delivery of education and training and candidates conduct a lesson based on adult learning theory and topics. This includes coverage of tools for engaging adult learners, conducting classes in unfamiliar circumstances, and classroom management appropriate to adult audiences.

The program culminates in a capstone project akin to a thesis, which is designed to provide hands-on experience while encouraging the fluid integration of knowledge.

* Transfer credits are evaluated on an individual basis. Not all credits are eligible to transfer. See the University Catalog for transfer credit policies.

WHY AIU?

AIU offers a streamlined, real-world curriculum and flexibility designed to help you schedule school around your life, not the other way around.

To accommodate busy lives, we offer full- and part-time program options and transfer-in credit* for eligible college, work and military experience, which could cut down on the time it takes to earn a degree.

American InterContinental University™ is part of the American InterContinental University System, which is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org), a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.



AIUniv.edu

COURSEWORK

American InterContinental University's Master of Education degree is not designed to meet state educator licensing or advancement requirements; however, it may assist candidates in gaining these approvals in their state of residence depending on those requirements. Contact the state board of education in the applicable state(s) for details.

Master of Education (MEd)

Concentration in Adult Education and E-Learning

Degree candidates in the Adult Education and E-Learning concentration have the opportunity to design, implement, and evaluate adult education programs using innovative educational technology. The program is designed to help candidates work to develop and apply professional skills that are reinforced by cognitive science, learning models, and e-learning best practices.

ACCREDITATION & AFFILIATIONS

American InterContinental University is a member in good standing of the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP). The Master of Education program has been awarded full accreditation by AAQEP through June 30, 2026. AAQEP is a membership association and quality assurance agency that provides accreditation services and formative support to all types of educator preparation providers. AAQEP is nationally recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

AIU is a proud member of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE), a leading voice on educator preparation. AACTE represents postsecondary institutions with educator preparation programs dedicated to high-quality, evidence-based preparation that assures educators are ready to teach all learners.

INDUSTRY-FOCUSED CURRICULUM

The specialized curriculum in AIU's MEd-Adult Education and E-Learning program focuses on electronic delivery of educational solutions, and is designed to survey the learning process and impact of educational technology and platforms on the adult learner. Candidates can incorporate instructional design methodologies using the Articulate 360 suite of tools, create an ePortfolio, participate in colleague peer networking, and establish badging credentials throughout the program. The concentration explores how to collaborate with a community of learners, professionally apply these skills and develop e-learning solutions for a variety of learning environments and purposes, including corporate training.

TAUGHT BY EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONALS

At AIU, candidates have access to instructors who have real-world experience in their field. The MEd-Adult Education and E-Learning program is taught by a team of experienced professionals who bring their real-world perspectives into the classroom. This approach can help candidates better understand the qualities and skills utilized in today's adult education and e-learning industry.

OUTCOMES

WE CAN HELP YOU LEARN HOW TO:

- Design educational content and programming that is appropriate to support learning for diverse audiences, contexts, global perspectives, and cultural responsiveness.
- Justify educational decision-making using educational theories, financial management, and scholarly research practices.
- Adapt advanced, discipline-appropriate professional and research communication skills for personal growth and stakeholder engagement.
- Employ professional dispositions appropriate for educational practice and leadership.
- Implement instructional strategies and technologies to support learning (i.e., e-learning, distance learning, online learning, traditional learning, and hybrid learning).
- Analyze the impact of instructional design methodology and learning theories/sciences (social, emotional, and academic) on stakeholders for effectiveness of interventions and/or educational systems.
- Integrate continuous improvement, learner assessment, technology, eLearning, and evaluation plans based on data analysis.
- Recommend solutions to behavioral management issues in adult education.
- Integrate adult learning principles and motivation theories with the design of learning events for adults.
- Evaluate the applications, costs, and benefits of technology as applied to adult learning.

REQUIRED COURSES

CORE COURSES

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| MED 501 | Learning Theory Foundations | 4.5 |
| MED 503 | Integrative Design and Effective Curricula | 4.5 |
| MED 505 | Analysis, Assessment, and Evaluation | 4.5 |
| MED 511 | Educational Research Qualitative | 4.5 |
| MED 513 | Educational Research Quantitative | 4.5 |
| MED 515 | Data Applications for Education Technology | 4.5 |
| MED 541 | Adult Learner Characteristics and Facilitation | 4.5 |
| MED 543 | Designing Instruction and E-Learning for Adults | 4.5 |
| MED 545 | Assessing and Evaluating Adult Learning | 4.5 |
| MED 590 | Capstone | 4.5 |

Total MEd Degree Requirements

45 Credits