

SUPPORTING STUDENT WELLBEING

Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies

The GCES – Supporting Student Wellbeing is a four-course experience designed to meet the needs of educators and allied professionals seeking to upgrade their understanding of and skills to support student wellbeing.

Through the certificate you will learn to:

- *Develop robust knowledge of the latest evidence related to student wellbeing.*
- *Reflect on and personalize new understandings about student wellbeing.*
- *Gain skills that allow you to be a wise consumer in choosing, evaluating, and implementing classroom practices for wellbeing.*
- *Create resources for use in classroom contexts that support student wellbeing.*
- *Cultivate culturally sensitive and informed ways of supporting student wellbeing in complex classrooms.*

Rise to the challenge of championing student wellbeing.

The Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies (GCES) is for teaching professionals and other educational specialists seeking advanced professional education. The program consists of four-courses (12 credits) centered on the psychology of holistic student development and wellbeing.

The GCES is a cohort-based, part-time, online program that suits your schedule and timelines.

THE PROGRAM

Student wellbeing is the cornerstone of a thriving educational environment. The GCES – Supporting Student Wellbeing is designed to equip educators and allied professionals with the latest knowledge, perspectives, and practical tools to support the holistic development and wellbeing of students. This certificate emphasizes the critical importance of fostering physical, emotional, cognitive, motivational, and social wellbeing in educational settings, recognizing that students' learning is deeply interconnected with their overall wellbeing.

COURSES Full course descriptions on reverse.

Summer

EDU 595 Children's Rights: Humanizing Wellbeing in Schools

Fall

EDU 595 Student Social Emotional Learning for Wellbeing

Winter

EDU 595 Motivation: An Untapped Source of Wellbeing

Spring

EDU 595 Supporting Student Wellbeing in Action

The Graduate Certificate may be laddered into some M.Ed. Programs (see reverse).

APPLICATIONS OPEN:

November 1 - March 31
(Start in summer term)

For more information:
uab.ca/gceswell
gcesinfo@ualberta.ca

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Four-year baccalaureate degree (or equivalent) from a recognized academic institution with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0
- Two years of teaching experience
- English Language Proficiency
(*more information on website*)



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Course Descriptions

EDU 595 Children's Rights: Humanizing Wellbeing in Schools

Drawing from international human rights agreements and the latest scientific research on children's development, this course provides a basis for prioritizing and elevating student wellbeing in the classroom. Participants will learn how to anchor their teaching and student-teacher relationships in practices that center the whole child within highly complex learning environments. The focus is on evidence-based and concrete strategies to facilitate authentic learning, respectful peer relations, and empathic classroom environments.

EDU 595 Student Social Emotional Learning for Wellbeing

In a world that is continuously evolving, students need concrete social and emotional strategies in order to adapt and thrive in different contexts. This course offers a developmentally-informed approach to student social emotional learning (SEL). Participants will learn about key SEL competencies (self-awareness, self-management, decision-making, relationship skills, social understanding) and how they are integral to wellbeing. Research supporting evidence-based practice will be incorporated throughout.

EDU 595 Motivation: An Untapped Source of Wellbeing

Too often motivation is viewed as an on-off switch, something that students have or lack. This course offers an alternative perspective by focusing on the quality of motivation and its association with important indicators of student wellbeing such as emotions, persistence, and learning. Participants will encounter a wide range of theories that they can use to understand student motivation and evidence-based practices that they can use to create learning contexts supportive of wellbeing.

595 Supporting Student Wellbeing in Action

The purpose of this course is to allow participants to action their learnings from across the certificate for their own classroom. The course will create space to discuss contemporary challenges to student wellbeing so that participants can plan for addressing challenges in their own context. The course will scaffold participants' thinking through topics like needs assessments, implementation, and evaluation.

Laddering into a Master's Degree

The Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies can be laddered into the Master of Education in Educational Studies (MES).

The MES consists of 10 courses (30 credits); eight core courses and two additional electives. Students with a GCES receive 12 credits in advanced standing, reducing the number of courses in the master's to six. Courses are offered online with synchronous components.

Courses in the MES:

EDU 510
Fundamentals of Educational Research

EDU 514
Planning for Educational Change

EDU 515
Conducting Educational Research

EDU 900
Program Synthesis

Plus two graduate-level electives

**Details on the
MES Ladder Program
are available at uab.ca/MESLDR**

Contact: mesinfo@ualberta.ca

The GCES can also ladder into the following:

- *Master of Education in Elementary Education - Curriculum and Pedagogy (online and in-person options available)*
- *Master of Education in Secondary Education (in-person only)*

Contact Dr. William Dunn at
wdunn@ualberta.ca for details.



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