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Master of Education Newsletter

Spring 2019 VOL 8 NO 2



Faculty of Education

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**NEW – Master
of Education
Handbook.
[Click here.](#)**

**Frustrated
when courses
are cancelled?
Register early
to avoid
possible
cancellation of
courses!**



**Still need to register for
a summer course...
check out page 5 for
seat availability!!**

As I gaze out my office window, and in no way do I want to jinx this, I'm hopefully optimistic that winter is now officially over.

Of course, the end of winter signals the start of the spring term in the MEd program. As always, I am very appreciative for those who are currently teaching a course. Your dedication to our students does not go unnoticed.

Spring also brings with it convocation, which occurred on May 5. To those who received their diplomas, congratulations on this wonderful accomplishment! I'd also like to recognize my colleagues, Drs. Chris Gilham and Jennifer Mitton-Kükner, who were both recognized at Convocation as the recipients of the Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award. Congrats Chris and Jennifer!

At the moment, much of my attention is directed at preparing for summer school, which is scheduled to run from July 2-25. Besides our non-cohort MEd degree, we have a number of new cohorts launching this summer, including culturally responsive pedagogy and outdoor education. We are also pleased to be starting an early elementary pedagogy cohort based in Halifax, as well as a mental health cohort in Toronto. I would be remiss if I also didn't mention that we will be launching new cohorts this summer in the area of inclusive education. In all, bringing these programs to fruition involves much work by many people, and I feel fortunate to be surrounded by a terrific team who always go beyond the call of duty.

A final point I would like to make is that I attended two conferences recently, and many of the conversations I had with colleagues centered on the notion of graduate education. Needless to say, as we compared notes informally, I was struck by the fact that the program we offer here at StFX is special, and in no small measure, that stems from the people. Be it faculty, staff, or students, the common vision we all share in striving to improve education for those in our classes is unmatched. It makes me feel privileged to work and learn alongside those of you pursuing an MEd degree at this University.

In closing, the coming weeks promise to be busy, but I'm looking forward to summer school. Besides meeting incoming students, I hope to connect with continuing students, so if you are on campus, my office door is always open.

As a reminder, if you plan on taking a summer course, I would encourage you to register early, as courses do fill up quickly.

If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to ask, as we are all here to help. Best wishes for a wonderful spring term!

David

Spring Convocation – CONGRATULATIONS!

Jennifer May Corkum
Blaire Margaret Gould
Dudett Adubony Kumar
Marjorie Ann Chelsea Landry
Julie Ann North
Marion Elizabeth Tabanor



Important Information

- **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS** for Master of Education students has been added to the Continuing & Distance Education website. <https://www2.mystfx.ca/masters-of-education/students-faq>
 - How do I register for a course?
 - How do I request a transcript?
 - How do I request an official receipt for tuition?
 - How do I apply to graduate?
 - What is the refund policy?And many more...
- **X-RING ELLIGIBILITY:** <https://www.stfx.ca/alumni/everything-x-ring>
- **DROPPING A COURSE:** Please be aware of our refund policy. Dropping a course 2 weeks prior to the start date will result in an automatic charge of \$100.00. Please see [here](#) for the refund policy.
- **EDUC 569 SELECTED TOPICS:** Students may register for as many 569s as their elective requirements allow, provided the course title for each is different.
- **STUDENT STATUS:** If your student status changes for any reason, please notify the program office at med@stfx.ca
- **ASYNCHRONOUS:** We have developed several asynchronous courses. Asynchronous e-learning is an interactive, student-centered approach to learning that is not bounded by geography or time.
- **CORE COURSES:** Non-Cohort students are encouraged to take core courses first. Please visit the FAQ's for a list.



Technology Tips & Tricks

- A little time before class goes a long way. **Test everything out well in advance.** This allows time for solving problems or even just the reassurance it all works so focus can be on pedagogy.
- When participating in a course via Collaborate, best practice is use Google Chrome as your browser. **PowerPoint or PDF slides can be uploaded days or hours in advance** if needed.
- Breakout rooms could be set up before class starts uploading slides within each group separately. Do not stop breakouts with slides, if you end breakouts, you lose the slides.
- **Test microphone and audio** when you log in the first time. Contact CDESupport@stfx.ca to arrange a 2-minute audio check during business hours and one of the CDE Support team can join your class to do the test when everything works, it actually takes less than 2 minutes so we encourage people to do this. CDE Support are normally online during business hours. If you are in your Online Classroom, you can email and could possibly have a response within minutes, have someone log in, check your audio, and be done.
- Once you know all audio works and uploading files is fine, we recommend **ignoring all updates** for your computer. Often these are notifications you may receive, and then click yes. If possible avoid updates and use the saying, "If it ain't broke... don't update it". Some updates reconfigure audio or video drivers for mics, speakers or webcams, so it could change how these work... or don't work. Many connectivity problems or audio issues in middle of course happen after updates.
- Many tests take no time at all to fix in advance, but could cause major panic or issues during a class. Please do not hesitate to contact cdesupport@stfx.ca to do even simple checks. The simple things can be big things that are easily avoidable.
- **Connectivity:** Wifi is not as strong as a plugged-in network jack. Plugging in gives you 100% of your router bandwidth. Best tip is to plug in if possible. If wifi is only option, proximity matters. Know the location of your router, and be as close as possible to it. Wifi signal can drop significantly in as little as 15 feet away. This is even more critical with rural internet.

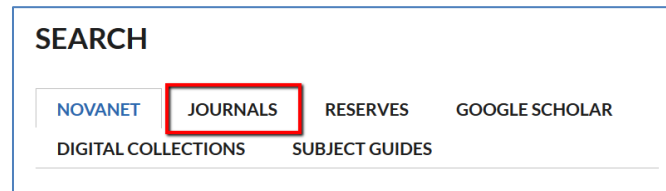


How to find a specific Journal?

The Angus L. Macdonald Library subscribes to a lot of databases and locating specific articles or journal titles can be daunting.

If you're wondering if the Library has access to a journal or you wanted to browse an issue, there is a simpler way to find it rather than searching via multiple databases.

- Go to the Library homepage and click on the "Search" icon.



- Click on the "Journals" tab, type the journal title, then click search. Locate the journal title in the list and click on it. If the journal is not listed, try searching the first part of the title. If you're still yielding no results, the Library likely doesn't subscribe to it.



- Both print and online access options will be listed. Online access will have a hyperlink to the database the journal is located in, as well as the total number of publication years and issues that a database provides. If the journal is only available in print, and you're unable to visit the Library, submit a Document Delivery request to have a scanned PDF copy emailed to you.
- Once you click on a link, you can manually browse and search through all issues.



If you're having trouble locating a journal, please contact me at mlandry@stfx.ca.

In the News

- [Celebrating new horizons: StFX graduates over 900; awards honorary degrees to Dr. Stan Kutcher, Congrégation de Notre-Dame](#)
- [StFX hosts 4th annual celebration of faculty authors](#)
- [Renowned educator delivers ninth annual Agnes Calliste African Heritage Lecture at StFX](#)

Cohort News

New Cohorts Starting Summer 2019:

- **Master of Education in Administration & Leadership**
 - Inclusive Education
 - Mental Health Education (Toronto Area)
 - Outdoor Education
- **Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction**
 - Culturally Responsive Pedagogy
 - Early Elementary Pedagogy
 - Inclusive Education

Information on cohorts can be found here: <https://www2.mystfx.ca/masters-of-education/med-cohorts>

Seats are still available in the following summer courses:

[For full descriptions click here](#)

For instructions on how to register for a course, please visit our Frequently Asked Questions Page: <https://www2.mystfx.ca/masters-of-education/students-faq>

EDUC 507.66– *Qualitative Research* (CRN 21105)

EDUC 569.68 – *Selected Topics in Education: Social Media* (CRN 21103)

EDUC 569.67 – *Selected Topics in Education: Enhancing School Climate and Culture* (CRN 21087)

EDUC 510.67 – *Restorative Approaches in Educational Settings* (CRN 21104)

[The Fall / Winter / Spring 2019-2020 Calendar will be available in mid July. You will receive an e-mail notifying you when the calendar has been posted and when registration will open.](#)