Program Overview

Choosing to pursue the Master of Arts in Learning Sciences at Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College puts you on the path to lead sustainable innovations that enhance learning and teaching experiences. The skills you develop through the program will enable you to make an impact on primary and secondary education, as well as in museums, corporate training environments, public service organizations, and within homes and among communities.

This program focuses on learning and the power of design to refine and optimize teaching and learning systems in specific settings, often considering relevant technologies. Through individual and collaborative activities, you will engage in understanding, designing and implementing these systems for stakeholders and ecosystem needs. Courses provide personalized opportunities for you to create and apply a combination of ideas and products for optimal impact—all as part of a committed community contributing solutions to real-world problems.

You will gain a wide spectrum of knowledge and experiences, including becoming familiar with the theoretical insights and usable tools to make meaningful change in learning organizations. In addition, the systems-level approach emphasized in your coursework encourages the consideration of cognitive, social and contextual foundations of learning and teaching, as well as the complex interactions among them.

Once you graduate, you will be prepared to enter a variety of professions, including employment as an educational and interactional designer, technology integration leader, consultant or trainer. Your work may involve:

- Designing curricular innovations to help teachers and students achieve their goals
- Researching impact games to unlock new models for learning
- Advocating for transformational policies that accelerate positive change in local, state and national government agencies
- Creating corporate training experiences that develop workforce talents
- Mobilizing citizens to organize smarter communities and better services for productive and sustainable living
Contact Information
Office of Student Services – Graduate Programs
For admissions information please contact Amy Hettmansperger, Student Recruitment Coordinator, at Amy.Hettmansperger@asu.edu.
Current students please contact Robin Boyle, Academic Success Specialist, at Robin.Boyle@asu.edu.
For General Inquiries: (602)543-6358

Quick Facts
Campus Location: Tempe Campus
Number of Credits: 30 Credit Hours
Start Terms: Fall
Program Fee: N/A
Time to Completion: Average of 4 to 5 semesters
Application Deadlines: http://education.asu.edu/application-deadlines

Application Requirements & How to Apply
Graduate Admissions Application Requirements
• Earned a bachelor’s degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution in the U.S. or the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor’s degree from an international institution that is officially recognized by that country
• Must have maintained a “B” (3.00 on a 4.00 scale) grade point average (GPA) in the last 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of undergraduate coursework
• Proof of English proficiency – International students only
  o If you are from a country whose native language is not English (regardless of where you may now reside), you must provide proof of English proficiency. For more information including additional requirements for international students, please visit the ASU Graduate Admissions website.
  o Applicants to Non-Certification Masters, Graduate Certificates, and Doctoral Programs:
    • Must meet the English Proficiency score established by ASU Graduate Education

Items Needed to Apply to the Program
• Items that will be uploaded into the online application:
  o Personal Statement: The Learning Sciences program inspires and enables students to bring about change in a wide range of formal and informal education settings. It provides system-level grounding in the development, integration, and evolution of sustainable innovation that enhance learning and teaching experiences. With this in mind, please describe your personal interest in this field of learning sciences, the goals you wish to achieve while in our program, and your short- and long-term career aspirations. The admissions committee pays particular attention to the quality of writing, the ideas expressed, and the relative match between the students’ and program goals. Your personal statement should be approximately 500 words (2 double-spaced pages) and prepared in an MS word (.doc), Rich Text (.rtf), Portable Document Format (.pdf), or Text (.txt) file format.
  o 3 professional recommenders (names, emails, and institution/company) who will submit electronic letters of recommendation. One of your recommenders should be your supervising administrator if you are working in a K-12 environment. The others should be from educators that know of your professional capabilities and accomplishments. These people will be asked to comment on your research skills, professionalism, flexibility, and other qualities that indicate you are a suitable candidate for graduate study.
  o Resume that includes relevant personal, professional, educational, and community activities (one – two pages). The resume should be prepared in an MS Word (.doc), Rich Text (.rtf), Portable Document Format (.pdf), or Text (.txt) file format.
Items that need to be mailed to Graduate Admissions Services:
  - Official transcripts from every college and university from which you have earned a Bachelor's degree or higher
  - Proof of English proficiency – International students only

Complete and submit the Graduate Admission online application
- Review the application deadlines prior to applying: [http://education.asu.edu/application-deadlines](http://education.asu.edu/application-deadlines)
- Start the online application at this website: [www.asu.edu/gradapp](http://www.asu.edu/gradapp)
- Select the degree: Learning Sciences (MA)
- Select the appropriate term for Planned Semester and Year of Enrollment
- For Location, select Tempe campus
- Upload required items listed above
- Submit the application and pay the appropriate application fee
- Send the remaining items to Graduate Admissions

Requirements and Program of Study
The MA in Learning Sciences requires completion of 30 credit hours beyond a bachelor's degree. In collaboration with academic and faculty advisors, students develop a program of study that combines required course designed to develop talents and competencies in core areas of the learning sciences as well as graduate-level electives in areas such as research methods or disciplinary applications. Students are required to complete the following six courses:

**Requirements (21-24 credit hours)**
- LSE 540 Theoretical Views of Learning in the Learning Sciences
- LSE 570 Case Exemplars of Learning Systems
- LSE 571 History of the Learning Sciences
- LSE 542 Research Methods in the Learning Sciences
- LSE 591 LSE Seminar (taken each year)
- LSE 593 Applied Project or LSE 599 Thesis

**Graduate-level Electives (6-9 credit hours)** – selected in conjunction with your advisor

Curriculum and tuition for all programs subject to change based on Arizona Board of Regents and Arizona Department of Education updates.

To review course descriptions please visit the ASU Catalog: [http://asu.edu/catalog](http://asu.edu/catalog).

**Culminating Experience**
As students plan their program of study, they determine whether to conduct an applied project or complete a research thesis study. For applied projects, students must enroll in LSE 593: Applied Project during their last semester of coursework. A supervised applied project serves as a graduation requirement in a professional degree program. It is a culminating experience where students provide evidence of mastery of the skills and knowledge obtained in the LSE program. For thesis studies, students must complete a research study that fits within a broad area of inquiry in the learning sciences with the potential for scholarly recognition (e.g., conference presentations, publications).

**Additional Resources**
- Application Deadlines: [http://education.asu.edu/application-deadlines](http://education.asu.edu/application-deadlines)
- How to Apply: [http://education.asu.edu/graduate-programs-how-to-apply](http://education.asu.edu/graduate-programs-how-to-apply)
- Faculty: [http://education.asu.edu/faculty?research=learning-sciences](http://education.asu.edu/faculty?research=learning-sciences)
- ASU Graduate Education Policies: [http://graduate.asu.edu/faculty_staff/policies](http://graduate.asu.edu/faculty_staff/policies)
- Tuition and Fees: [https://students.asu.edu/tuitionandfees](https://students.asu.edu/tuitionandfees)