Competency-Based Instruction
Graduate Certificate

The Competency-Based Instruction graduate certificate provides learners with a strong foundation in using standards, outcomes, and competencies to guide curriculum and instruction decisions. The curriculum in this graduate certificate emphasizes gaining expertise in designing authentic assessments to measure identified learning goals, using formative and summative assessments, and collaborating with colleagues and students to develop learning objectives and track progress toward them. Upon successful completion of this graduate certificate, learners are prepared to use formative and summative assessment to improve instruction and to document student progress toward desired competencies.

Graduate certificates are an ideal way to update existing knowledge, gain new knowledge, and study at the graduate level. Coursework completed in the Competency-Based Instruction graduate certificate program may be applied toward the MS in Education Innovation and Technology degree program at Capella.

Capella’s Career Center proactively assists learners and alumni in developing and implementing their unique career management goals. The Career Center staff is committed to helping you move forward in your career.

This guide is intended to provide an overview of the program and is subject to change. Your enrollment counselor can provide updates, details, and Capella’s official University Catalog that specifies your program requirements.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor’s degree from an institution accredited by a U.S. Department of Education-recognized agency or an internationally recognized institution

Grade point average of 2.3 or higher on a 4.0 scale

This certificate does not lead to license, endorsement, or other professional credential. For more information, see the Licensure section for this program on Capella’s website (www.capella.edu). Teachers are advised to contact their school district to determine whether a program may qualify for salary advancement.

The courses in this program may require live web conferencing activities and/or learner audio/video recordings. Learners who require assistive technology or alternative communication methods to participate in these activities should contact Disability Services to request accommodations.
Required Course Descriptions

**EDT5126  Collaborative Learning Environments**  
This course focuses on creating systems for building, supporting, and sustaining collaborative learning. Learners evaluate structures and systems that leverage technology to provide opportunities for collaborative learning and professional collaboration. Learners explore theories, research, and models that support collaborative learning and professional learning communities, and also how to create opportunities for students and teachers to work collaboratively within live and virtual settings.

**EDT5130  Understanding Competency-Based Curriculum and Instruction**  
Learners in this course gain an understanding of the differences between standards, outcomes, and competencies and how they can be integrated into the curriculum. Learners build on this understanding, mapping competencies to outcomes and aligning standards to competencies and outcomes. Learners integrate competency-based curriculum and lesson planning with best-practice teaching approaches and develop competency-based classroom management techniques. *This course requires access to an educational setting, students or learners, and/or classroom practitioners.*

**EDT5132  Authentic Assessments and the Data-Driven Classroom**  
In this course, learners analyze authentic assessment as an evaluation process that includes multiple forms of performance that reflect student learning, achievement, and motivation in real-world contexts. Learners develop a variety of authentic assessment techniques, including performance assessments, portfolios, and self-assessments and collect, summarize, analyze, and apply assessment data. The course also emphasizes techniques for organizing and participating in grade-level or school-wide collaborative teams.

**EDT5134  Adaptive Learning and Competency-Based Assessments**  
In this course, learners utilize a variety of formative and authentic assessment techniques in an educational setting and interpret data from formative assessments to inform instruction. Learners implement adaptive learning approaches to meet the diverse needs of all learners and apply Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles to competency-based assessment. *This course requires access to an educational setting, students or learners, and/or classroom practitioners.*
Tuition and Fees

This tuition estimate is effective July 9, 2018, and is subject to change. For current pricing, visit the Capella University website at www.capella.edu.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUITION/FEES</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition per credit</td>
<td>$440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource kit per quarter</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Digital course materials covered by the quarterly resource kit fee offer advantages such as immediate mobile access to books; fast, easy full-text search of materials; digital note-taking; and peer collaboration through note sharing.

Financial Aid

Capella University offers assistance to learners who qualify and would like to secure educational funding to help finance their academic program. A number of options are available, given the diverse needs and backgrounds of prospective learners. Options include:

- Federal Direct Stafford Loan Program
- Federal Direct PLUS Loan Program
- Non-federal loans through preferred lenders and financial institutions
- Capella scholarships
- External scholarships
- Veterans’ educational benefits and U.S. armed forces discounts
- Corporate and higher education alliances
- Employer tuition reimbursement

Regarding loan programs, interest rates for Stafford student loans are low compared to other types of consumer loans, and repayment can be deferred until after graduation. In compliance with federal and state laws, Capella University has established policies for all learners regarding satisfactory academic progress, which is necessary for financial aid eligibility.

There are many financial aid options available to help you offset tuition costs.

Contact an enrollment counselor at 1.888.CAPPELLA (227.3552) to discuss your financial aid opportunities.
Academic Leadership

Amy Smith, PhD
Dean

Dr. Amy Smith serves as dean for the School of Education. In her 25-year career in education, she has held leadership positions in both public and private P–12 education, beginning as a high school English teacher, increasing leadership roles as department chair and principal, and eventually leading teams in building charter schools. Dr. Smith’s higher education experience began as a professor of education at Kent State University and Western Oregon University. She continued expanding her leadership as a department chair at Concordia University Chicago and a dean at the University of Phoenix. Her service includes authoring sections of the national teacher preparation standards for the National Council Teachers of English and serving as an assistant editor for the Journal of Curriculum and Pedagogy, a member of a charter school network Board of Directors, and a columnist for a trade publication where she provided soft-skills career advice for multiple magazines and audiences. Dr. Smith holds a PhD in Educational Leadership: Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Denver, an MEd in administration and supervision from National-Louis University in Chicago, an MA in secondary education from the University of Akron, and a BA in English from the University of Colorado.

Melissa McIntyre, PhD
Associate Dean

Dr. Melissa McIntyre serves as the associate dean of Capella University’s School of Education as well as the faculty chair for its P–12 leadership programs. Dr. McIntyre, who has been with Capella since 2004, has an extensive background in P–12 education, previously holding positions as a teacher, special education coordinator, assistant principal, and curriculum director. In addition, she has also worked as an adjunct and online faculty member at other higher education institutions. Her primary interests are improving student achievement with emphasis on leadership and effective instructional approaches. Dr. McIntyre holds a BS in Social Studies Composite from University of Central Texas, an MA in both Educational Administration and Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix, and a PhD in Educational Administration from Capella University.
Move Forward with Capella University

WORKING SCHOLARS
Capella provides an online, flexible learning environment for working adults who are also determined scholars. That connection between academic and professional work infuses the entire Capella experience—from the faculty we recruit to the course projects you complete. The theories discussed in the courseroom are designed to develop working knowledge for everyday situations.

AN ACCREDITED UNIVERSITY
Our accreditation* is an assurance to students, employers, and the public that Capella University meets established standards for quality of faculty, curriculum, and learner services. It is also an important factor in the ability to transfer credits among higher education institutions. Regional accreditation, the type held by Capella, is the most common type for major public, state, and private institutions in the United States.

VALUING YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE
Adults bring a wealth of experience and learning to their education. Capella courses are designed to bring out your perspectives just as you gain from others’ ideas. Your knowledge can also be worth time and money: An enrollment counselor can help you estimate how much of your prior learning may apply toward your Capella degree program.

Important Information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attended this program: http://capellareresults.com/assets/includes/gainfulemployment/cta/GE/GE15/certs/PB_Cert_ED_CBI_Gedt.html.

Capella Tower 1.888.CAPELLA (227.3552)
225 South Sixth Street, Ninth Floor  www.capella.edu
Minneapolis, MN 55402

*ACCREDITATION
Capella University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION
https://www.hlc.org
800.221.7440

© 2018 Capella University. All rights reserved.