

M Path

Master of Arts in Education: At-Risk and Alternative Education

Help youth at-risk succeed in school — and life

The traditional classroom setting can leave students frustrated and vulnerable, particularly at-risk and special needs students — but it doesn't have to be this way.

Leading to the Master of Arts in Education, our **100% online At-Risk and Alternative Education program** will prepare you to effectively work with learners who are at-risk in any educational setting. Whether you are a licensed teacher or non-teachers, our program was created for anyone who is or aspires to be educating, counseling, coaching, or administering youth.

Requiring a bachelor's degree and a desire to make a difference, you'll learn to:

- **Recognize** risk factors for vulnerable youth
- Quickly **assess** the needs of youth in your care
- **Design** and **implement** alternative education methods and strategies

In meeting the requirements for the MAE degree you will engage with colleagues in a 10-course program focused on youth at-risk and alternative education, gradually create a significant capstone project, acquire the **Wisconsin DPI #1952 Alternative Education License** — all completed in as little as 14 months.

Covering what you need to help them succeed

Resulting from decades of research and experience, topic areas covered include:

- Methods for becoming more effective with youth at-risk
- How to assess and implement alternative teaching methods, techniques, and programs
- How to clinically assess individual needs and develop and implement specific strategies

Where you could see yourself

Learn to serve in the following roles:

- Educator
- Youth worker
- Counselor
- Juvenile Services personnel
- Detention Center personnel

Expert faculty and curriculum

Our program was designed by the founder of the National At-Risk Education Network, Dr. Anthony Dallmann-Jones, who also serves as a Marian University Director and lead professor for the program. Dr. DJ is a published author of 8 books on education, including, *The Expert Educator*, *Shadow Children*, *Fixing Public Education*, *The Handbook for Effective Teaching and Assessment*, and his new publication, *How to Connect with Students At-Risk* — debuting in June 2020.

Alternative Education Licensure Only

Individuals with an initial teaching license who do not wish to complete a master's degree program may seek the alternative education license only (*WIDPI #1952 License*). Students must complete EDU 636 and EDU 638, complete a reflective paper, and file for the license with Marian.

For Licensed Teachers

In the classroom environment, learn how to better understand and clinically assess the many factors in play for vulnerable students at risk of falling behind in school or developing behavioral issues.

Teachers will have the training and knowledge to reach their most vulnerable students outside the confines of "teaching to the center" of the classroom. Using a holistic approach, educators can design and implement learning strategies that engage non-traditional learners, teaching to their strengths, talents, needs, abilities, aptitudes, and learning styles.

Alternative Education License in Wisconsin

Teachers licensed in Wisconsin completing the program also earn an Alternative Education add-on license, granted under **Wisconsin WPI code 1952**.

For Non-Teachers

Outside the traditional classroom, professionals not licensed as teachers bring a higher level of knowledge, empathy, and understanding of the psychological, emotional, and socioeconomic circumstances of the at-risk youth in their care. We help all non-teaching professionals working with at-risk youth, including:

- Social workers
- Law enforcement officers
- Juvenile detention workers
- Youth counselors
- School psychologists
- Sunday school teachers

Major Courses (30 credits)

- TDE 628 Teaching Strategies for At Risk Education
- TDE 645 Differentiated Instruction and Response to Intervention
- TDE 658 Planning and Assessing Diverse Programs
- RDG 674 Digital Literacies
- TCH 618 Advanced Educational Psychology
- EDU 636 Understanding Alternative and Non-Traditional Learners
- EDU 638 Effective Schools' Research: What Works
- EDR 626 Social Justice Education
- TDE 662 Resiliency, Holistic Health and Stress Management
- TDE 660 Prevention, Intervention, and Community



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