

# Information Session:

## Master of Arts in Education Program (MA)

October 11, 2022



# Agenda of Session:

- **Who is St. Mary's University? How do they work with us?**
- **What is the MA program?**
  - What type of MA is this? Is this accredited?
- **How does the MA program operate at ACA?**
  - Do I take classes in-person? Who is teaching the classes?
- **What are program details that I need to know?**
  - How much does this cost? Do I receive grades and a transcript? If I leave Kuwait, what happens to my credits?
- **How do I apply to the program?**
  - Do I need to be accepted at ACA and SMU for the program? Is there a class-size limit?





# Saint Mary's University

of MINNESOTA

- **Founded:** 1912
- **Institution Type:** Private, national university offering undergraduate, bachelor's completion, master's, and doctoral degrees; graduate certificates
- **Total Enrollment:** 4,701 (total – undergraduate, bachelor's completion, master's, doctoral)
- **Accreditation:** [The Higher Learning Commission](#)





- ACA & St. Mary's University have an established partnership (MoU).
- ACA operates like a third physical campus of SMU.
- All graduate courses will be taught by Adjunct Faculty of SMU.
  - All qualified ACA staff members have the capacity to become adjunct faculty and teach in the MA program.
- ACA operates all academic portions of the program. SMU conducts all operational aspects of the program.
- Separate from your contract in Kuwait, you are a SMU student.

# Master of Arts in Education Program

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- Graduate degree consisting of 30 credits. (10 courses; 3 credits per course)
  - 15 core credits in education; 15 specialized credits in a chosen focus.
- **ACA is offering a graduate degree in education with a specialization (focus) on Curriculum & Instruction.**
- Fully accredited in the US; approval by MOE.
- Program Outcomes ([LINK](#)).
- Students can transfer up to 9 credits from approved institutions.

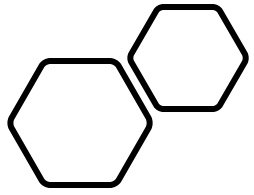


# Operations & Logistics at ACA

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- Each course will meet in-person at an ACA campus once per week during the school year. Courses that extend over the summer will meet on Microsoft Teams 1x per week.
- No university documentation indicates online learning or site-based learning.
- Cohorts are designed with a minimum of 11 students, and a maximum of 25 students. We can have multiple sections of classes depending on interest and capacity.
- Courses are taught by qualified ACA staff members or external professors. Guest speakers are common.





## Financial Impact:

**ACA offers a 25% tuition discount for all staff.**

- SMU students pay \$535 per credit. ACA/SMU students pay \$400 per credit.
- Total cost of program: \$12,000USD; 3708KD.

# Grades, Transcripts, Diplomas

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- You are a full student at St. Mary's University.
- ACA utilizes the SMU database and registrar to record all course grades.
- As an SMU student, you can log into the Student Portal to view: grades, unofficial transcripts, student records, etc. You own your information and credits; ACA has no access or ability to change ownership.
- If you leave Kuwait– properly or improperly – you own your grades, transcripts, and degree. You can continue as an SMU student fully (*but not at the discounted price*).





# Qualifications & Application Process

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- ACA will have an internal application process to match the needs of our program.
  - Submission of resume, transcripts, diplomas for each candidate.
  - Submission of 1-page personal statement about why you want to enroll in the MA program.
  - Interview with team. (English proficiency component modified)
- If accepted, ACA will process your application with SMU.
  - **NOT Included in Cost:** Application Fee (\$100), Semester Technology Fee (\$100 per term), Transcript evaluation for non-US staff (185.00)



# Applications Timeline

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- **Tuesday, October 11:** External Information Session
- **Wednesday, October 12:** Open to Receive Applications
- **Wednesday, October 26:** Last Day to Receive Applications
- **Wednesday, November 2:** ACA Acceptance Decision and SMU Application Begin

# How to Apply:

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**STEP ONE:** Email Ms. Daisy Bilan ([daisy.bilan@aca.edu.kw](mailto:daisy.bilan@aca.edu.kw)) to say that you are officially applying to the MA in Education program as a graduate candidate for St. Mary's University.

- Include a sentence that states your ability to produce original documents for the SMU application in step two.

# MA in Education: Curriculum & Instruction Timeline

Month	Date: (Mondays)	Action:
<b>2022</b>	BEGIN COHORT 1	
<b>September 2022</b>		Information Sessions
<b>October – December 2022</b>		Admissions & Enroll students
<b>2023</b>	January 16 - March 6	<b>Course 1</b>
	March 13 – May 1	<b>Course 2</b>
	May 8 – June 26	<b>Course 3</b>
	July 3 – August 21	<b>Course 4</b>
	August 28 – October 16	<b>Course 5</b>
	October 23 – December 11	<b>Course 6</b>
<b>2024</b>	December 18 – February 5	<b>Course 7</b>
	February 12 – April 1	<b>Course 8</b>
	April 8 – May 27	<b>Course 9</b>
	June 3 – July 22	<b>Course 10</b>
<b>August 2024</b>	<b>GRADUATION OF COHORT 1</b>	

Q&A



أكاديمية الإبداع الأمريكية

American Creativity Academy