The Master of Education in middle level education is designed to provide the necessary young adolescent pedagogy and subject matter content needed by licensed teachers to be effective educators in middle grades. Courses emphasize the characteristics of middle age children, varying instructional strategies necessary to teach this age group and current content being taught in middle schools. Graduates of the M.Ed. in middle level education will be prepared to serve as curriculum and instructional leaders in contemporary middle schools.
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

ACCREDITATION:
NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
1. Have an undergraduate grade-point average of minimum 2.75 on a 4.0 scale in the last 60 hours of the graduate candidate’s undergraduate course work OR submit an official score of 900 or above on the combined verbal and quantitative portions of the General Test of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).
2. Submit a verified copy of a current South Carolina Department of Education Class III Certificate or the equivalent from another state.
3. Submit official transcripts (sent directly to Winthrop University from the issuing institution) for evaluation. Additional undergraduate course work may be required to strengthen the applicant’s credentials.
4. Present two letters of recommendation to include a recommendation from the applicant’s current principal, assistant principal or other supervisor/professional educator.

FACULTY
Kelly M. Costner has a Ph.D. in mathematics education from The Ohio State University, and is licensed to teach mathematics (middle and high school levels), French (K-12), and English as a Second Language (K-12). He is co-director of Teaching Teachers WELL, a U.S. Department of Education grant focused on improving the preparation of teachers to work with English Language Learners. His research interests are the connections between teaching mathematics and teaching languages. Dr. Costner is currently serving as Faculty in Residence at South Middle School, a professional development school in Lancaster, S.C.

Abbigail Armstrong holds a B.A. in mathematics with a minor in secondary education and an endorsement in gifted and talented. In addition, she holds a M.Ed. in middle level education where her areas of focus were mathematics and science. She earned her Ed.D. in curriculum and instruction through Gardner-Webb University, for which she completed a research project entitled, “A Case Study: The Evaluation of a Middle School Education Program at a Southeastern University.”

REQUIRED PROGRAM OF STUDY
(Total minimum hours 36)

Professional Core Courses
(9 hours)
EDUC 640  Educational Research, Design, and Analysis
EDUC 670  Schooling in American Society
EDUC 681  Advanced Educational Psychology

Education Core Courses
(15 hours)
EDCI 600  Philosophy, Organization and Curriculum of the Middle School
EDCI 610  Early Adolescence in Contemporary Society
EDCI 620  Content Literacy in the Middle School
EDCI 630  Pedagogy and Assessment in the Middle School
EDCI 690  Capstone and Advanced Field Experiences in the Middle School

Disciplinary Focus
(12-15 hours)
Disciplinary focus reflects National Middle School Association/NCATE-approved guidelines, which stipulate that programs must meet the curricular needs of students with varied professional backgrounds and experiences.