Preparing students with the skills and experience to succeed as adult educators.

This fully online program is learner-centered and real world focused. Graduates work in many fields including:

- higher education
- non-profit organizations
- corporations
- K-12 schools
- community agencies

DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

| Master of Science in Adult and Higher Education (36 credits) | Certificate of Advanced Study in Adult Learning (30 credits) |

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Flexibility and Access** - Both the Master of Science and Certificate of Advanced Studies programs can be earned 100% online.

- **Low Cost** - Students in the MS and CAS programs receive in-state tuition, regardless of residency.

- **Real-World Learning** - Most students are working adults who seek to advance in their current place of employment or transition into a career directly related to adult and higher education. Skills-oriented courses and field-based experiences build on research and theory to provide a rich professional development experience.

- **Learner-Centered** - Graduate students are encouraged to be authors of their own programs. Although there are a core of required courses, students self-design their learning through electives, a range of skills-based courses and self-authored projects.

- **Community** - Even though this is an online program, faculty nurture learning communities in their courses. Students work in a supportive environment. Several special events are also scheduled each year to encourage face-to-face contact among students, faculty and program alumni.

- **Employment Opportunities** - Specific jobs graduates fill include director of adult education, dean, academic advisor, corporate trainer, staff development specialist, program designer, research associate and adult education teacher.
MEET OUR STUDENTS

Peg Wheeler, MS in Adult and Higher Ed ‘16
Program Director, Veterinary Technology, York County Community College
After 15 years of teaching at UNH, Peg Wheeler was ready for a change. Just after being admitted to the AHE program Wheeler was chosen for her dream job at YCCC. As she worked to build a successful program, AHE courses provided her with the design and pedagogical understanding required.

Relationships with instructors and peers were so supportive that Wheeler never felt alone in the program. Post-graduation, she keeps many AHE resources close at hand as she continues to develop curriculum.

Steve Thaxten, MS in Adult and Higher Ed ‘16
Executive Director, National Resource Center for Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLI) at Northwestern University
When Steve Thaxton started in the AHE program he hoped to teach undergraduate college broadcasting - playing off his 33-year career in local television. But Professor Mike Brady suggested he explore USM’s OLLI. Personal membership led to volunteering, and after graduation, an encore career at Northwestern.

“The AHE program stressed exactly the concepts and theory that would help me better understand myself and how variously adult students learn,” Thaxton says. The sustained online sharing between peers kept him engaged throughout his studies.

ADMISSIONS DEADLINES
Applications for admission are considered at three different times during the year: October 1 for spring semester, February 1 for summer, and May 1 for fall semester.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
Candidates should submit application materials to:
Application Processing Center
University of Maine System
P.O. Box 412
Bangor, ME 04402-0412
Electronic transcripts and other application materials can be emailed to: edocs@maine.edu

A complete application consists of:
• A submitted online application
• The application fee of $65.00
• Official transcripts for all colleges or universities attended. The Office of Graduate Admissions is able to obtain transcripts of courses completed after 1985 from any University of Maine system campus, so you do not need to request those; however, you do need to list them on your application
• Three letters of recommendation attesting to the applicant’s knowledge of current scholarship, capacity to connect theory and practice in posing and solving educational problems, achievement of excellence in educational practice, and demonstrated capability and motivation to engage in advanced graduate study. Recommendations are submitted using our online application form.
• Essay (see usm.maine.edu/adult-education for essay question)
• Certificate of Finances (international students only).
• Submission of official TOEFL or IELTS scores (if English is not first language)

INTERVIEW
The admissions process requires a formal interview. Candidates to be interviewed will be selected on the basis of the above information. During the interview, issues relating to the following topics will be covered:
  a) communication skills,
  b) clarity of professional goals,
  c) fit with the adult and higher education profession, and
  d) understanding one’s self as a learner.

For more information about the Adult and Higher Education program including, admissions, alumni stories, curriculum, and faculty profiles, please visit: usm.maine.edu/adult-education