The Department of Education is composed of 3 Units:

- Curriculum & Instruction
- Educational Leadership
- Adult and Higher Education

**Curriculum & Instruction – Teacher Education Program**

- Accredited by State of Montana and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC)
- Recently revised the Elementary Education curriculum to prepare prospective teachers for the needs of P-12 students for the 21st Century
- Most extensive teacher education program in Montana, with 968 students enrolled in 19 teaching majors and 17 teaching minors across four colleges
- Partnering with Montana schools, from Class AA high schools to one-room schoolhouses in After School programs and Dual Enrollment opportunities
- Future
  - Moving more content online for distance delivered teacher education
  - Continuing to develop after school programs and dual enrollment in local and online environments, to support rural and under-served school communities
  - Creating new overseas student teaching opportunities

**Curriculum & Instruction – Graduate Programs in Teacher Education**

- Delivering coursework using the latest online technology to 49 Master’s students
- Providing professional development opportunities for practicing teachers
- Providing an alternative teacher certification path for over 200 students through the Northern Plains Transition to Teaching program
- Preparing 26 Doctoral students to teach at the post-secondary level
- Future
  - Offering on-site professional development for Montana’s K-12 teachers
  - Providing professional leadership with national and international educational organizations

**Educational Leadership**

- Preparing principals, superintendents, and other school systems leaders to effectively lead organizations and facilitate the educational growth of children in Montana and beyond
- Accredited by State of Montana and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC)
- Almost all students are working full-time in schools throughout Montana, as well as Wyoming, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Alaska
- In partnership with the Montana Rural Education Association, developed the Rural Education Cohort to provide a leadership program for single administrator schools which combines principal and superintendent preparation into a seamless curriculum
- Delivering hybrid programs using the latest online technology to 146 Master’s, Educational Specialist and Doctoral students
- Active partnership with MSU-Billings delivering 12 credits of Educational Leadership coursework to MSU-B students seeking Special Education Administrative endorsement. MSU-Billings faculty delivers one 3-credit masters level and one 3 credit doctoral course to students in our programs.
- Active and ongoing engagement with the state’s school administrator professional organizations.
- Future
  - Seeking funding for a third Indian Leadership Education and Development (I LEAD) cohort to prepare 30 Native American and Alaskan Native educators to work as school principals and superintendents
  - Collaborating with MSU-B faculty to repackage current Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) program to meet a growing need among school administrators for combined special education and general education expertise
Development of new Ed.D. option focused on educational leadership of tribal and community college leaders in collaboration with the Adult and Higher Ed faculty. Program would combine existing courses in the areas of Educational Leadership and Higher Education.

**Adult and Higher Education**
- The A&HE graduate program is the only one of its kind in the state of Montana. The program offers Masters and Doctoral Degrees that prepare individuals for educational and professional positions. Many students are current professionals within the MUS system and are working full-time while earning their degrees.
- In Fall 2011, the program began offering a 12-credit College Teaching Certificate to develop and promote exemplary teaching in the postsecondary educational settings.
- The program currently has three full time tenure track faculty and 75 active A&HE graduate students (24 M.Ed., 37 Ed.D., and 14 College Teaching Certificate).
- The A&HE program emphasizes graduate student integration and engagement through involvement in internships and research/evaluation. In internships, students work throughout the MUS system and the community. For research & evaluation, students are involved in both the classroom and professional settings.
- The program emphasizes and offers a rigorous graduate education program that is well-regarded regionally and nationally. As a result, the placement of our graduates is excellent.
- The program is comprised of research-active, extramurally-funded, and award-winning faculty who are nationally recognized for their research, teaching, and service.
- In the future, the program will build on past success and emerging strengths:
  - Continue to deliver a high-quality graduate program in a flexible format that meets the needs of current and future students (including evening, weekend, and distance learning)
  - Build on existing interdisciplinary collaborations that provide A&HE graduate students opportunities to conduct hands-on research and use real-world evaluation data to address contemporary and important educational and program issues.
  - Further develop the College Teaching Certificate program through collaborative interdisciplinary partnerships with faculty and students to improve teaching at the post-secondary level.

**Emphasis on Indian Education for All across the Department**
- Providing annual professional development for faculty across campus
- Embedding IEFA throughout the Teacher Education Program curricula
- Publishing research pertinent to IEFA implementation in Montana and propagation of the IEFA model in other states
- Developed the Indian Leadership Education and Development (I LEAD) program into a national model to recruit, educate, certify and place American Indian educators into administrative positions in schools with high populations of Native American students
- Graduated 66 students with advanced degrees in 2009 and 2010; almost two-thirds of graduates currently work in school leadership positions including:
  - Director of Bureau of Indian Education (US Dept of Interior)
  - Acting Director, White House Task Force for Tribal College Initiatives
  - Superintendent of Schools for Lodge Grass School District
  - Superintendent of Schools for Wyola School District

**Emphasis on Research across the Department**
- Pursuing external funding
- Collaborating with colleagues across campus
- Investigating contemporary issues across all levels of education
- Engaging students in research

Preparing highly effective educators for the state of Montana and beyond