Master of Arts in Teaching
Middle Grades Education
PROGRAM INFORMATION SHEET

A member of the NCATE accredited School of Education; the Middle Grades Education Program is approved by the NC State Department of Public Instruction to offer a license in middle grades education and approved by the UNC Board of Governors to offer the Master of Arts in Teaching degree. The program leading to the Master of Arts in Teaching degree (M.A.T.) in Middle Grades Education provides professional training for "licensure-only" students who already have a degree and/or "lateral entry" teachers who are seeking middle grades teacher licensure. The program combines initial (A) and advanced (M) level licensure requirements in a two-phase process. Students enrolling in the M.A.T. program must select one of the following subject areas: Language Arts, Mathematics or Science. Upon completion of the program students are recommended for "M" level licensure in the appropriate subject area. The 39-42 hour program consists of a minimum of 15 hours of Initial Licensure Requirements; 21 hours in advanced specialty area; 3-6 hour and a Product of Learning experience. The time of program completion is an estimated 2-3 years. Students should see the Chairperson of the Department of Middle Grades, Secondary and Specialized Subjects for further information regarding specific coursework requirements and creating a plan of study.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To the Department
NOTE: No more than 12 semester hours to be counted toward the degree may be completed prior to formal admission to the MAT degree program.

All applicants pursing a graduate degree in Middle Grades Education must submit the following for admission to the Graduate School:

- A completed graduate admission application: [http://www.uncfsu.edu/graduateschool/admissions](http://www.uncfsu.edu/graduateschool/admissions)
- A $40.00 nonrefundable application fee
- An official baccalaureate degree transcript (and official transcripts from all graduate study)
- 2 letters of recommendation from persons qualified to evaluate the applicant’s abilities to pursue graduate study
- Official competitive scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Miller Analogies Test (MAT);
- International students are required to submit additional application materials (see University catalog)
- Undergraduate Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or last 60 hours GPA must be a 2.75

NOTES:

- Admission scores plus other factors guide admissions decisions.
- Admission to the University does not ensure admission to a graduate degree program
- Applicants admitted as professional development students who decide to seek admission to a degree program must submit another application for graduate admission

Admission to Teacher Education and Student Teaching

Students admitted to the MAT Middle Grades Education graduate degree program do not have to seek admission to Teacher Education. Candidates should be officially admitted to the MAT graduate degree program before taking more than 12 semester hours of program credits. Students should complete Phase I program requirements first.

All MAT Middle Grades Education students must enroll in EDUC 697 Product of Learning (Internship) (3 sch) during Phase 1 of the MAT Middle Grades Education Program. No prior teaching experience can be substituted. Licensure only students
who have no teaching license and are not currently lateral entry, must complete a student teaching application and submit the application to the MSSS department chair due to public school placement process. The application for Student Teaching/Internship must be submitted the semester before the experience (EDUC 697) is anticipated. All applications for Student Teaching/Internship are due:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Student Teaching/Internship (EDUC 697) will occur:</th>
<th>Apply for Student Teaching/Internship (EDUC 697)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Spring (January 15th)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Fall (August 15th)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To be eligible to student teach, students must be admitted to the MAT Middle Grades Education graduate degree program followed by admission to Student Teaching **at least one full semester prior to the Student Teaching/Internship (EDUC 697) experience.** Eligibility requirements for admission to Student Teaching are available at [http://www.unccsu.edu/ote/admissionST.htm](http://www.unccsu.edu/ote/admissionST.htm)

- Complete Admission To Student Teaching Application Form ([http://www.unccsu.edu/ote/Forms/StudentTeaApplication.pdf](http://www.unccsu.edu/ote/Forms/StudentTeaApplication.pdf)); and
- Complete a Security Background Check ([http://www.unccsu.edu/ote/Forms/AuthorizationBackgroundForm.pdf](http://www.unccsu.edu/ote/Forms/AuthorizationBackgroundForm.pdf));
- Complete the Clearance Form (Health and Deportment Status) ([http://www.unccsu.edu/ote/Forms/ClearanceForm.pdf](http://www.unccsu.edu/ote/Forms/ClearanceForm.pdf)); and
- Successfully complete an interview and writing sample.
- **In order to apply for your license in Middle Grades (Math or Science or Language Arts) you must take and successfully pass the Middle Grades (Math or Science or Language Arts) PRAXIS II exam.**

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

(39-42 Credits)

For persons who do not have licensure in Middle Grade Education, the **Phase 1** courses should be taken first, followed by application for the A-level license in Middle Grades content area (Language Arts or Mathematics or Science) **(15 credits)** through the Office of Teacher Education. The master’s program and M-level licensure will be completed by **Phase 2** courses **(24 credits)**.

Both **Phase 1** and **Phase 2** courses **(39-42 credits)** constitute the degree program and should be completed prior to applying for the M-level license in Middle Grades content area (Language Arts or Mathematics or Science).

**Phase 1: Initial Licensure Requirements**

**Specialty Content Area Course Requirements**

Students may have to take additional undergraduate subject area coursework in order to meet licensure requirements. Students are required to remove academic area deficiencies prior to enrollment in the graduate methods course and internship. See advisor and/or department chair for evaluation of these courses.

**Initial Licensure Requirements - 15 credits**

EDUC 697 is a supervised internship and requires placement in the public schools. The student must contact the Director of Teacher Education, advisor, and Department Chair of MSSS the semester prior to enrolling in this course for placement in the public schools. EDUC 697 constitutes Student Teaching and requires admission prior to registration. Initial licensure (A-level) requirements in Middle Grades Education must be completed prior to taking courses to complete MAT program.

EDUC 610 Planning and Implementing Instruction for Diverse Learners (3 sch)
EDUC 630 Advanced Educational Psychology and Measurement (3 sch)
EDUC 644 Foundations and Curriculum Development (3 sch)
EDUC 615 Techniques in Teaching in the Middle/High School (3sch)
EDUC 697 Advanced Applied Product of Learning (Internship) (3sch)

**Note:** Students without licensure in Middle Grades Education should complete the Phase 1 first and make application for initial license in Middle Grades content area (Language Arts or Mathematics or Science) through the Office of Teacher Education.

**Phase 2: MAT Program Completion and Advanced Licensure Requirements**

After acquisition of the initial license in Middle Grades Education content area (Language Arts or Mathematics or Science), participants will complete their MAT program with the following courses:

**Advanced Licensure Specialty Area Requirements - 21 credits**

EDUC 690 Applied Research in Education (3 sch)
READ 552 Teaching Literacy Across Content Areas (3 sch)

**Specialty Content Area Requirements - 15 credits**

*Middle Grades Content Area Courses in Language Arts or Mathematics or Science*

EDUC 698 Advanced Applied Product of Learning (3sch)

A product of learning is required which includes a Leadership and Collaboration Project. A student must select one of the following three options: (1) Master’s Action Research Project, (2) Master’s Thesis, or (3) Advanced Professional Portfolio. A variable credit of three to six hours can be earned. Students who elect to write a thesis will earn six semester hours and those who elect to conduct action research or develop an advanced portfolio will earn three semester hours.

All evidence(s) required for teaching licensure in North Carolina Standards must be submitted prior to program completion.

“The preparation of knowledgeable, reflective, and caring educational professionals to support student learning and family participation in a diverse, technological and global society.”

Fayetteville State University is a Constituent Institution of the University of North Carolina