





## MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING IN SPECIAL EDUCATION: GENERAL CURRICULUM

39-45 Credits

Dr. Charletta Barringer-Brown, Interim Chair, Department of Middle Grades, Secondary, and Special Education  
Fayetteville State University, 1200 Murchison Road, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28301  
G. L. Butler Building, Room 240/241, Office: 910-672-1181, [cbarringerbrown@uncfsu.edu](mailto:cbarringerbrown@uncfsu.edu), <http://www.uncfsu.edu/mgss/index.htm>

# Master of Arts in Teaching in Special Education PROGRAM INFORMATION SHEET

A member of the NCATE accredited School of Education, the Master of Arts in Teaching Special Education: General Curriculum Program is approved by the NC State Department of Public Instruction to offer a license in Special Education: General Curriculum (K-12) 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 Special Education: General Curriculum provides professional training for students who already have an undergraduate degree with our without licensure and “lateral entry” teachers who are seeking special education licensure. The program combines initial (A) and advanced (M) level licensure requirements for Special Education: General Curriculum in a two-phase process. Students enrolling in the M.A.T. program must take 39-45 semester hours consisting of 27-33 hours in Phase 1 and 12 hours in Phase 2. All students complete a series of field experiences and a Product of Learning outcome. The time of program completion is an estimated 2-3 years when taking 3-6 credits per semester, depending upon entering credentials.

Students should see the Chairperson of the Department of Middle Grades, Secondary, and Special Education 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 must submit the following for admission to Graduate Studies:

- A completed application for the MAT Program to the FSU Office of Admissions and Enrollment Management with a non-refundable application fee
- One official baccalaureate transcript and transcript(s) of any previous graduate study

Official test scores, as required for the program (Official application, test scores and transcripts must be sent directly to the Director of Admissions and Enrollment Management from the testing agency or be recorded on an official transcript)

- Two letters of recommendation from persons qualified to evaluate the applicant’s abilities to pursue graduate work, as required for the MAT program

#### To Teacher Education

All applicants must submit the following for admission to Teacher Education:

- A completed application to Teacher Education to the Office of Teacher Education
- A copy of the official letter of admission to Graduate Studies
- Completion of SPED 480 or experience waiver (for persons who do not hold a teaching license in some area or a lateral entry license in Special Education)

#### To Student Teaching

Only applicants who are not licensed and are not lateral entry must apply for Student Teaching. These applicants must submit the following for admission to Student Teaching at least a semester in advance of the experience:

- A completed application to Student Teaching to the Office of Student Teaching, including clearances

- An official program audit

### Test Administration Requirements/Passing Scores

Applicants must complete one of the following two entrance examinations:

- Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) Minimum passing score: 750 OR
- Miller Analogies Test (MAT) Minimum passing score: 368

Participants must complete required PRAXIS II examinations in their chosen specialty area prior to licensure:

PRAXIS II Test: 10542 – Education of Exceptional Students: Mild to Moderate Disabilities--score 159

PRAXIS II Test: 30511-Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge--score 148

Test scores more than five (5) years old at the time of application will not be considered.

### PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

(39-45 Credits)

Persons who do not have licensure in Special Education must take the Phase 1 courses/PRAXIS I requirements first, prior to applying for the A-level license in SPED: General Curriculum (27-33 credits). The master’s program and M-level licensure will be completed by Phase 2 courses (12 credits). For persons who have licensure in Special Education, both Phase 1 and Phase 2 courses (39 credits) constitute the degree program, and PRAXIS II requirements should be taken prior to applying for the M-level license in SPED: General Curriculum. All students must complete at least 39 semester hours in the program.

#### Phase 1: Initial Licensure Requirements

EDUC 610 Planning and Implementing Instruction for Diverse Learners	3 credits
EDUC 630 Advanced Educational Psychology and Measurement	3 credits
SPED 530 Introduction to Special Education or SPED 615 Trends and Issues in Special Education	3 credits
SPED 647 Educational Assessment Students with Disabilities	3 credits
SPED 515 Assessing and Teaching Reading to Students with Disabilities	3 credits
SPED 518 Assessing and Teaching Mathematics and Writing to Students with Disabilities	3 credits
SPED 580 Advanced Management of Learning Environments	3 credits
SPED 631 Teaching Students with Mild to Moderate Disabilities (Academic Methods)	3 credits
SPED 640 Master’s Internship in Special Education (a 150-hour field experience course)	3 credits

- Students who are not licensed in an area of education and who are not lateral entry should take the following 2 courses in place of SPED 640: SPED 480-Seminar II: Field Experience in SPED (a 90-hour field experience course) and SPED 600 Practicum in Special Education (a 350-hour student teaching experience; requires admission to Student Teaching at least a semester prior to registration.)
- Students without licensure in Special Education should complete the PRAXIS II requirements by the end of Phase I.

Note: Upon completion of the Phase 1 and PRAXIS II requirements, a candidate should make application for A-level licensure through the Office of Teacher Education.

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

After acquisition of the initial SPED: General Curriculum license, participants will complete their MAT program with the following courses:

EDUC 690 Applied Research in Education	3 credits
SPED 643 Seminar in Special Education or SPED 649 Consultative Role of the Special Educator	3 credits
SPED 633 Teaching Adolescents with Disabilities	3 credits
SPED 698 Advanced Research Products of Learning (A 100 hour field experience; should be taken during the final regular semester of the program)	3 credits

- Students should apply for graduation from the MAT program according to the procedures and timelines established by the University and Office of the Registrar.
- Persons already licensed in Special Education who do not hold licensure in SPED: General Curriculum should take PRAXIS test 0542—score 159.

Upon completion of the Phase 2 MAT Program requirements above, candidates should contact the Office of Teacher Education to request a recommendation for a change of license to the M- level license in SPED: General Curriculum.

*“The preparation of knowledgeable, reflective, and caring school executives and teachers who demonstrate leadership in their schools and classrooms, use research to inform practice, communicate effectively with all students and parents, and work diligently to prepare students to live and work in a diverse, global, and technologically advanced society.”*