

TEACHING
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
LEADING TO THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING (M.A.T.)

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) is to offer an alternative teacher certification pathway in elementary education Grades 1-5.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSIONS

To be considered for admission to the Master of Arts in Teaching degree program, an applicant must:

- Meet all university admission requirements.
- Possess a Bachelor's degree with a 2.75 cumulative GPA or a master's degree with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 from a regionally accredited university.
- Achieve passing scores on the Praxis I PPST (Reading, Writing, and Mathematics). If the student scored 22 or higher on the ACT or earned a master's degree from an accredited university, these tests are waived.
- Achieve a passing score on the Praxis II elementary specialty examination.
- Please submit a GRE Score of the verbal, quantitative and written portions. ETS has changed the GRE scoring methodology, please check with your graduate advisor for details regarding GRE requirements for admissions.
- Verify a minimum of three years of successful work experience in an area related to the initial degree or in the field of education or in another service related area.
- Participate in a mandatory admissions interview.

SELECTIVE ADMISSION AND RETENTION IN TEACHER EDUCATION (SARTE) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO THE MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING DEGREE

A person desiring to become a teacher must maintain academic standards and demonstrate qualifications for successful teaching including satisfactory performance in field experiences. Therefore, the College of Education at Southeastern Louisiana University reserves the right to recruit, admit and retain in the Professional Program in Teacher Education only those students who show evidence of being capable of performing in an acceptable professional manner. Enrollment in the professional program does not guarantee that a student will receive the degree or certification sought simply because he/she completes a number of courses or is in the field the required number of hours.

Certification requirements are specified by the State Legislature and/or the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and coordinated by the State Department of Education. These requirements are subject to periodic modification, which may not occur at times appropriate for inclusion in the annual publication of the University catalogue. It is the responsibility of the students to make periodic checks for such changes with their academic advisers and/or department head.

SARTE STATUS

To be considered for Full SARTE status to the Master of Arts in Teaching degree program, an applicant must:

- Meet all requirements for admission to Graduate Studies and to the Master of Arts in Teaching degree program.
- Apply for Selective Admission and Retention in Teacher Education (SARTE) in the first course (MAT 610).
- Achieve a grade of B or better in MAT 610 (Fundamentals I: Teaching and Learning for General Education). *MAT 610 must be repeated if the grade is lower than a B.*
- Not have been convicted of a felony.
- Maintain a cumulative 3.0 graduate GPA with no grade below "C" and not more than one "C" grade.

Ongoing screening of each student utilizing the standards of the Professional Program in Teacher Education will occur each semester of a student's enrollment.

- Students will be permitted to repeat only two MAT courses.
- Students will be permitted to enroll in any course only twice.

Students demonstrating behaviors or characteristics that make it questionable whether they can succeed in the teaching profession will be referred for a Professional Performance Review. A review may result in:

- No action being taken but further observations.
- Recommendation of a Professional Improvement Plan (PIP) monitored by the Coordinator of the Teacher Development Program.
- Referral to the SARTE Committee which may recommend:
 - a) Probation with specified conditions
 - b) Temporary suspension from the MAT and the Teacher Education Program with specified conditions.
 - c) Expulsion from the MAT Degree and the Teacher Education Program.

COURSES IN THE MAT PROGRAM

Candidates participating in the MAT program are admitted as a cohort each summer and must commit to attending full time for one academic year (Summer I: 12 hours; Fall I: 9 hours; Spring I: 9 hours); Summer II will be the completion of the research project and Fall II will be student teaching or the 1st semester of the internship. The courses are delivered on campus with field experienced during the day. Candidates who are unable to remain with their cohort may be eligible to re-enter with a new cohort group.

Summer I (12 hours)

MAT 610	Fundamentals I: Teaching and Learning for General Education	3 hrs.
MAT 615	Fundamentals II: Teaching and Learning for Special Education	3 hrs.

MAT 620	Learning and Behavior Theories in General and Mild/Moderate Special Education.....	3 hrs.
MAT 630	Assessment I: General and Mild/Moderate Special Education.....	3 hrs.

FALL I (9 hours)

MAT 622	Classroom Mgmt & Organization for Elementary & M/M Special Education.....	3 hrs
MAT 631	Assessment II: Elementary and Mild/Moderate Special Education	3 hrs
MAT 640	Intro to Reading and Language Arts for Elementary & M/M Special Education	3 hrs

Spring I (9 hours)

MAT 650	Integrated Learning Methods: Math, Physical Science, and Info Literacy	3 hrs
MAT 651	Integrated Learning Methods: Life Sciences, Health and P.E., and Info Literacy	3 hrs
MAT 652	Integrated Learning Methods: Social Studies, Arts, Music, and Info Literacy	3 hrs

Summer II (3 hours)

MAT 670	Research Design for General and Mild/Moderate Special Education.....	3 hrs
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Fall II (3-6 hours)

MAT 689	Student Teaching in Elementary Education	6 hrs
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OR

MAT 688	Internship in Elementary Education	6 hrs
	(2 consecutive semesters – 3 hours each semester)	

TOTAL	39 hours
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PORTFOLIOS

As part of the College of Education focus on performance-based outcomes, portfolios will be incorporated into the assessment system for students enrolled in an approved Teacher Education Program.

The portfolio will allow the students to demonstrate, through reflections, their understanding of how the artifacts contained in the portfolio meet the program outcomes; provide a process by which a student can become a reflective practitioner to foster continuous improvement; and document a student’s growth in the program. The portfolio will consist of artifacts, documents, and evidence which demonstrate that the knowledge, skills, and dispositions as indicated in the *Louisiana Components of Effective Teaching* and the program’s *Conceptual Framework* have been met. Students will submit an Introductory Level Portfolio after successful completion of MAT 610, MAT 615, MAT 620, and MAT 630. The Developing Level Portfolio will be submitted as a prerequisite for student teaching or internship. The Competency level Portfolio and oral defense are required for graduation.

STUDENT TEACHING

Student teaching is an all-day (approximately eight hours), all semester activity. The student teacher will be required to spend the full public school day, plus any additional conference or seminar time in this experience. The Director of Student Teaching will make the assignments for each student teacher. All possible considerations will be given, but it is the responsibility of the student teacher to make arrangements to meet the conditions of the assignment that is made. Student teaching must be completed in Southeastern’s teacher education service region. Those districts include the following: Ascension Parish, City of Bogalusa, East Baton Rouge Parish, Jefferson Parish (Kenner and Metairie area), Livingston Parish, St. Charles Parish, St. John Parish, St. Tammany Parish, Tangipahoa Parish, and Washington Parish.

REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENT TEACHING

The State Department of Education regulations for certification of teachers require that students do their student teaching under the control and supervision of the institution from which they expect to be graduated. To be eligible for student teaching, students must:

- Make application for student teaching one semester prior to the semester during which they plan to do their student teaching. The Director of Student Teaching will assign the grade or subject, and the supervising teachers under whom the student will work.
- Pass all required Praxis examinations: PPST, Content Specialty Area(s) and PLT.
- Pass the Introductory Level and Developing Level of the Portfolio.
- Complete all required MAT course work with a cumulative 3.0 average with no grade below “C” and not more than one “C” grade on graduate work.
- Have approval of the Director of Student Teaching

INTERNSHIP YEAR

An internship may be approved in lieu of student teaching. An internship consists of two consecutive semesters of teaching at an approved school site at the appropriate grade level and in the area of certification. Students may qualify for a year-long internship in Southeastern’s teacher education service region.

To qualify for an internship, a student must provide:

- Verification that all pre-requisites have been met the semester prior to the Internship
- Verification that all required parts of the Praxis have been successfully passed
- Written recommendation from all of the candidates’ methods instructors and a rating using the *Professional Attributes and Characteristics Scale*
- Completed application for MAT internship
- Verification that the school has a state approved classification
- Verification that the school is accredited by the regional accrediting agency
- Verification that the principal/assistant principal has certification in principalship and training in supervision
- Verification that the principal/assistant principal has served in this role for a minimum of three years
- Signed Principal/Assistant Principal Internship Agreement form

- Verification that a mentor teacher, who has taught a minimum of three years in the area of the intern's certification, will be assigned by the principal/assistant principal to assist the intern
- Verification of minimum class size in the area of certification
- Evidence of cultural diversity within the school population
- A copy of the Signed Internship Agreement form
- A copy of the contract or employment agreement after the internship has been approved
- A copy of the teaching schedule (Grades 1-5) signed by the principal/assistant principal.

NOTE: The candidate is responsible for submitting the above documents the semester prior to beginning the internship. A complete packet should be submitted rather than item by item. Authorization to register for an internship will not be granted until all documents have been submitted.

REQUIREMENTS TO RECEIVE THE MAT DEGREE

To receive the Master of Arts in Teaching degree, a student must:

- Maintain a cumulative 3.0 GPA with no grade below 'C' and not more than one "C" grade on graduate work
- Students will be permitted to enroll in and/or withdraw from any MAT course only twice.
- Students will be permitted to repeat only two MAT courses.
- Be recommended for the degree by the department's graduate coordinator upon completion of all requirements stated in the degree plan.
- Satisfactorily complete 39 semester hours of graduate work for the concentration in elementary education for Grades 1-5.
- Satisfactorily complete an oral defense.
- Pass all required PRAXIS examinations.