

GRADUATE PROGRAMS SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Graduate Faculty

Professors Dillard, Jones, O'Connor, Rosato (Dean), and Terrell; Associate Professors King and Lang; Assistant Professors Garner, Hines, and Maxedon.

Mission Statement

The University of Arkansas at Monticello (UAM) School of Education is committed to the development of high quality teacher leaders who are caring, competent professionals dedicated to meeting the needs of a changing, diverse society. The UAM School of Education faculty and teacher education students serve their communities through active participation in academic studies and field experiences that develop high-level competencies in content knowledge, pedagogy, professionalism, and equity. The UAM School of Education, in close partnership and collaboration with partnering schools and the arts and sciences, is dedicated to providing the highest level of teacher training and excellence in southeast Arkansas.

Graduate Program Goals

The graduate programs in the School of Education are developed around standards that govern accomplished teaching, including the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Additionally, standards from discipline-specific learned societies are referenced in course materials and activities. Graduate students in the advanced programs in the School of Education are expected to:

- Develop an in-depth understanding of advanced principles and theories of teaching and learning;
- Acquire an attitude of inquiry and curiosity for learning that permeates instruction;
- Conduct action-based research that demonstrates that students are learning and achieving;
- Collaborate with other professional educators and leaders to address issues and concerns in education;
- Demonstrate the ability to become educational leaders who have the potential to make a difference in their individual educational settings.

Degrees Offered

The School of Education offers three advanced degrees:
Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree with prescribed concentration areas
Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Educational Leadership
Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) degree.

Master of Education (M.Ed.) with Concentration Areas

The Master of Education degree is a 36-hour program that includes prescribed concentration areas. This program is designed for teacher practitioners who hold a current teaching license and offers value-added opportunities for additional endorsements or licensure. Because the M.Ed. is an advanced program, all candidates will engage in scholarly activities that provide depth and breadth to current knowledge.

Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Educational Leadership

The Master of Education degree in Educational Leadership is a 36-hour program that prepares candidates for an elementary or secondary principalship. The curriculum is based on the standards of the Educational Leadership Constituent Council (ELCC) and the Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium (ISLLC).

Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.)

The Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) is a 30-36 hour accelerated program designed to prepare students for teacher licensure who have undergraduate degrees in English, French, mathematics, science, social studies, business, speech, art, music, agriculture, and physical education. On-the-job teaching opportunities are incorporated into the program.

Candidates may earn grades of A, B, C, D, or F, with the exception of Internship I/II where Pass/Fail grades are awarded.

The grades of A, B, C, D, and F, indicate the following: A-excellent, B-good, C-marginal, D-poor, and F-failing. A cumulative GPA of 3.00 out of 4.00 must be maintained each semester to complete degree requirements and to remain in the Master of Arts in Teaching program. Additionally, no more than two courses with a grade of "C" may be applied toward degree requirements. A candidate whose grade record includes three courses with grades of "C" or lower may not maintain graduate status unless the Graduate Council, upon petition from a graduate faculty member, has authorized a plan of study for the student.

Important Steps in the Graduate Program:

1. Apply to the University of Arkansas at Monticello.
2. Apply to the School of Education Graduate Program.
3. Complete all appropriate admission requirements.
4. Obtain a major advisor.
5. With major advisor, prepare a Program of Study.
6. Apply for Degree Candidacy.
7. Select Comprehensive Review Committee. (M.Ed. and M.A.T. programs)
8. Successfully pass Comprehensive Examinations. (M.Ed. and M.A.T. programs)
9. Successfully pass PRAXIS II Principles of Learning and Teaching. (M.A.T. only)
10. Graduation

Admission Requirements and Classifications

The first step in the admission process for the School of Education graduate program is to be admitted with graduate status to the University of Arkansas at Monticello. After being admitted to the University of Arkansas at Monticello, students are then eligible to apply for admission to the School of Education graduate program. Applications for graduate programs are available in the Dean's Office.

Admission to the Master of Education (M.Ed.) Programs

Students seeking admission to the School of Education's Master of Education degree and the Master of Education degree in Educational Leadership must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 overall or a 3.0 grade point average in the last 60 hours of coursework from an accredited college or university;

2. Provide evidence of passing state-mandated licensure examinations in the appropriate teaching fields;
3. Submit three letters of recommendation from individuals who are familiar with the student's academic achievement, teaching proficiency, and/or community and service involvement. No more than one recommendation may come from School of Education faculty;
4. Successfully complete an interview session with a committee comprised of the Dean of the School of Education, an appropriate member of the Teacher Education Committee, and the Coordinator for Graduate Programs for the School of Education.
5. Three years successful teaching experience (M.Ed. in Educational Leadership only).

Admission Requirements for the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) Program

An M.A.T. Admissions Committee comprised of the Dean of the School of Education, the Coordinator for Graduate Programs in the School of Education, and the content area faculty representative will review applications. Admission requirements for the M.A.T. program include:

1. Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science degree from a regionally accredited college or university and verified with official transcripts from each college/university attended;
2. A cumulative grade point average of 3.00* in the last 60 hours;
3. Successful criminal background check;
4. PRAXIS I or GRE with minimum scores of Verbal 370; Quantitative 370; and Writing 4.5;
5. Passing scores on the appropriate PRAXIS II Specialty area examination for which licensure is sought.

*A candidate who does not meet the regular GPA requirement may qualify for conditional admission. The minimum GPA is 2.80. A candidate's GPA may be supplemented with the following GRE requirements:

2.99-2.90 GPA Combined Verbal and Quantitative scores of 900 and Writing of 4.5;
NOTE: Both the Verbal and Quantitative score must meet the minimum score of 370;

or

2.89-2.80 GPA Combined Verbal and Quantitative score of 1000 and Writing of 4.5;
NOTE: Both the Verbal and Quantitative score must meet the minimum score of 370.

A candidate will be removed from conditional status once he/she has completed one semester of course work with a 3.00 GPA.

Arkansas State Licensure Examinations for M.A.T. Candidates

To complete the M.A.T. program and become eligible for graduation with an M.A.T. degree, all teacher candidates must successfully pass both the Specialty Area test and the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) examination as required by Arkansas Department of Education for licensure.

Major Advisor

After the student is successfully admitted to the appropriate graduate program in the School of Education, a major advisor is assigned by the Dean of the School of Education. This assignment of the advisor will be based on the student's area of study and interests. The advisor will provide assistance in the completion of forms dealing with a Program of Study, Degree Candidacy, and Comprehensive Examination Review Committee. The major advisor and the student work closely to ensure appropriate progress through the program.

Program of Study

All students must complete a program of study with the assistance of the major advisor. The program of study is intended to provide guidance and direction for degree completion. Programs of study must be signed by the student and approved by the major advisor, the Coordinator for Graduate Programs, and the Dean of the School of Education. Following approval, the Program of Study is forwarded to the Registrar's Office.

Admission to Degree Candidacy

Master of Education with Concentration Areas

The application for admission for degree candidacy is the student's notification of the intent to earn a Master of Education degree (M.Ed.) at the University of Arkansas at Monticello. The application for admission for degree candidacy must be submitted to the Dean's office after completing 6 (six) hours of graduate classes. The student must have completed all prior application procedures and maintained a minimum 3.00 grade point average for all graduate work. The Dean of the School of Education and Director for Graduate Programs will validate the student's admission for degree candidacy.

Master of Education in Educational Leadership

Students in the Master of Education in Educational Leadership must apply for degree candidacy after the completion of 6 (six) hours of graduate classes in the approved Program of Study. The student must have completed all prior application procedures and maintained a minimum 3.00 grade point average for all graduate work. The Dean of the School of Education and Director for Graduate Programs will validate the student's admission for Degree Candidacy.

Master of Arts in Teaching

To be eligible for degree candidacy in the M.A.T. program, students must successfully pass the PRAXIS II Specialty area examination and the PRAXIS II Principles of Learning and Teaching examination. Additionally, students must have completed at least 24 hours in the approved Program of Study to apply for degree candidacy.

Comprehensive Review Committee

Following application for degree candidacy, students in the M.Ed. and M.A.T. programs will select, along with the Dean of the School of Education, four members of the Comprehensive Review Committee. Members of the Comprehensive Review Committee will assist in reviewing and scoring the comprehensive examinations.

Comprehensive Examination

Students in the M.Ed. and M.A.T. programs must satisfactorily complete a written comprehensive examination in the advanced professional core and in the appropriate concentration areas. The comprehensive examination is scored for content and composition. All comprehensive questions are aligned with predetermined performance indicators developed by the School of Education graduate faculty. The examination will consist of essay questions and will be graded on content and composition. Students who fail comprehensive examinations will be informed in writing of deficiencies and notified of the time when a second comprehensive examination will be administered. Failing students may be required to complete additional

courses and must petition for more than one retake. Additionally, students have one year from the first failure to retake the sections of the comprehensive examination which were not passed.

Graduation

To graduate from Master's programs in the School of Education, students must complete ALL requirements, including passing the appropriate exit examinations.

Policies and Procedures

Appeals

Appeal rights are open to all students who are denied admission or continuation in graduate programs. Appeals must be initiated with the advisor and may be pursued with the Dean of the School of Education and the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Course Loads

Normally, the maximum course load must not exceed 12 graduate hours during the fall and spring semesters. Normally, the maximum load for each summer term is six hours.

Acceptance of Transfer Credit

Acceptance of transfer credit for the M.Ed. degree and the M.A.T. is based on the nature, quality and recency of the credit. Special consideration will be given to transfer students from other public institutions of the State, especially those in the University of Arkansas system.

Time Frames

Students enrolled in the Master of Education program can expect to complete the program in a three-four year time period. Most students in the M.A.T. program can expect to complete the program within an 18-month time frame. All course work included in the program of study must be recent. Courses older than six years must be appealed to the Graduate Council. Normally, courses older than six years will not apply to a graduate program of study.

Independent Study

Independent study and research courses will require extensive independent study and research, formal written reports and regular conferences with the instructor. A detailed description of the proposal and its requirements will be submitted for approval to the instructor, the Coordinator for Graduate Programs, the Dean, and the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Students may complete only one independent study/research project per semester. Independent study/research proposals should not duplicate existing courses in the academic catalog.

Expulsion

Any education graduate student whose course work is unsatisfactory or who violates student conduct or employment rules may be withdrawn from the School of Education Graduate Program at any time upon the recommendation and agreement of the advisor, the Coordinator for Graduate Programs, and the Dean of the School of Education.

Institutional Certificates

Currently licensed teachers may enroll in an institutional graduate certificate program. Certificates are 12-18 hour programs of study that are designed to meet additional licensure requirements needed for teaching licensure in the areas of early childhood education, middle level education, and physical education. In addition to completing the 12-18 hours of course work candidates must pass the appropriate State of Arkansas required test for licensure in order to meet the criteria for additional licensure.

Institutional Educational Leadership Certificate

Licensed teachers who hold a master's degree wishing to add a Building Level Administrator's license may request a transcript review to determine an appropriate program of study. This program of study is individualized and is intended to lead to add-on licensure; however, it does not lead to a degree.

Master of Education (M.Ed.) With Concentration Areas

This program is designed for licensed teachers who wish to enhance their education and extend their knowledge base. Students will take a 12-hour professional core and select two 12-hour concentration areas. This is a 36-hour program.

Advanced Professional Core Courses	12 hours
EDFD 5023 Educational Research Methodology	3
EDFD 5043 Instructional Technology	3
EDFD 5063 Psychological Foundations of Teaching and Learning	3
EDFD 5003 History and Philosophy of Education	3
or	
EDFD 5543 Issues and Trends in Education	3
Concentration Areas (Select Two Areas)	24 hours
Early Childhood Education	
ECED 5023 Creative Arts	3
ECED 5033 Trends, Problems, and Issues of Early Childhood Education	3
ECED 5043 Child Development	3
ECED 5053 Historical and Theoretical Approaches to Early Childhood Education	3
Educational Technology	
EDFD 5413 Educational Technology and Cognitive Learning	3
EDFD 5423 Information Management and the Teaching Process	3
EDFD 5433 Instructional Courseware Development	3
EDFD 5443 Social and Legal Issues in Educational Technology	3
Middle Level	
MLED 5013 Teaching the Young Adolescent	3
MLED 5023 History, Philosophy and Future of Middle Level Education	3
MLED 5033 Middle Level Seminar	3
MLED 5043 Middle Level Curriculum	3
Physical Education	
PE 5033 Research Methods Application in Physical Education	3
PE 5133 Problems and Trends in Physical Education	3
PE 5233 Adapted Individually Prescribed Program Practicum	3
PE 5253 Psychology of Sports in Physical Education	3

Reading	
READ 5033 Survey of Reading Programs and Practices	3
READ 5063 Literacy Across the Curriculum: An Interdisciplinary Approach	3
READ 5123 Practicum in Reading Instruction	3
READ 5203 Developmental and Corrective Reading	3

Teacher Leadership	
EDLD 5083 Teacher Leaders: Preparing for National Board Certification	3
EDLD 5103 Public Education Law	3
EDLD 5213 Public School Organization and Administration	3
EDLD 5223 Supervision of Instruction	3

Content Areas
 The M.Ed. with Concentrations student may also choose one or both of the required concentrations from the content areas listed below. Courses required are recommended by the content department. In some cases, substitutions may be made by request.

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies

Master of Education in Educational Leadership	
Advanced Professional Core Courses	9 hours
EDFD 5023 Educational Research Methodology	3
EDFD 5043 Instructional Technology	3
EDFD 5543 Issues & Trends in Education	3
Educational Leadership Core Courses	27 hours
EDLD 5103 Public Education Law	3
EDLD 5213 Public School Organization and Administration	3
EDLD 5223 Supervision of Instruction	3
EDLD 5333 Strategic and Instructional Leadership	3
EDLD 5403 Building Level Administration	3
EDLD 5423 Fiscal Management in School Settings	3
EDLD 5483 Curriculum Development	3
EDLD 5033 Public School/Community Relations	3
EDLD 5643 Practicum in Educational Administration	3
Internship/Internship Notebook	
Portfolio/Oral Review	

Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.)

Pedagogy Courses	
Summer	Hours
EDUC 5073 MAT Methods	3
EDFD 5063 Psychological Foundations of Teaching and Learning	3
Fall	
EDUC 5033 Teaching Diverse Learners	3
EDFD 5043 Instructional Technology	3
EDUC 5803 MAT Internship I	3

Spring

EDUC 5043 Assessment Techniques for Teachers	3
EDUC 5053 Public School Law for Teachers	3
EDUC 5813 MAT Internship II	3

Advanced Education Courses

Summer

EDUC 5023 Critical Literacy Across the Curriculum	3
EDFD 5543 Social and Legal Issues in Educational Technology	3

Content Courses (as required) 0-6 hours

M.A.T. teacher candidates may be required to take content coursework in the area of licensure as determined by the advisor, the Coordinator for Graduate Programs in the School of Education, the content area faculty representative and the Dean of the School of Education.

TOTAL:..... 30-36 hours