

Master of Arts for Teachers with a Major in Special Education

Collaborative Online Education Programs

Selected Educational Outcomes

1. Candidates know the content that they plan to teach and can explain important principles and concepts delineated in professional, state, and institutional standards.
2. Candidates understand the relationship of content and content specific pedagogy and have a broad knowledge of instructional strategies that draws upon content and pedagogical knowledge and skills delineated in professional, state, and institutional standards to help all students learn.
3. Candidates are able to analyze educational research findings and incorporate new information into their practice.
4. Candidates assess and analyze student learning, make appropriate adjustments to instruction, monitor student learning, and have a positive effect on learning for all students.

Examples of Outcome Assessments

1. Candidates will demonstrate content knowledge through passing the state-required content assessment.
2. Candidates will demonstrate pedagogical content knowledge and knowledge of evidence-based strategies through development of lesson plans identifying use of research-validated procedures and effective content pedagogy.
3. Candidates will demonstrate skills in assessment, instructional strategies, use of technology, and monitoring and modifying instruction during observed teaching episodes evaluated by their principal and a university supervisor.
4. Candidates will demonstrate their ability to positively impact P-12 learning through documents placed in an electronic portfolio, which may include teacher work samples and a capstone project.

Program Admission Requirements

1. Submit two copies of official transcripts from each institution (graduate and undergraduate) previously attended.
2. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 on all graduate and undergraduate coursework previously attempted.
3. Serve as the teacher for students with disabilities appropriate for the candidate's selected area of certification (i.e., general or adapted), with a non-renewable non-professional (NNT) certificate. While enrolled in the program, candidates must have a minimum of 20 contact hours per week throughout fall and spring semesters with students who have disabilities appropriate to the teachers' selected area of certification. During the last semester of enrollment, excluding summer, candidates must complete a clinical practice, in which they serve in the role of a special educator. Any candidates not serving in the role of a special educator must provide verification from the school administrator that they will be assigned to this role full-time for 15 weeks (one semester) to complete the clinical practice requirement.
4. Provide documentation of passing scores on the GACE Basic Skills Test or documentation of an exemption (e.g., SAT 1000 combined Verbal and Quantitative, ACT 43 combined English and Math, GRE 1030 combined Verbal and Quantitative).
5. Provide documentation of a content concentration that consists of 15 semester hours of academic content that conforms to the GaPSC preparation requirements of the content concentrations for middle grades.

Admission Deadlines

Check the website (<http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/deans-office/online-programs>) for admission deadlines and application form.

Go to the Dewar College of Education and Human Services website (<http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/deans-office/online-programs>) for online programs and select either the Master of Arts in Teaching--Special Education--General Curriculum program or the Master of Arts in Teaching--Special Education--Adapted Curriculum program for admission requirements and program information.

Special Requirements: Students must be employed as teachers (1) with a non-renewable, non-professional certificate; or (2) certified in another field of study (early childhood, secondary math, e.g.); or (3) certified in another field of study but having added on special education certification by passing a special education GACE content assessment; or (4) certified in a different special education certification field (general curriculum seeking adapted curriculum, e.g.).

Candidates must spend a minimum of 20 hours each week (excluding summers) in a classroom setting with students with disabilities appropriate to the candidates' selected area of certification.

Requirements for the Online M.A.T. Degree with a Major in Special Education — General Curriculum

Core Courses

SEAC 6010

Integrated Instruction: Individualized Education Program

SEGC 5140	Collaborative Roles in Education	3
SEGC 6050	Language and Learning Disabilities	3
Area of Concentration		21
SEGC 6000	Integration and Management of Instruction in the Classroom	3
SEGC 6020	Integrated Instruction: Assessment and Learning	3
SERD 6030	Teaching Children to Read	3
SEGC 6030	Integrated Instruction: Evidence-based Methods and Strategies	3
SEGC 6040	Technological Support Planning for Children and Youth with Disabilities	3
Select one of the following:		3
SERD 6040	Reading Diagnosis, Remediation, and Management: Emergent and Early Readers	
SERD 6060	Problems in Learning to read-Comprehension	
SERD 6070	Reading Research and Instruction	
SEGC 6200	Internship in Special Education-General Curriculum	
Research Core		6
SEAC 5030	Single Subject Research in Special Education	3
SEGC 6110	Professional Capstone Course	3
Total Hours Required for the Degree		36

Prior to completion of the M.A.T. and recommendation for initial certification, the following additional requirements must be met: Applicant must pass GACE Special Education Adapted Curriculum Tests: Test I (081) and Test II (082). Applicant must complete an Exceptional Child Course and submit either transcripts showing completion of the course or a certificate of completion from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission.

Requirements for the Online M.A.T. Degree with a Major in Special Education — Adapted Curriculum

Core Courses		9
SEAC 6010	Integrated Instruction: Individualized Education Program	3
SEGC 5140	Collaborative Roles in Education	3
SEAC 5190	Physical and Health Management of Students with Disabilities	3
Area of Concentration		21
SEAC 5500	Characteristics of Students with Low Incidence Disabilities	3
SEAC 5570	Assessment and Curriculum for Students with Low Incidence Disabilities	3
SEAC 5530	Systematic Instruction for Students with Low Incidence Disabilities	3
SEAC 5540	Positive Behavior Support	3
SEAC 5550	Communication Strategies for Students with Low Incidence Disabilities	3
SEAC 5050	Assistive Technology	3
SEAC 6200	Internship in Special Education - Adapted Curriculum	3
Research Core		6
SEAC 5030	Single Subject Research in Special Education	3
SEGC 6110	Professional Capstone Course	3
Total Hours Required for the Degree		36

Prior to completion of the M.A.T. and recommendation for initial certification, the following additional requirements must be met: Applicant must pass GACE Special Education Adapted Curriculum Tests: Test I (083) and Test II (084). Applicant must complete an Exceptional Child Course and submit either transcripts showing completion of the course or a certificate of completion from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission.