Department of Middle, Secondary and Mathematics Education

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Middle Education
Grades Six Through Eight Master's Level Licensure Program

The undergraduate pre-professional program in middle education is designed to prepare teachers of grades 6-8. This program provides the requisite course offerings and experiences that form the foundation for admission to the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) program. The JMU middle education program is based on the following four assumptions:

- Classroom teachers should possess a broad liberal education that provides a context for understanding individual behavior and major social issues in a contemporary democratic and technological society.
- Middle level classroom teachers should possess extensive knowledge and expertise in the content areas in which they teach and understand essential interdisciplinary concepts related to the respective content areas.
- Middle level classroom teachers must have extensive professional knowledge and be able to practice and demonstrate teaching skills that are effective and appropriate for students between the ages of 10 and 14.
- Middle level classroom teachers must have strong problem-solving skills, must be reflective in professional thought and practice, and must be ethically, morally and professionally responsible.

Teacher candidates must meet a set of content and subject-specific criteria that are approved by the Virginia Department of Education. In some states, middle grade teachers must meet minimum preparation requirements in two of the four core subject areas (mathematics, social studies/history, science, English/languages arts). In order to meet these requirements, candidates are advised to major in Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies, a major that will allow them to complete dual content concentrations as well as meet the necessary subject-matter competencies.

The IDLS major is assigned two advisers. One adviser is the adviser for the education pre-professional licensure program who will guide the student through the licensure program requirements. The other adviser is the IDLS adviser who will guide the student through the IDLS major requirements. Students should plan on consulting both advisers regularly. Typically, the education adviser is assigned when the student meets with the head of his or her licensure program and elects the licensure program. This may be as early as the first semester of the first year. The IDLS adviser is assigned when the first year student advising folders are transferred to the IDLS office (second semester, first year). Students are required to check with advisers regularly to ensure timely graduation.

The middle education program enables teacher candidates to become knowledgeable about the developmental characteristics of middle school students, and to create, design and implement curriculum activities that are interdisciplinary in nature and related directly to the social, emotional, physical and intellectual needs of children between the ages of 10 and 14.

Candidates should consult with the department head or an adviser in middle education early during the first year or as soon thereafter as possible to obtain information concerning the requirements for admission to teacher education. Candidates should contact the IDLS director for the general education requirements for the IDLS major.

Candidates should note that they must be fully admitted to teacher education prior to registering for the courses included in the pre-professional middle education program. Candidates should also note that actual requirements may differ from the catalog requirements listed because of changes enacted by the Virginia Department of Education or other accrediting agencies after the catalog copy is approved. Therefore, it is especially important for candidates to confer with education advisers on a regular basis.

It is important for candidates to understand that they must meet the requirements for a baccalaureate degree and successfully complete all undergraduate pre-professional courses and experiences prior to being admitted to the M.A.T. program. Candidates must earn a grade of “B-” or better in all required pre-professional undergraduate courses in the education program to continue in and complete the pre-professional program. Consult the graduate catalog for M.A.T. graduate requirements. Admission to and satisfactory completion of the M.A.T. program are required for a recommendation from James Madison University for licensure in middle grades education.

http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/13
Degree and Major Requirements

B.A./B.S. Undergraduate Degree Requirements

Courses Credit Hours
General Education 1 46
Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies Major 36-42
Pre-Professional Studies in Education 36

M.A.T. Program
Graduate Level Professional Studies 32

1 The General Education program contains a set of requirements each student must fulfill. The number of credit hours necessary to fulfill these requirements may vary.

Recommended Schedule for Middle Education

Undergraduate Course Requirements Credit Hours
MSSE 101. Orientation to the Profession (optional, but recommended) 2
GPSYC 160. Life Span Human Development 3
EDUC 300. Foundations of American Education 3

Students must declare the middle education pre-professional licensure program and be fully admitted into teacher education prior to enrolling in the remaining courses. Contact the departmental office to determine the requirements for admission to teacher education. The first three courses listed are corequisite offerings and must be completed before enrolling in the next two courses which are also corequisites.

Courses Credit hours
EDUC 310. Teaching in a Diverse Society 3
MIED 311. Field Experience in Middle Education 2
READ 312. Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum in the Middle Grades 3
MSSE 370. General Instructional Methods for Grades 6-12 1 3
MSSE 371. Clinical Experience in Adolescent Education 1
READ 472. Literacy, Assessment, and Instruction in Content Areas for the Middle Grades
MSSE 470. Content Methods Courses 6
(complete two in appropriate areas)
MSSE 470E. English/Language Arts
MSSE 470H. Social Studies
MSSE 470S. Science
MSSE 470M. Mathematics
MSSE 471. Content Area Field Experience in Middle Schools 2 6
EXED 460. Differentiation of Instruction and Academic Collaboration 2

1 Prior to or during enrollment in MSSE 370, candidates will be required to complete a 20-hour mentoring project.
2 Choose practice to correlate with the two content 470 courses. Students complete course twice in appropriate content for a total of six credit hours.

Graduate Courses

Candidates beginning the graduate portion of the program must meet all graduate school requirements and criteria for admission (e.g., 2.7 or higher GPA, passing Praxis II scores); it is expected that candidates will complete the graduate admission process early in their senior year. In addition, candidates must meet all graduate level graduation requirements (culminating teaching project, etc.). See The Graduate Catalog for additional details.

Required Courses Credit Hours
EDUC 540. Educational Technology 3
EXED 512. Behavior Management in the Classroom 3
MIED 610. Collaborative Leadership in Schools 3
MIED 620. Assessment in Middle Education 3
MSSE 630. Inquiry in the Classroom 3
MIED 656. Seminar in Middle Education 3
MSSE 680. Internship in Middle Education 8
MSSE 650. Internship Seminar 3
Approved graduate-level elective 3

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Secondary Education

Grades Six through Twelve Master’s Level Licensure Program

The undergraduate program in Secondary Education is designed to provide candidates with the prerequisite course offerings and experiences that form the required foundation for admission to the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) program. Completion of the M.A.T. program is required for a recommendation for licensure in secondary education through JMU. Undergraduate candidates who are planning to pursue licensure to teach in an academic area at the secondary school level should complete the 22 credit hour pre-professional program in education.

Candidates should also complete a major or the equivalent in one of the arts and sciences disciplines closely associated with the desired teaching area. The state approved licensure areas in the secondary education program at JMU include: English, foreign languages, mathematics, the natural sciences, and history/social science. Foreign language is a PreK-12 licensure area that is based in secondary education. Licensure endorsements for other teaching areas (e.g., algebra I, journalism, and gifted education) are available as add-on programs. Candidates should contact the departmental office for information concerning those programs. Candidates should consult with the department head or an advisor in secondary education early during the first year or as soon thereafter as possible to obtain information concerning completing the related general education and content area requirements, as well as the undergraduate and graduate education requirements.

The secondary education licensure program is an integrated program of undergraduate and graduate requirements and experiences. It is important for candidates to understand that they must meet the requirements for a baccalaureate degree and that the appropriate undergraduate pre-professional courses and experiences must be completed satisfactorily before they will be admitted to the M.A.T. program.

http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/13
Candidates must earn a grade of “B-” or better in all required pre-professional undergraduate courses in the education program and at least a “C-” in content course work to continue in and complete the pre-professional program. Consult the graduate catalog for M.A.T. graduate requirements. Admission to and the satisfactory completion of the M.A.T. program are required in order to receive a recommendation through JMU for a teaching license at the secondary school level.

Candidates should note that they must be fully admitted to teacher education prior to registering for courses in the pre-professional secondary education program. Candidates should also note that actual teacher licensure requirements may differ from the catalog requirements listed for a program because of changes enacted by the Virginia Department of Education or accrediting agencies after the catalog copy is approved. Therefore, it is important for students to confer with their education advisers on a regular basis.

The program in secondary education, including the undergraduate component and the M.A.T., is designed to prepare teachers who are reflective decision-makers. Teachers who are reflective decision-makers are able to choose from among known educational alternatives to maximize student learning in a variety of instructional situations.

### Degree and Major Requirements

**B.S./B.A. Undergraduate Degree Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>41-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discipline Major</td>
<td>36-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Professional Studies in Education</td>
<td>22-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.A.T. Program (Graduate)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Professional Studies</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Level Professional Studies</td>
<td>134-163</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The General Education program contains a set of requirements each student must fulfill. The number of credit hours necessary to fulfill these requirements may vary.

### Recommended Schedule for Secondary Education

The requirements listed below comprise the pre-professional (undergraduate) education program in secondary education. The courses listed must be satisfactorily completed prior to full admission to teacher education and to the graduate M.A.T. program.

Requirements should be completed in the following sequence:

**First Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 101. Orientation to the Profession (optional, but recommended) 2</td>
<td>22-24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Second Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 160. Life Span Human Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 300. Foundations of American Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students must declare the secondary education pre-professional licensure program and be fully admitted into Teacher Education prior to enrolling in the remaining courses. Contact the departmental office to determine the requirements for admission to teacher education. The first three courses listed are corequisite offerings and must be completed before enrolling in the next three courses which are also corequisites.

### Third and/or Fourth Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 310. Teaching in a Diverse Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 370. General Instructional Methods for Grades 6-12</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 371. Clinical Experience in Adolescent Education</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 470. Content Methods Course for Middle School</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 471. Content Area Field Experience in Middle Schools</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>READ 440. Literacy-Based Learning in Secondary Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prior to or during enrollment in MSSE 370, candidates will be required to complete a 20 hour mentoring project.

### Foreign Language Education PreK-12

The licensure program in foreign languages is based in the secondary education program, but it leads to a PreK-12 license. The foreign language program differs from the secondary (6-12) programs in that licensure candidates must take MSSE 570F, Methods of Language Teaching, and their practica.

MSSE 571F, must include field experiences at the elementary (PreK-6) school level. The content of MSSE 570F includes coverage of teaching foreign language methods for elementary school children as well as teaching foreign language to middle and high school students. The required practicum experiences include observations and teaching experiences across the PreK-12 grade levels. Candidates seeking foreign language certification are required to complete 22 credits of pre-professional studies in education at the undergraduate level and 35 credits in professional studies at the graduate level. Foreign language candidates register for EDUC 675M and EDUC 675S, Internships.

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English Language Learning Academy
The mission of the English Language Learning Academy (ELLA) is to provide language learning opportunities and support through licensure, minor, clinical, and direct service programs. Through outreach efforts to businesses, industries, and schools, ELLA offers opportunities for individuals to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to support their development as contributing professionals and citizens of our community.

The English Language Learning Academy offers initial PreK-12 licensure program in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) at the bachelor’s and post-baccalaureate levels, and operates the ESL Career Development Academy.

Program Advising
First-year candidates planning to become teachers in secondary schools are advised to enroll in MSSE 101, Orientation to the Profession. Candidates should contact an education adviser concerning job opportunities in the various secondary subject areas, proper sequence of education courses, practicum opportunities in local secondary schools and special programs. By consulting regularly with their program adviser in secondary education, candidates can continually evaluate their academic objectives.

Vocational Education Courses
For persons employed by school divisions, to teach in vocational programs, the following courses are available and can be used by trade and industrial education teachers to upgrade their provisional license to the technical professional teaching license.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 160. Life Span Human Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 490. Special Topics in Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOED 383. Curriculum and Instructional Procedures in VOED</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 9