The undergraduate pre-professional program in Middle Education is designed to prepare teachers of grades 6 through 8. This program provides the requisite course offerings and experiences that form the foundation for admission to the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program. Completion of the MAT program is required for licensure in Middle Education at JMU.

Undergraduate candidates must meet a set of content and subject-specific criteria that are established and required by the National Middle School Association standards for initial level teacher preparation. To meet requirements for these standards and also meet requirements for JMU’s state approved Middle Education teacher licensure program, middle grade teachers must hold endorsement credentials in two of the four core subject areas (mathematics, social studies/history, science, English/language arts). In order to meet this requirement, candidates are advised to major in Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies (IDLS), a major that will allow them to hold dual content concentrations as well as meet the necessary subject-matter competencies. Add-on licensure areas include: Algebra I, Journalism, English as a Second Language (ESL), and Gifted Education.

Candidates should consult with the Middle Education Department and the IDLS program early during their freshman year or as soon as possible to obtain information concerning the general education requirements, IDLS requirements, Middle Education pre-professional program requirements, and the requirements for admission to Teacher Education. 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 MAT graduate program.

Middle Education Advisors  (for Middle Education minor advising and Teacher Education Admission Requirements):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Advisor</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Phone 540-</th>
<th>e-mail address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Middle Education Department Chair</td>
<td>Dr. Kyle Schultz</td>
<td>MH 3200B</td>
<td>568-4532</td>
<td><a href="mailto:schultkt@jmu.edu">schultkt@jmu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Education Advisor</td>
<td>Mr. David Lane</td>
<td>MH 3220D</td>
<td>568-6866</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lanedj@jmu.edu">lanedj@jmu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IDLS Major Program  (for General Education advising and IDLS major advising):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Phone 540-</th>
<th>e-mail address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IDLS Director</td>
<td>Dr. G. Fletcher Linder</td>
<td>MAUR 118</td>
<td>568-5270</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lindergf@jmu.edu">lindergf@jmu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDLS Major Program Advisor</td>
<td>Mr. Matthew Chamberlin</td>
<td>MAUR 118</td>
<td>568-5218</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chambema@jmu.edu">chambema@jmu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ADMISSION TO TEACHER EDUCATION

Education Support Center (ESC) Website:  http://coe.jmu.edu/esc/

The Education Support Center office is located in Memorial Hall, room 7230, 540-568-6274. All Teacher Education admission requirements are submitted through this office. Information on admission requirements, admission status, Praxis, deadlines, and upcoming events are posted on their website. Candidates pursuing initial licensure in middle education must be fully admitted into Teacher Education before they can enroll in the first cluster of co-requisite middle education course work (1st semester of junior year). Candidates should be aware that some requirements take several weeks to get submitted to the Education Support Center; therefore, candidates must complete admission requirements well in advance of registration of blocked courses. Candidates must meet with their Middle Education advisor as soon as possible to start the application process.

Education Support Center (ESC)
Teacher Education Admission Requirements

Candidates will be blocked from registration of certain designated education courses until ALL the requirements listed below are met. See page 3 for blocked courses and requirements.

Website for Teacher Education Admission requirements:  http://www.jmu.edu/coe/esc/admissions.shtml  The below requirements are linked off this website.

Step 1. Complete the following forms with signatures as indicated:

- Candidates visit IDLS office in Maury Hall, room 118, and discuss IDLS major, concentrations, and requirements. Secondly, candidates visit Middle Education program office in Memorial Hall, room 3200, and declare the undergraduate pre-professional minor program in Middle Education and are assigned their Middle Education advisor. Candidates then declare the major in IDLS and are assigned their IDLS major advisor;
- Complete the Teacher Education Application form. The student and Middle Education advisor sign the form. The student will submit the form to the Education Support Center office in Memorial Hall, room 7230.

Step 2. Complete all the following application requirements:

- Earn grades of “C” or better in:
  o WRIT 103/WRTC 103 Critical Reading and Writing or equivalent
  o Any MATH designated course
  o PSYC 160 Life Span Human Development, PSYC 614, or equivalent
- Submit passing scores on the PRAXIS CORE Academic Skills for Educators tests (reading, writing, mathematics). The Praxis Core test requirement may be waived if SAT or ACT scores qualify. *
- Have and maintain a 2.5 GPA or higher.
- Two Reference Forms - have two qualified person complete and submit on-line reference forms to the Education Support Center office (link to reference forms and instructions on ESC website)
- Have no record of any felony conviction or misdemeanor conviction involving children or drugs, or founded complaint of child abuse or neglect.
- Universal Precautions (UP) on-line training and test.
- Child Abuse Training. Complete the Child Abuse Quiz with a grade of 8 or better.
- Subscribed to TK20
- Complete the pre-professional assessment in TK20

*Minimum scores on SAT or ACT exams may exempt the Praxis Core Academic Skills test requirement. Candidates must have the following scores:
  minimum SAT score of 1100 with both 530 verbal and 530 math minimum scores
  or minimum ACT score of 24 with both 22 math and 46 English plus Reading minimum scores
# Middle Education Undergraduate

## Pre-Professional Studies in Education Program Course Work

Candidates must receive grades of “B-” or higher in all Middle Education pre-professional program courses, unless otherwise indicated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshmen/First Semester Sophomore Year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 101</td>
<td>Orientation to the Profession <em>(optional, but highly recommended)</em></td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 160</td>
<td>Life Span Human Development <em>(grade of “C” or better required for Teacher Education)</em></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 300</td>
<td>Foundations of American Education <em>(may be completed second semester sophmore year)</em></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WRTC 103 and MATH course requirement completed for Teacher Education admission <em>(grade of “C” or better required for Teacher Education)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Junior Year (1st semester)**

- ALL remaining course work is **BLOCKED** and require full acceptance into Teacher Education to register
- See page 2 of this handout for complete listing of Teacher Education admission requirements.
- All three courses within this cell are co-requisites and require registration during enrollment appointment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 310</td>
<td>Teaching in a Diverse Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIED 311</td>
<td>Field Experience in Middle Education</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>READ 312</td>
<td>Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum in the Middle Grades</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Youth Mentoring Experience** – 20 hours of academic or non-academic mentorship work with middle school age students. To be completed prior to or during the semester candidates are enrolled in MSSE 370 and MSSE 371. MSSE 101 will satisfy this requirement – more details are located on the Y-Me youth Mentorship handout

**Junior Year (2nd semester)**

- The two courses within this cell are co-requisites and require registration during enrollment appointment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 370</td>
<td>General Instructional Methods for Grades 6-12</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 371</td>
<td>Clinical Experience in Adolescent Education</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Senior Year (1st semester)**

- All three courses within this cell are co-requisites and require registration during enrollment appointment
- Course work below requires submission of **passing** scores on the Reading and Writing subtests of the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA) exam* (see page 4)
- Candidates must provide dependable transportation for field placements and placement location travel may be significant (1-2 hours driving distance)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 470</td>
<td>Content Methods Courses for Middle School <em>(content specific)</em></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 471</td>
<td>Content Area Field Experience in Middle Schools <em>(content specific)</em></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>READ 472</td>
<td>Literacy Assessment and Instruction in the Content Areas for Middle Grades</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Senior Year (2nd semester)**

- All three courses within this cell are co-requisites and require registration during enrollment appointment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 470</td>
<td>Content Methods Courses for Middle School <em>(content specific)</em></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 471</td>
<td>Content Area Field Experience in Middle Schools <em>(content specific)</em></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXED 460</td>
<td>Differentiation of Instruction and Academic Collaboration <em>(formerly SPED 460)</em></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Undergraduate Credit Hours**

36-38
THREE REQUIRED VIRGINIA STATE TESTS
FOR MIDDLE EDUCATION TEACHER LICENSURE CANDIDATES

Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Tests (reading, writing, mathematics)
to be taken freshmen/sophomore year
Certain scores on SAT or ACT may waive this test requirement - see below

Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment Test (VCLA)
to be taken sophomore/junior year

Praxis Subject Assessments (formerly the Praxis II Tests)
to be taken prior to or early senior year

All three tests require advanced pre-registration and scores take a minimum of 5 weeks to be submitted to JMU. Candidates are encouraged to take the tests early so that there is ample time to re-take the tests if necessary to achieve passing scores. When candidates register for these tests, they should insure that scores are sent to JMU or candidates must provide a paper copy of scores to the JMU Education Support Center office.

1. Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Tests: www.ets.org/praxis
Effective beginning January 1, 2014, candidates must pass the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Tests (reading, writing, and mathematics) to be admitted into Teacher Education. The Praxis Core test replaced the Praxis I test requirement effective January 1, 2014. The Praxis Core tests measure basic academic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. Passing Praxis Core scores are set by the state and should be taken at the first opportunity so there is time to review skills and retake the tests if needed. Tests are offered in computer-delivered administration only by appointment at Prometric Test Centers located throughout Virginia and US during specific testing window dates. Certain minimum scores on the SAT or ACT will waive the Praxis Core test requirement. See charts on the JMU Education Support Center’s website for SAT or ACT minimum score requirements: http://www.jmu.edu/coe/esc/waivepraxis.shtml Praxis Core registration, test dates, and test site locations are found on the www.ets.org/praxis website.

2. Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment Test (VCLA): www.va.nesinc.com
Candidates must take and pass the Reading and Writing subtests of the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment prior to beginning MSSE 470, MSSE 471, and READ 472 Middle Education courses during 1st semester senior year. The VCLA measures the communication and literacy skills necessary to teach and communicate effectively with parents and others in the education community. Tests are offered in computer-based testing format only at Pearson VUE test centers nationwide Monday-Saturday. VCLA registration, test dates, and test site locations are found on the www.va.nesinc.com website.

3. Praxis Subject Assessments (formerly the Praxis II tests): www.ets.org/praxis
Candidates must submit passing Praxis Subject Assessment Test scores in their two Middle Education content areas prior to beginning more than 12 hours of graduate course work in the Middle Education Master of Arts in Teaching 5th Year format graduate program. However, candidates must submit passing Praxis Subject Assessment scores for at least one of their content areas prior to beginning more than 6 hours of MAT graduate coursework. To clarify – in order to go beyond 6 hours of MAT graduate course work, candidates must have passed at least one content area Praxis Subject Assessment; to go beyond 12 hours of MAT graduate course work, candidates must have passed their two content area Praxis Subject Assessment exams. The website lists the VIRGINIA required middle education Praxis Subject Assessments, minimum scores, and test code for registration. Middle Education Praxis Subject Assessments are offered in computer-delivered format through the national network of Prometric Test Centers during posted testing windows throughout the year. JMU is an approved test site location on certain days during the testing windows. Candidates are encouraged to take the tests early – prior to or early in their senior year so that there is ample time to re-take the tests if necessary to achieve passing scores. Praxis Subject Assessment registration, test dates, and test site locations are found on the www.ets.org/praxis website. Be sure to follow Virginia test requirements when registering for the appropriate Praxis Subject Assessments for your content areas.
Middle Education  
Master of Arts in Teaching 5th Year Format Graduate Program

Undergraduate candidates wishing to pursue licensure to teach through the Middle Education Master of Arts in Teaching 5th Year format program should apply to the graduate program through The Graduate School office early fall semester of their senior year. Complete application instructions are found on page 6 of this handout.

- **Prior to applying** to the graduate program, candidates must be fully admitted into Teacher Education and exhibit and demonstrate personal qualities and dispositions that reflect effective development as a professional educator.
- **To be considered** for admission to the MAT graduate program, candidates must meet the following minimum requirements:
  a. Have an academic history presenting evidence capable of expectations of a graduate program
  b. Apply and be *conditionally* admitted to the Middle Education Master of Arts in Teaching 5th Year format program through The Graduate School office at JMU
  c. Successfully complete all undergraduate Middle Education pre-professional program course requirements with grades of “B-” or higher
  d. Have a minimum cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.7
  e. Ensure a minimum of 120 *undergraduate* credit hours will be completed required to earn an undergraduate bachelor’s degree
- **Prior to beginning** more than 12 hours of graduate course work, candidates must have submitted *passing* Praxis Subject Assessment scores in their two Middle Education content areas. Candidates must submit *passing* Praxis Subject Assessment scores for at least one of their content areas prior to beginning more than 6 hours of graduate course work

Middle Education Master of Arts in Teaching 5th Year Format Professional Studies in Education (Graduate)

All MAT graduate course work must be completed with grades of “B-” or better

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Course work for SUMMER following undergraduate graduation</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 540</td>
<td>Educational Technology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXED 512</td>
<td>Behavior Management in the Classroom</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIED 620</td>
<td>Assessment in Middle Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 630</td>
<td>Inquiry in the Classroom</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course work for FALL Semester Graduate year**

Pre-requisites for student teaching:
- Student Teaching Application due 1 year prior to student teaching semester  
  *(Deadline – October 31 for fall student teaching the following year)*
- Met all requirements for student teaching by the student teaching eligibility deadline *(includes TB test results)*
- Submitted passing Praxis Subject Assessment scores in two Middle Education content areas
- Minimum graduate GPA of 3.0 and grades of “B-” or better in all prior MAT graduate courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 650</td>
<td>Internship Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSSE 690</td>
<td>Internship in Middle Education</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course work for SPRING Semester Graduate year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MIED 610</td>
<td>Collaborative Leadership in Schools</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIED 656</td>
<td>Seminar in Middle Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELECTIVE</td>
<td>Approved graduate level elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Graduate Credit Hours 32
**Middle Education MAT Graduate Program Information**

**Application Process for the Middle Education MAT 5th Year Format Graduate Program**

1. Go to website for The Graduate School [http://www.jmu.edu/grad/](http://www.jmu.edu/grad/)
   
   Go to “Prospective Students” then select “Apply Now”

2. Select “Create Your Account.” Follow the steps to set up your graduate account. You must exit the website to finalize setting up your account.

3. Once you have your account, select the “Apply Online” and “Application for Graduate Admission” link. Complete the application online and finalize/submit the application. You should designate the “Admit Term” - first session in which you will be taking graduate course work following undergraduate graduation. “Department” – Education. “Program of Study” – 5th yr - Middle Education (6-8), “Concentration” – Middle Education (6-8). “Type of Degree” – Master of Arts in Teaching.

4. Pay the application fee by check or credit card (discussed in the directions and information).

5. Upload your unofficial JMU transcripts per instructions with your application.

6. GRE scores are not required for MAT 5th Year format students who are completing the Middle Education Pre-professional Studies in Education undergraduate minor while completing their undergraduate degree at JMU.

7. Wait for admission – a letter will be sent to you by mail. DO NOT accept the offer of admission through MyMadison until you are confident that the semester you will begin your first MAT graduate course is the semester following undergraduate graduation. An email will be sent to candidates regarding the possibility of enrolling in any early MAT graduate courses during their last undergraduate semester and to the appropriate time for accepting the offer of admission to Graduate School for the correct admit term.

8. Once you are accepted into the program, register for your graduate courses under your newly established “graduate career” option through MyMadison.

**Early Graduate Course Work in Senior Year**

During their last semester senior year at JMU, undergraduate candidates who have applied and been conditionally admitted into the Middle Education Master of Arts in Teaching 5th Year format graduate program and have successfully completed 27 hours of the pre-professional program in Middle Education, and have a minimum GPA of 2.7, may take up to 6 credits of early MAT graduate course work. Prior to beginning more than 6 hours of graduate course work, at least one Praxis II exam must be passed; prior to beginning more than 12 hours of graduate course work, two Praxis II exams must be passed.

- It is important to note that candidates must have 120 credit hours to earn their undergraduate degree. Any MAT graduate credits taken early MUST EXCEED the 120 credit hour requirement for the undergraduate degree and the early MAT graduate credits will only count toward hours required for the MAT graduate degree.

- Prior to registration for their last undergraduate semester, candidates who wish to enroll in early MAT graduate courses must contact the Middle, Secondary, and Mathematics Education office in MH 3200 and request to have their Graduate Academic Career Admit Term activated in My Madison one semester early (example, from Summer to Spring semester). This update may take a couple of days to activate in your Student Center in My Madison.

- Candidates accept the offer of admission to the Middle Education MAT 5th year graduate program in My Madison for their NEW admit term.

- Candidates register in My Madison during their enrollment appointment time for:
  
  **Early MAT graduate courses** using their newly activated Graduate Career Remaining undergraduate courses using their current Undergraduate Career

- Financial Aid Issues When Enrolling in Early Graduate Course Work – Candidates who are receiving financial aid must contact the JMU Financial Aid office prior to enrolling in early MAT graduate courses. Most Financial Aid recipients are required to be enrolled in at least 12 undergraduate credits each semester that count towards their undergraduate degree.
Graduate Programs Continuous Enrollment Policy

All graduate candidates enrolled in graduate degree programs must register each regular semester for a minimum of one graduate credit hour from enrollment to graduation. This policy excludes summer sessions.

Unsatisfactory Progress in Graduate Course Work

The Middle Education Program requires grades of “B-” or higher in all Middle Education MAT graduate courses. If a grade below “B-” is received, the graduate course will need to be repeated. Per the JMU Graduate Catalog, if a graduate candidate fails to make satisfactory progress toward their degree, the candidate may be denied permission to continue in the program. A candidate will be dismissed from the degree program if the candidate receives an “F” or “U” in any graduate course or a total of three “C” grades in his or her graduate program. A graduate candidate will receive a notice of academic warning upon receiving a grade of “C” in any two graduate courses or if the candidate’s grade point average falls below 3.0.

Student Teaching

Applications for student teaching positions are due to the Education Support Center office one year prior to student teaching semester – October 31 for the following fall. Instructions for accessing student teaching application packets are available on the Web at http://coe.jmu.edu/esc/. Note there are three required student teaching meetings conducted by the Education Support Center. One of these meetings (the student teaching informational meeting) is required before the student teaching deadline. Dates and details about all three meetings can be found on the above mentioned website. Student teaching requirements include completion of CPR/first aid training and current TB test. To be eligible to student teach, a minimum cumulative graduate GPA of 3.0 is required, as well as, grades of “B-” or better in all prior MAT graduate courses. Candidates must provide dependable transportation for student teaching placements and placement locations may be significant (1-2 hours driving distance).

Teacher Work Sample Requirement

The Graduate School requires candidates to successfully complete a comprehensive assessment in order to receive their graduate degree. Middle Education MAT candidates satisfy this requirement by successful completion of the Teacher Work Sample project which is completed while enrolled in the MSSE 650 Internship Seminar course. Candidates should have an understanding of the purpose, structure, and value of Teacher Work Sample as a means to demonstrate professional decision making in terms of instruction and assessment and to provide evidence of candidate’s ability for reflection.

Applying for a Graduate Degree (Graduation Application for Master’s Degree)

Go to: http://www.jmu.edu/grad/current_students/graduate_forms.shtml
View: Graduation
Print:
- Degree Progress Checklist
- Application for a Graduate Degree

In order to graduate with their Master’s degree, candidates must complete the Application for a Graduate Degree form. Follow the instructions on the Degree Progress Checklist and note the deadlines for filing. Candidates are responsible for obtaining their advisor’s signature and taking the application to the Middle Education Department office in Memorial Hall, room 3200. Candidates must complete all the conditions of their original admission to the Middle Education MAT 5th Year format degree program before they can be permitted to graduate with their MAT degree.