

Advisement Information for Those Interested in Teaching

Use these links to see details for secondary or P-12 education certification with a bachelor's degree in the following areas:

**ART | BIOLOGY | BUSINESS | CHEMISTRY | ENGLISH
GEOGRAPHY | GEOLOGY | HISTORY | MATHEMATICS | PHYSICS
POLITICAL SCIENCE | SPANISH | WRITING AND LINGUISTICS**

For all those interested in acquiring teacher certification after completing a non-education bachelor's degree program:

There are two options available for you to obtain a teaching certificate—a degree option (the MAT program) and a non-degree option. We strongly encourage everyone to pursue the MAT degree since it requires simply two to four additional courses and will result in a Master's level certificate (T5) rather than a bachelor's level certificate (T4). This means that you will have a much higher starting salary as a teacher. Once admitted to the MAT or the non-degree program, there will also be two options available for you related to the required supervised field experiences—(a) going full-time and completing Practicum and Student Teaching or (b) accepting a teaching position in the desired field with a Non-renewable Teaching (NT) certificate and completing supervised Internships while on the job.

As you complete your undergraduate disciplinary program, there are several things for you to consider so you can enter the MAT or non-degree program without any delays. This information will let you know what prerequisite courses and tests you **MUST** complete before admission into the MAT or non-degree program. It will also let you know what courses you **MAY** take as an undergraduate, and which of those optional courses could apply toward certification requirements and which could be profitable to take but would not apply toward certification or MAT requirements.

REQUIRED COURSES AND TESTS FOR MAT/NONDEGREE ADMISSION:

- Federal and state policies require that secondary education teachers (grades 6-12) and teachers who teach in fields that are for grades pre-school-12 (art, foreign language, music, health and physical education) must hold a major or equivalent in the content area. Middle Grades (grades 4-8), Early Childhood Education (P-5), and Special Education (P-12) must hold “concentrations” in certain content fields. A transcript evaluation is **REQUIRED** after you complete your bachelor's degree program to verify that you meet all content course requirements.
- The sections below identify courses that are **REQUIRED** for teacher certification in the various secondary and P-12 teaching fields in order to meet accreditation requirements. These are courses that are not currently required in Georgia Southern's content majors. If you complete the major in the teaching field and any courses listed below for that field, you should meet all content prerequisite requirements. This will then be verified in the transcript evaluation. Be sure to take these courses as selections within your undergraduate major or as electives. In addition, recommended courses are identified to help students be more prepared to teach these subjects.
- GACE Basic Skills and GACE Content Assessment examinations are **REQUIRED** for admission into the MAT or non-degree teacher certification program. GACE Basic Skills may be exempted with 1000 or better on the SAT, 43 or better on the ACT (English and Math combined), or 1030 or better on the GRE examination. For more information, see <http://www.gace.nesinc.com>. (Science majors can choose to seek certification in all fields - “broad fields science” certification - which will require taking the GACE broad fields test instead of individual subject-specific tests. This is only available in science.)
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 is **REQUIRED** for admission into the MAT or nondegree certification program. This should be considered during enrollment in the undergraduate program.

OPTIONAL COURSES THAT YOU CAN TAKE AT THE UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL:

- Courses that you can take as an undergraduate that WILL COUNT toward certification requirements but WILL NOT COUNT toward MAT degree requirements are:
 - SPED 3333 - Introduction to Special Education
 - ITEC 3430 - Instructional Technology for P-12 Education (*or meet the state technology requirement by passing the GACE Computer Skill Competency Assessment*)
- Education Area F “Preprofessional Block” (PPB) courses may also be taken; however, due to a recent change to PPB to meet new USG requirements, the PPB courses WILL NOT COUNT toward meeting certification requirements or MAT degree requirements. However, these courses can provide undergraduate students information and experiences in school settings that will help them make more informed decisions about becoming a teacher. Since the three PPB courses have USG-mandated field requirements, the following guidance should be followed:
 - BA/BS/BBA majors can take the complete 9 semester hour PPB block of courses with the required 50 hour field experience; OR
 - BA/BS/BBA majors can take EDUC 2130 - Exploring Learning and Teaching concurrently with EDUC 2090 – PPB Practicum (50 contact hours in a school) – total of 3 credit hours. After taking EDUC 2130, those students can take one or both of the other PPB courses with approximately 10 hour of field experience with each course. These courses are:
 - EDUC 2110 - Investigating Critical and Contemporary Issues in Education
 - EDUC 2120 - Exploring Socio-Cultural Perspectives on Diversity in Educational Contexts

For those interested in P-12 Education (grades preschool-12) certification with an **ART degree:**

Students who plan to seek teacher certification after completion of the B.A. or B.F.A. Art program may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a non-degree certification program. To meet content requirements, the following courses must be completed as part of or in addition to your current program of study.

ART 1135 Painting I - 3 semester hours	ART 1335 Photography I – 3 semester hours
ART 1230 Ceramics I – 3 semester hours	ART 1430 Printmaking I – 3 semester hours
ART 1235 Sculpture I – 3 semester hours	ART 2233 Computer Graphics – 3 semester hours

Art History coursework must include courses in the following distinctive areas: non-20th century; modern or contemporary; and non-western

For those interested in Secondary Education (grades 6-12) certification with a **BIOLOGY degree:**

Students who plan to seek teacher certification after completion of the B.A. or B.S. Biology program may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a non-degree certification program. If all B.A. or B.S. Biology requirements are met, no other biology content courses are required.

However, we strongly encourage students to pursue “broad fields” Science certification which includes the areas of biology, chemistry, earth science, and physics. To meet broad fields content requirements, we recommend the following courses be completed as part of or in addition to your current program of study:

Chemistry – 12 semester hours (*advisor recommended*)
Physics – 12 semester hours (*advisor recommended: PHYS 2211, PHYS 2212, PHYS 3536*)
Earth-Space Science – 12 semester hours (*advisor recommended*)

For those interested in Secondary Education (grades 6-12) certification with a **BUSINESS degree:**

Students who plan to seek business education teacher certification after completion of the B.B.A. program (Accounting, Finance, Information Systems, Logistics and Intermodal Transportation, Management, Marketing, or Regional Economic Development) may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a

non-degree certification program. To meet content requirements, the following courses must be completed as part of or in addition to your current program of study.

CSCI 1230 - Introduction to BASIC Programming – 3 semester hours

GCM 1321 - Desktop Publishing – 2 semester hours

GCM 1411 - Desktop Publishing Lab – 1 semester hour

IT 1130 - Introduction to Information Technology – 3 semester hours

WRIT 3230 - Writing in the Workplace – 3 semester hours

For those interested in Secondary Education (grades 6-12) certification with a **CHEMISTRY degree:**

Students who plan to seek teacher certification after completion of the B.A. or B.S. Chemistry program may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a non-degree certification program. If all B.A. or B.S. Chemistry requirements are met, no other chemistry content courses are required.

However, we strongly encourage students to pursue “broad fields” Science certification which includes the areas of biology, chemistry, earth science, and physics. To meet broad fields content requirements, we recommend the following courses be completed as part of or in addition to your current program of study:

Biology – 12 semester hours (*advisor recommended*)

Physics – 12 semester hours (*advisor recommended: PHYS 2211, PHYS 2212, PHYS 3536*)

Earth-Space Science – 12 semester hours (*advisor recommended*)

For those interested in Secondary Education (grades 6-12) certification with an **ENGLISH degree:**

Students who plan to seek teacher certification after completion of the B.A. English program may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a non-degree certification program. To meet content requirements, the following courses must be completed as part of or in addition to your current program of study.

ENGL 3132 - American Literature II – 3 semester hours

ENGL 5534 - Literature for Adolescents **OR** ENGL 5135 - Teaching Literature for Middle and Secondary School Students – 3 semester hours (*require one of these but recommend both*)

READ 3330 - Content Literacy **OR** READ 4131 - The Teaching of Reading – 3 semester hours

LING/WRIT 3430 - Linguistics & Grammar for Teachers **OR** WRIT 3520 – Revision, Grammar and Culture – 3 semester hours

WRIT 3131 - The Teaching of Writing – 3 semester hours

ENGL 4337 – Shakespeare – 3 semester hours (*recommended only*)

For those interested in Secondary Education (grades 6-12) certification with a **GEOGRAPHY degree:**

Students who plan to seek teacher certification after completion of the B.A. or B.S. Geography program may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a non-degree certification program. If all B.A. or B.S. Geography requirements are met, no other geography content courses are required.

However, we strongly encourage students to pursue certification in more than one social science field to enhance employment opportunity. We recommend at least 12 semester hours in one or more of the following fields: Economics, History, and/or Political Science, with advisor guidance in selection. These courses could be completed as part of the minor or electives.

For those interested in Secondary Education (grades 6-12) certification with a **GEOLOGY degree:**

Students who plan to seek teacher certification after completion of the B.A. or B.S. Geology program may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a non-degree certification program. If all B.A. or B.S. Geology requirements are met, no other geology content courses are required.

However, we strongly encourage students to pursue “broad fields” Science certification which includes the areas of biology, chemistry, earth science, and physics. To meet broad fields content requirements, we recommend the following courses be completed as part of or in addition to your current program of study:

Biology – 12 semester hours (*advisor recommended*)

Chemistry – 12 semester hours (*advisor recommended*)

Physics – 12 semester hours (*advisor recommended: PHYS 2211, PHYS 2212, PHYS 3536*)

For those interested in Secondary Education (grades 6-12) certification with a **HISTORY degree:**

Students who plan to seek teacher certification after completion of the B.A. History program may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a non-degree certification program. If all B.A. History requirements are met, no other history content courses are required, except the following course:

HIST 4130 – Georgia History – 3 semester hours

However, we strongly encourage students to pursue certification in more than one social science field to enhance employment opportunity. We recommend at least 12 semester hours in one or more of the following fields: Economics, Geography, and/or Political Science, with advisor guidance in selection. These courses could be completed as part of the minor or electives.

For those interested in Secondary Education (grades 6-12) certification with a **MATHEMATICS degree:**

Students who plan to seek teacher certification after completion of the B.S. or B.S.Mat. Mathematics program may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a non-degree certification program. To meet content requirements, the following courses must be completed as part of or in addition to your current program of study.

MATH 3130 - College Geometry – 3 semester hours

MATH 5136 - History of Mathematics – 3 semester hours

MATH 5234 - Number Theory – 3 semester hours

STAT 5531 - Statistical Methods I – 3 semester hours

For those interested in Secondary Education (grades 6-12) certification with a **PHYSICS degree:**

Students who plan to seek teacher certification after completion of the B.A. or B.S.P. program may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a non-degree certification program. If all B.A. or B.S. Physics requirements are met, no other physics content courses are required.

However, we strongly encourage students to pursue “broad fields” Science certification which includes the areas of biology, chemistry, earth science, and physics. To meet broad fields content requirements, we recommend the following courses be completed as part of or in addition to your current program of study:

Biology – 12 semester hours (*advisor recommended*)

Chemistry – 12 semester hours (*advisor recommended*)

Earth-Space Science – 12 semester hours (*advisor recommended*)

For those interested in Secondary Education (grades 6-12) certification with a **POLITICAL SCIENCE degree:**

Students who plan to seek teacher certification after completion of the B.A. or B.S. Political Science program may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a non-degree certification program. If all B.A. or B.S. Political Science requirements are met, no other political science content courses are required.

However, we strongly encourage students to pursue certification in more than one social science field to enhance employment opportunity. We recommend at least 12 semester hours in one or more of the following fields: Economics, Geography, and/or History, with advisor guidance in selection. These courses could be completed as part of the minor or electives.

For those interested in P-12 Education (grades preschool-12) certification with a **SPANISH degree:**

Students who plan to seek teacher certification after completion of the B.A. Spanish or B.A. Modern Languages (with Spanish concentration) program may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a non-degree certification program. If all B.A. Spanish or Modern Languages requirements are met, typically no other Spanish content courses are required.

For those interested in Secondary Education (grades 6-12) certification in English Education with a **WRITING AND LINGUISTICS degree:**

Students who plan to seek teacher certification after completion of the B.A. Writing and Linguistics program may achieve this through the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) or a non-degree certification program. To meet content requirements, the following courses must be completed as part of or in addition to the current program of study:

ENGL 3121 - British Literature I – 3 semester hours

ENGL 3122 - British Literature II – 3 semester hours

ENGL 3131 - American Literature I – 3 semester hours

ENGL 3132 - American Literature II – 3 semester hours

LING/WRIT 3430 - Linguistics & Grammar for Teachers **OR** WRIT 3520 - WRIT 3520 – Revision, Grammar and Culture – 3 semester hours (*require one of these but recommend both*)

WRIT 3131 - The Teaching of Writing – 3 semester hours

READ 3330 - Content Literacy **OR** READ 4131 - The Teaching of Reading – 3 semester hours

ENGL 5534 - Literature for Adolescents **OR** ENGL 5135 - Teaching Literature for Middle Grades & High School Students – 3 semester hours

Additional 9 hours of upper division (3000+) literature, with advisor guidance in selection

ENGL 4337 – Shakespeare – 3 semester hours (*recommended only*)

Approved:

1/24/08 GC

2/19/08 UGC

Art and Business updated 4/7/08