



University Council

August 8, 2025

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2025-2026

Susan Sanchez, Chair

Agricultural and Environmental Sciences – Julie Campbell

Arts and Sciences – Casie LeGette (Arts)

Paula Lemons (Sciences)

Business – Andrew Miller

Ecology – Amanda Rugenski

Education – Amy Murphy

Engineering – David Stooksbury

Environment and Design – Katherine Melcher

Family and Consumer Sciences – Melissa Landers-Potts

Forestry and Natural Resources – Richard Chandler

Journalism and Mass Communication – Yan Jin

Law – Joe Miller

Medicine – Erica Brownfield

Pharmacy – Duc Do

Public and International Affairs – Ryan Powers

Public Health – Heather Padilla

Social Work – Jennifer Elkins

Veterinary Medicine – Paul Eubig

Graduate School – Rodney Mauricio

Ex-Officio – Provost Benjamin Ayers

Undergraduate Student Representative – TBD

Graduate Student Representative – TBD

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the Mary Frances Early College of Education to offer the existing major in English Education (M.A.T.) online will be an agenda item for the August 15, 2025, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

cc: Provost Benjamin Ayers

Dr. Marisa Anne Pagnattaro

## PROPOSAL FOR AN ONLINE PROGRAM

**Date:** January 20, 2025

**College/School:** Mary Frances Early College of Education

**Department/Division:** Language and Literacy Education

**Program (Major and Degree):** English Education (M.A.T.)

**Will any approved areas of emphasis be offered under this major?** No

**Proposed Effective Date:** Fall 2026

### 1. Needs Assessment

Over several academic years, inquiries regarding the availability of an online version of the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) in English Education program have increased steadily. These inquiries have been received by program faculty, the department head, and the graduate coordinator. The online M.A.T. is attractive to prospective students across the state of Georgia. The overwhelming majority of traditional M.A.T. students live in and around the Athens and metropolitan Atlanta area, while 90% of the inquiries into an online M.A.T. program are generated from across the state of Georgia. Notably, district and school leaders from central and southeast Georgia have communicated a keen interest in an online M.A.T. in English Education for non-traditional educators seeking licensure.

The online M.A.T. presents a viable and more accessible option, not only for those prospective students residing further away from the university, but also for those individuals for whom the traditional course sequence might be constraining in terms of employment and nonprofessional pursuits.

Past and current students seek UGA's nationally-ranked degree programs (with a U.S. News and World Report Secondary Curriculum ranking of 10<sup>th</sup> in the country) because of the academic rigor, professionalism, and student-centered mission of the University of Georgia. The proposed online M.A.T. in English Education would broaden the university's network of school partnerships across the state, simultaneously providing engaging opportunities for innovative teaching, field research, and scholarship.

### 2. Admission Requirements

Admission requirements for the online M.A.T. in English Education mirror the admission requirements of the Athens campus-based M.A.T. Prospective students must submit a resume/C.V., unofficial transcripts, writing samples, and references. Prospective candidates must have earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. Candidates are required to have a minimum 2.5 GPA on undergraduate or previous graduate work to meet mandates from the state approval body, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. Applications are evaluated by a committee of program

faculty members. Although the program recommends at least a 2.5 undergraduate GPA, most applicants exceed that threshold. Candidates whose undergraduate grades do not represent their future potential should use the essay portions of the application to make their case for admission. The GRE is not required for acceptance into this program. Admissions occur on a rolling basis, with the first round of admissions in April for a fall semester start.

### 3. Program Content

The curriculum of the online M.A.T. program in English Education will be equivalent to the on-campus M.A.T. program in English Education. The criteria for electives or substitutions for specific requirements will be equivalent online. Depending upon the incoming student's transcripts, they might be required to take additional requisite English courses to meet program certification requirements. Below is the program of study:

#### Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) in English Education Online

##### Program of Study

Area	Course	Course Title
<b>Group I: Adolescent Learners</b> (9 hours)	EDSE 6030E	Inclusion of Students with Special Needs: Grades 6-12 (3 hours)
	LLED 7400E	Current Issues in Secondary English Education (3 hours)
	LLED 7430E	Language and Literacies in Secondary English Education (3 hours)
<b>Group II: English Education Core</b> (18 hours)	LLED 6200E	Methods in Teaching English Education I (3 hours)
	LLED 6220E	Methods in Teaching English Education II (3 hours)
	LLED 6400E	Planning Instruction in Secondary English Education (3 hours)
	LLED 6410E	Adolescent and Young Adult Literature for a Changing World (3 hours)
	LLED 7045E	Special Topics in Language and Literacy Education (3 hours)
	LLED 7720E	Teacher Inquiry in English/Language Arts (3 hours)
<b>Group III: Field Based Learning</b> (12 hours)	LLED 6210E	English Education Practicum Seminar I (3 hours)
	LLED 6230E	English Education Practicum Seminar II (3 hours)
	LLED 6240E	English Education Practicum Seminar III (3 hours)
	LLED 7465E	Student Teaching in Secondary English Education (3 hours)

#### 4. Student Support Services

Students will be advised virtually by the English Education faculty. In addition, all services available to face-to-face students will be made available to students enrolled in the online program. University student support services (CAPS, libraries, career center, etc.) will be communicated and shared with all students.

#### 5. Resident Requirements

Residency requirements will be identical to those established for the authorized degree program.

#### 6. Program Management

The online M.A.T. in English Education will be managed by the program faculty for English Education. A faculty Program Coordinator will support the daily facilitation of program needs. Program faculty and part-time instructors will teach these courses. The faculty aim to attract a cohort of at least 10 students, with the hope of growing enrollment over time. Because many of these courses are cross-listed with the undergraduate program, the program can accommodate students if less than 10 are recruited. However, admissions inquiry data for an online program suggest significant demand for the program.

Program Role	Name	Email
Faculty, Program Coordinator, B.S.Ed./M.A.T./M.Ed., English Education	Jamie Hogan, Clinical Assistant Professor	jjordanhogan@uga.edu
Faculty, Program Coordinator for Ph.D. Programming, English Education	Ryan Schey, Associate Professor	ryanschey@uga.edu
Faculty	Kevin Burke, Professor	burkekq@uga.edu
Faculty, Director of Clinical Practice	Sara Kajder, Clinical Professor	skajder@uga.edu

Admissions will be managed on a rolling basis for a fall semester start. Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) for the online program will be reported in accordance with UGA's required processes. Program assessments will mirror those already in place for the face-to-face M.A.T. program.

*The timeline for the first iteration of the online M.A.T. in English Education is as follows:*

- Fall 2025: Program approval
- Fall 2025 (upon approval): Advertise degree program; Hold informational and recruitment sessions
- Fall 2025: Application review and acceptance
- Fall 2026: First cohort begins

**Schedule of Courses:**

<b>Fall I</b>	<b>Spring I</b>	<b>Summer</b>	<b>Fall II</b>	<b>Spring II</b>
EDSE 6030E	LLED 6200E	LLED 6410E	LLED 6220E	LLED 7465E
LLED 7400E	LLED 6210E	LLED 7045E	LLED 6230E	LLED 6240E
LLED 7430E	LLED 7720E		LLED 6400E	

**7. Library and Laboratory Resources**

Program faculty have reviewed existing library resources and other specialized resources available to students online, and no deficiencies exist.

**8. Budget**

The online M.A.T. in English Education will mirror the existing on campus program.. Funds will be requested for the development of the online degree program through the university's initiative to develop high-demand graduate programs, should any funds be available. Current program faculty will lead courses as part of their designated teaching loads. Additionally, almost all of these courses already have an online variant that has been constructed given experience in teaching during the pandemic. Part-time instructors may be required, dependent upon course enrollment and stipulations across various faculty teaching assignments. The proposed program will employ current library resources and does not anticipate additional fees in the form of library, laboratory, or other specialized facility resource requirements. Other than time for faculty and teaching team members to co-construct online course content, the faculty do not anticipate any startup costs, special costs for the completion of the first cycle of students, or any additional costs associated with future cycles of students. Therefore, the faculty submit this proposal with a \$0 budget.

**9. Program Costs Assessed to Students**

Costs for completion of the online M.A.T. in English Education are consistent with the university's established fee structure.

**10. E-Rate**

The faculty will not seek an E-Rate for this program.

## Documentation of Approval and Notification

**Proposal:** Proposal to offer the existing major in English Education (M.A.T.) online

**College:** Mary Frances Early College of Education

**Department:** Language and Literacy Education

**Proposed Effective Term:** Fall 2026

School/College:

- Mary Frances Early College of Education Dean, Dr. Denise Spangler, 1/31/2025
- Head of the Department of Language and Literacy Education, Dr. Allison Nealy, 1/31/2025
- Graduate School Associate Dean, Dr. Anne Shaffer, 3/12/2025