



University Council

February 9, 2018

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2017-2018

Dr. Alison F. Alexander, Chair  
Agricultural and Environmental Sciences – Dr. Elizabeth Little  
Arts and Sciences - Dr. Sujata Iyengar (Arts)  
Dr. Mitch Rothstein (Sciences)  
Business - Dr. Rich Gooner  
Ecology – Dr. Sonia Altizer  
Education – Dr. Morgan Faison  
Engineering - Dr. Sudhagar Mani  
Environment and Design – Professor Brad Davis  
Family and Consumer Sciences - Dr. Patricia Hunt-Hurst  
Forestry and Natural Resources - Dr. John C. Maerz  
Journalism and Mass Communication – Dr. Jay Hamilton  
Law – No representative  
Pharmacy – Dr. Robin Southwood  
Public and International Affairs - Dr. Robert Grafstein  
Public Health – Dr. Anne Marie Zimeri  
Social Work - Dr. David O. Okech  
Veterinary Medicine - Dr. Kira L. Epstein  
Graduate School – Dr. Amy Medlock  
Ex-Officio - Provost Pamela S. Whitten  
Undergraduate Student Representative – Mr. Max Harris  
Graduate Student Representative – Ms. Johnita Daniel

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the College of Education to offer the existing major in Special Education (M.A.T.) with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum on the Griffin campus will be an agenda item for the February 16, 2018, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Alison F. Alexander, Chair  
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost Pamela S. Whitten  
Dr. Rahul Shrivastav

**Proposal for an External Degree  
The University of Georgia**

**Institution:** University of Georgia

**Date:** June 19, 2017

**College/School/Division:** College of Education

**Department:** Communication Sciences and Special Education

**Degree:** Master of Art in Teaching (M.A.T.)

**Major:** Special Education (M.A.T.) with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum on the Griffin Campus

**CIP Code:** 13100101

**Proposed Start Date:** Fall 2018

The proposal for an External Degree must include a brief narrative that addresses the following points and completion of the attached Addendum for Distance Education Delivery of New Programs.

**1. Assessment**

The Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) with a major in Special Education with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum leads to initial certification for students who hold undergraduate degrees in other fields and who do not hold a current teaching certification from Georgia or any other certifying body. Students interested in this degree are often seeking a second career, including individuals who retire from the military.

There is a critical shortage of special education teachers across the U.S., including the state of Georgia. In 2016, the University System of Georgia (USG) Board of Regents indicated that among all teachers produced by USG Institutions, Special Education teachers comprised 10.3% and Early Childhood Special Education Comprised 7% of all educators completing preparation programs in Georgia. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates special education teacher need is expected to grow 6 percent from 2014 to 2024, and that this growth is driven by continued demand for special education services. Further, the Bureau estimates that many job opportunities will stem from the need to replace teachers who leave the occupation (e.g., retirement).

For the 2017-2018 school year, special education teacher job openings were available in nine public school systems in the counties surrounding the University of Georgia Griffin Campus (Spalding, Fayette, Henry, Coweta, Meriwether, Clayton, Butts, Lamar, and Upson counties). Each of these school systems hired at least one special education teacher without full certification in special education to meet immediate classroom needs. These teachers were hired with a provisional certificate of enrolled in Georgia Teacher Alternative Certification Program (GTAPP), a non-degree program resulting in the same certification that teachers with a bachelor's degree in special education have.

As demonstrated in the following table, there are four institutions and 10 campuses within a 50-mile radius of the UGA Griffin Campus offering degree programs or certification in special education at the undergraduate level. None of these institutions offer graduate degrees in special education of any kind. Therefore, individuals in these areas of Georgia who have a bachelor's degree in another field and wish to obtain special education certification must complete a second bachelor's degree or enroll in an alternate certification program when a master's degree would be a more desirable and appropriate route.

Institution	Miles from UGA Griffin	Special Education Programs	
		Undergraduate	Graduate
Mercer University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• McDonough</li> <li>• Newnan</li> <li>• Macon</li> <li>• Douglas</li> </ul>	17 36 50 50	Early Childhood Special Education P-5	None
Gordon State College <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barnesville</li> <li>• McDonough</li> </ul>	18 20	Early Childhood Special Education P-5	None
Clayton State University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morrow</li> <li>• Peachtree City</li> <li>• McDonough</li> </ul>	25 27 30	Non-Degree Special Education Certification	None
Middle Georgia State University	36	Early Childhood Special Education P-5	None

Table 2. Teacher Preparation Programs near UGA Griffin Campus

**2. Admission Requirements**

Students applying to the Special Education (M.A.T.) program with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum at the UGA Griffin Campus will be required to meet the same admission requirements established by the main UGA campus in Athens. These requirements include minimum GRE results of 146 verbal and 146 quantitative or a minimum score of 402 for the M.A.T., three letters of recommendation, an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution with a minimum cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.7 for all courses taken, a statement of purpose, a cumulative vitae, and official transcripts. Applicants must also pass or exempt the GACE Program Admissions test.

**3. Program Content**

The curriculum of the UGA Griffin Campus program will be equivalent to the approved program at the UGA Athens Campus. The criteria for electives or substitutions for specific requirements will be equivalent at both locations.

Prerequisites and Corequisites (Required for teacher certification by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission):

<i>Course Number</i>	<i>Credit Hours</i>	<i>Course Name</i>
SPED 2000 or SPED 2000E	3	Survey of Special Education
LLED 4010 or LLED 4010E	3	The Teaching of Reading
SPED 3050 or SPED 3050E	3	Classroom and Behavior Management for Individuals with Disabilities

Program of Study Coursework:

**Core**

SPED 7010 or SPED 7010E	3	Clinical Assessment in Special Education
SPED 7120 or SPED 7120E	3	Dyslexia and Other Learning Disabilities
SPED 7130 or SPED 7130E	3	Behavioral Disorders
SPED 7220 or SPED 7220E	3	Strategy Instruction in the Content Areas
SPED 5150E/7150E	3	Designing Reading Interventions for Special Education

SPED 7460	3	Internship in Special Education
SPED 7650	3	Applied Project in Special Education

**Electives – Choose two from the following:**

EMAT 6420 or EMAT 6420E	3	Mathematics Methods for PreK-Grade 8
ERSH 4200/6200 <u>or</u> ERSH 4200E/6200E	3	Methods of Research in Education
ESSE(QUAL)(ERSH) 7500E	3	Action Research
MATH 5001/7001	3	Arithmetic and Problem Solving
MATH 5003/7003	3	Algebra and Problem Solving

**4. Student Advising**

The advisor for the undergraduate special education program at the Griffin campus will serve as the advisor for the graduate program. The current advisor is a Computer Systems Engineering (CSEE) faculty member with full-time allocation to UGA Griffin Campus.

**5. Resident Requirements**

Residence requirements will be identical to those established for the Special Education (M.A.T.) with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum at the UGA Athens Campus, with residence at the UGA Griffin Campus location serving to meet that requirement.

**6. Program Management**

Dr. Cynthia Vail, Head of the Department of Communication Science and Special Education, College of Education, University of Georgia, will oversee the teaching assignments, program maintenance, and program quality. Dr. Tina Anderson, program coordinator for the UGA Griffin Campus Special Education Program, will be responsible for providing the Griffin Campus portion of the yearly Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) assessment reports. The SLOs will be identical to those established for the Special Education (M.A.T.) program with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum at the UGA Athens Campus and will be pooled for the UGA assessment. Additional contact persons include CSEE faculty located at the Griffin Campus.

The application and matriculation of students will be identical to those established for the Special Education (M.A.T.) program with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum at the UGA Athens Campus.

Timeline (pending approval):

Deadline for Applications:	November 1, 2018
Applicant Review:	December 1, 2018
Registration:	January 3, 2019
Coursework Begins:	January 4, 2019
Annual Review:	May 1, 2020

The program of study is 36 credit hours with an additional 18 credit hours of prerequisites/co-requisites. Courses for the YGA Griffin Campus program will be offered through face-to-face and hybrid delivery at the Griffin Campus and supplemented by online/distance education. All of the proposed courses are already approved UGA courses and will follow the format and delivery options defined in those existing courses. Some online/distance courses might be taught by faculty on the Athens campus. Courses will be scheduled over a six-semester schedule, including summer semester, to allow students attending full-time to complete the courses in six consecutive semesters. Students entering the program having already completed the prerequisites may complete the program in four semesters.

There are two full-time Communication Sciences and Special Education (CSSE) faculty members with terminal degrees allocated to the UGA Griffin campus who attend faculty meetings on the Athens campus, serve on university committees, and participate in annual evaluations. In addition, students will take content coursework offered by the department of Mathematics and Science Education (MSE) on the Griffin Campus. There are two full-time MSE faculty members with terminal degrees allocated to the UGA Griffin Campus.

**7. Library and Laboratory Resources**

The Griffin Campus Library, located on the first floor of the Stuckey Building, will support students in the program. A full-time Librarian is available to assist students through research consultations. Students will have access to resources and materials located at any of the UGA libraries, including off-campus online access, the Special Collections Libraries, and the Curriculum Materials Center located in Aderhold Hall on the Athens campus. Interlibrary Loan is also available for retrieval and delivery by students at the Griffin Campus Library.

The CSSE has a resource room (122 Flynt Building) on the UGA Griffin Campus. Educational materials and resources as well as state-of-the-art technology are available for student use.

Study carrels, study rooms, and print/scan/copy services are available in the Student Learning Center at the UGA Griffin Campus. Technology assistance and technology loans are available for students through full-time academic EITS staff located at the Student Learning Center on the Griffin Campus.

**8. Budget**

Courses for the Master's Degree in Special Education at the UGA Griffin Campus will be taught by current CSEE faculty and Mathematics Education faculty on the Griffin Campus, supplemented with distance education courses taught by CSEE and College of Education faculty on the Athens Campus. By using shared resources (cross-listed courses, math education, online delivery, and video conferencing), the proposed program will not require any additional faculty or staff members, nor be a burden on current faculty and staff.

Start-up costs will be covered by the current budget allocated to the CSSE for the current Griffin Campus Special Education Program.

**9. Program Costs Assessed to Students**

As a function of the certification that accompanies assessment and ethics processes, students in the Master of Arts in Teaching program will need to pay for GACE Ethics Assessments, GACE Content Assessment, edTPA, and liability insurance.

**10. Accreditation**

Appropriate accreditation processes will be carried out by the University of Georgia College of Education. Currently, the programs in Special Education are formally approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission and are also nationally accredited by the National Council on Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The college will be applying for CEAP accreditation in the next few years. CAEP is now the current organization under which NCATE was reorganized. Programs in special education are based on standards from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, which are primarily generated from the Council on Exceptional Children.

## Approvals on File

**Proposal:** Offer the existing major in Special Education (M.A.T.) with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum on the Griffin Campus

**College:** College of Education

**Department:** Communication Sciences and Special Education

**Proposed Effective Term:** Fall 2018

Department:

- Communication Sciences and Special Education Department Head, Dr. Cynthia Vail, 8/14/2017

College:

- College of Education Associate Dean, Dr. Stacey Neuharth-Pritchett, 9/25/2017

Graduate School:

- Graduate School Dean, Dr. Suzanne Barbour, 2/8/2018