



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

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University Council

February 9, 2018

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2017-2018

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Law – No representative

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Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the College of Education to offer the existing major in Special Education (M.Ed.) 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
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 Education (M.Ed.)

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

CIP Code: 13100101

Proposed Start Date: Fall 2018

Assessment

A needs assessment demonstrating a sufficient pool of qualified applicants, for a Master of Education degree with a major in Special Education (M.Ed.) with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum, conducted in January 2017 is outlined below.

There are 10 school systems in counties contiguous to the University of Georgia Griffin Campus (UGA Griffin Campus): Spalding, Pike, Fayette, Henry, Coweta, Meriwether, Clayton, Butts, Lamar, and Upson counties. Table 1 below indicates the number of teachers currently employed within those school systems. The prospective applicant pool is likely to include current teachers in these and other surrounding counties who hold an undergraduate degree in special education or general education who are either seeking to upgrade an existing teacher certification credential or shift/enhance certification areas.

Table 1. Teacher populations in contiguous counties to Griffin campus

School System	Total Number of Teachers	Number of Special Education Teachers
Spalding	756	172
Pike	220	32
Fayette	1477	205
Henry	2892	486
Coweta	1564	228
Meriwether	250	38
Clayton	3052	461
Butts	230	32
Lamar	176	32
Upson	288	55
Total	10,905	1741

As demonstrated in Table 2, there are four University System of Georgia and private institutions, forming 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. A qualified pool of applicants includes those teacher candidates who have obtained an undergraduate degree in special education or related degree at UGA Griffin Campus or one of these institutions. According to the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, this is also a pool of teacher candidates who wish to earn an advanced degree in their initial or related degree field and need to pursue the Master of Education degree to upgrade their current teaching certification. Finally, candidates who complete the degree requirements will also be eligible to receive a P-5 Math Endorsement in addition to the Master of Education degree. Given the high demand and unique opportunities offered through this degree program, the projected number of new candidates is ten (10) per calendar year.

Table 2. Teacher preparation programs near UGA Griffin campus

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

1. Admission Requirements

Students applying to the Special Education (M.Ed.) with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum Program at the UGA Griffin Campus will be required to meet the same admission requirements established by the University of Georgia as those students applying for admission to the same program on the UGA Athens Campus. These requirements include minimum GRE results of 146 verbal and 146 quantitative or a minimum score of 402 for the MAT, 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 curriculum vitae, and official transcripts.

2. 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.

Course work (36 credit hours):

<i>Course Number</i>	<i>Credit Hours</i>	<i>Course Name</i>
Special Education Core:		
SPED 7120 or SPED 7120E	(3)	Dyslexia and Other Learning Disabilities
SPED 7130 or SPED 7130E	(3)	Behavioral Disorders
SPED 7010 or SPED 7010E	(3)	Clinical Assessment in Special Education
SPED 7220 or SPED 7220E	(3)	Strategy Instruction in the Content Areas
SPED 7150E	(3)	Designing Reading Interventions for Special Education
SPED 7460	(3)	Internship in Special Education
Math Content:		
MATH 7001	(3)	Arithmetic and Problem Solving
MATH 7003	(3)	Algebra and Problem Solving
EMAT 6420 or EMAT 6420E	(3)	Mathematics Methods for PreK-Grade 8
Research and Applied Project		
ERSH 6200 or ERSH 6200E	(3)	Methods of Research in Education
ESSE(QUAL)(ERSH) 7500E	(3)	Action Research
SPED 7650	(3)	Applied Project in Special Education

3. 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 Communication Sciences and Special Education (CSSE) faculty member with full-time allocation to the UGA Griffin Campus.

4. Resident Requirements

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

5. Program Management

Dr. Cynthia Vail, Head of 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 [SLOs] assessment reports. The SLOs will be identical to those established for the Special Education (M.Ed.) with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum Program at the UGA Athens Campus and will be pooled for the UGA assessment. Additional contact persons include CSSE faculty located on the Griffin Campus.

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

6. Timeline (pending approval):

Deadline for applications:	November 15, 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. Courses for the UGA Griffin Campus program will be offered through face-to-face and hybrid delivery at the Griffin campus and supplemented with 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. Courses will be scheduled over a four-semester schedule, including summer semester, to allow students attending full-time to complete the course of study in four consecutive semesters. There are two full-time 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. Some online courses might be taught by faculty on the Athens 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 Library located in Aderhold Hall on the Athens campus. Interlibrary loan is also available. When requested, materials and documents are 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 with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum at the UGA Griffin Campus will be taught by current CSSE faculty and Mathematics Education faculty on the Griffin Campus, supplemented with distance education by courses taught by CSSE 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

No additional program costs are anticipated for the students in the Special Education (M.Ed.) with an Area of Emphasis in Special Education General Curriculum program at the UGA Griffin Campus above those paid by the same majors enrolled at the Athens Campus.

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 CAEP 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.Ed.) 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, 2/5/2018

School/College:

- College of Education Associate Dean, Dr. Stacey Neuharth-Pritchett, 10/31/2017

Graduate School:

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