Master of Arts in Teaching-Secondary (MAT-S) Checklist

The MAT-S program is a post-baccalaureate program for individuals who wish to prepare for a career as a professional educator. The MAT-S program of study consists of 36 semester hours of graduate level coursework and qualifies individuals for licensure in a secondary teaching field of art, biology, business, chemistry, English, foreign language (French and Spanish), mathematics, music, physical education, physics, or social studies. The curriculum includes courses in classroom management, assessment, technology, curriculum organization, instructional methodology, reading/writing across the curriculum, teaching children with exceptionalities, and a teaching internship. The program is field intensive and grounded in clinical practice carried out in a secondary school setting.

*****We are not currently able to admit students living in the state of Georgia.

The MAT-S degree is a high quality response to Mississippi’s need for strong teachers. Through the program students will be eligible to receive a

- 3 year Class A non-renewable license after completion of EDS 8243 and EPY 8473
- 5 year Class A renewable license after receiving a 3 year Class A non-renewable license and completing EDS 8886, Dimensions of Learning I/Internship I
- 5 year Class AA renewable license after completing the MAT-S degree program (including coursework and a comprehensive examination)

* ALL students (degree seeking and licensure-only) MUST be admitted to the MAT-S program to register for EDS 8886/EDS 8896. The student must also secure a full-time classroom teaching position in a public school and submit a copy of the teaching contract before registering for EDS 8886/EDS 8896.

Requirements for Enrolling in the MAT-S Program at MSU:

Please contact Katrina Miller at 662.325.1999 or at kmiller@colled.msstate.edu prior to beginning the enrollment process.

Steps 1-7 must be completed by

- December 1 to be considered for spring admission.
- May 1 to be considered for summer admission.
- August 1 to be considered for fall admission.

_1._ Submit an online application to the Office of the Graduate School at [http://www.grad.msstate.edu](http://www.grad.msstate.edu).

The online application must include

- Three letters of recommendation from supervisors/employers, professors, or both
- Statement of Purpose
- Official transcripts (if bachelor’s degree was not earned at MSU)

_2._ Hold a bachelor’s degree from a regionally/nationally-accredited institution of higher learning.

- Note: 21 or more hours of coursework in the content area must be completed to meet the MSU licensure requirements.

_3._ Have a minimum GPA of 2.75 (based on a 4.0 scale) on the last 60 credit hours of baccalaureate work.

_4._ Meet the Mississippi score requirements on the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators (CORE) exam. The test must be taken at least 3 weeks prior to the admission deadline for scores to be received by MSU. Praxis I (PPST) scores are no longer accepted by Mississippi State University or the MS Department of Education. The CORE is not required with a composite score of 21 and no sub-scores below 18 on the ACT Test. The ACT test may be retaken to meet this requirement.
5. Meet the Mississippi score requirements on the Praxis II Specialty Area Examination in the licensure area. The test must be taken at least 3 weeks prior to the admission deadline for scores to be received by MSU.

### Area Examination/Test Code

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area Examination/Test Code</th>
<th>Required Score on Core/CASE test taken after 9/1/13</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>test code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>5712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>5722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>5732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined Test</td>
<td>5751</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Have Core scores and Praxis II Specialty Area Examination scores sent to MSU from ETS and submit a copy to Katrina Miller in 360 Allen Hall. Applicants should also print a copy of their scores from the ETS website for their personal records. An applicant cannot be considered for the MAT-S program until these scores are on file at MSU—NO EXCEPTIONS.

For information on the Praxis Series assessments:
- Visit [http://www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis)
- Call 1-800-772-9476 for a customer service representative

*The French and Spanish Praxis II exams are offered less frequently than other exams. Please visit the ETS website for test dates and sites.


**Important Notes:**
- Admission packets are forwarded from the Office of the Graduate School to CISE after the first of December, May, or August. CISE faculty uses a committee review process to admit teacher candidates to the MAT-S program. Once a decision has been made, applicants are notified of their admission status. If accepted, it is the responsibility of the student to contact Katrina Miller at 662.325.1999 or at kmiller@colled.msstate.edu
within one week of being admitted to the program for advisement on course enrollment.

- For students seeking financial assistance, please note that unclassified and provisionally admitted students may not be eligible for financial aid. Endorsements added to a 3-year non-renewable license are allowed by the Mississippi Department of Education. However, many problems arise when students are hired in a position based on an endorsement rather than on their initial licensure area. The following components of the program must be completed in the content area in which the student was admitted to the MAT-S program: 21 content hours, Praxis II, content methods course, Dimensions I and II/Internships I and II.

- All students admitted to the MAT-S program must complete the Online Orientation Quiz. The quiz is accessed at http://distance.msstate.edu/orientation.

- Graduation from the MAT-S program requires the successful completion of all coursework and a passing score on the PLT examination (comprehensive exam). The PLT examination is taken during the last 6 hours of coursework.

**Guidelines for Completing the MAT-S Online Application to the MSU Graduate School**

- Go to www.grad.msstate.edu.
- Click on the Apply Online Now button in the upper right corner.
- Click “Apply Online” for the year/semester in which you will begin taking classes.
- On the next page, create an account with the Graduate School using your email address and a password. If you are currently a student at MSU or a returning applicant, you may log in on the right side of the screen using your MSU email address and password.
- Once your account has been created, you will be directed to a home screen. Under the column App #, choose “New” to create a new application.
- A new screen will appear. This will be the beginning of your application.
- The first section of the application is Admission Information.
  - Under the first drop down box, choose which semester you plan on beginning classes (i.e. Spring 2016, Summer 2016, etc).
  - Under Program of Study, select “Master of Arts Teach Secondary/Secondary Teacher Alt Route”
    - Important note: if you were previously admitted to MSU as an unclassified student, then you are not applying to a new degree program. Do not indicate that you are applying to the same program.
    - Only indicate that you are applying to the same program if you were previously admitted to MAT-S during a past semester.
  - Continue to answer the next few questions based on your degree plan.
  - When asked to select a campus, choose “Academic Outreach -Dist. Educ”.
  - Complete the rest of this section.
- Complete sections 2-7, following all directions.
- For section 8, upload your Statement of Purpose. This must be in Adobe (.pdf) or Notepad (.txt). Documents in Word (.doc) are not acceptable.
- For section 9, supply the names and email addresses for three people who will write letters of recommendation. The Graduate School will send emails directly to the three references, and you will receive confirmation when the letters have been completed. Contact your three references before submitting your application so they will expect an email from the Graduate School.
- For section 10, you do not need to submit a resume. You may skip this section.
- For section 11, submit the $60.00 application fee.
- Be sure to submit your application when all sections are complete.
MAT-S Courses
36 Semester Hours
Most online courses include a non-refundable distance fee

Initial Licensure Courses
EDS 8243 Classroom Management in Secondary Education (3 credit hours)
An exploration of the essential considerations for establishing a safe, effective, and efficient classroom environment for diverse populations of secondary students.

EPY 8473 Middle Level Assessment and Evaluation (3 credit hours)
A study of middle level assessment and instructional evaluation for monitoring individual student progress, general effectiveness of instruction, and communicating assessment results.

Core Courses
EDS 8103 Adv. Methodologies in Middle and Secondary Education (3 credit hours)
Using technology as instructional tools, evaluate software, consider ethical issues, and design technology-based classrooms, mini-grants, and lesson modules aligned with curriculum standards.

or TKT 6803 Integrating Technology for Learning (3 credit hours)
Understanding the process of integrating technology into instructional practice. Research-based methods for the integration of technology to enhance learning.

EDX 8173 Special Education in the Regular Classroom (3 credit hours)
Provides greater understanding of the disabled child who may be in the regular classroom and suggests methods and techniques for teaching the disabled student in the regular classroom.

EDS 8623 Principles of Effective Instruction (3 credit hours)
An examination of the theories, trends, best practices, issues, challenges, and complexities pertinent to teaching and learning in secondary schools.

RDG 8653 Teaching Reading in the Secondary Schools (3 credit hours)
A study of reading problems of junior and senior high students. A study of the principles, strategies and current literature that demonstrate the interrelatedness of reading and writing in all content areas and throughout a learner’s development.

EDS 8613 Middle and Secondary School Curriculum (3 credit hours)
Principles of curriculum construction as they apply to the middle and secondary school and the various subject areas.
Courses Requiring a Teaching Position

EDS 6633/6643/6653/6673 Secondary Methods of Teaching (3 credit hours)
A study of the program, methods, techniques, materials and presentation of subject matter. This course requires a clinical practice/fieldwork experience.

EDS 8886 Dimensions of Learning I/Internship I (6 credit hours)
Supervised internship which provides an emphasis on application of principles and theories of education. This course requires a clinical practice/fieldwork experience.

EDS 8896 Dimensions of Learning II/Internship II (6 credit hours)
Supervised internship which provides an emphasis on application of principles and theories of education. This course requires a clinical practice/fieldwork experience.

NOTE: Candidates must secure a full-time classroom teaching position in a Mississippi public school and submit a copy of the teaching contract before registering for EDS 8886/EDS 8896. Candidates must complete the content methods course, EDS 8886 (Dimensions I), and EDS 8896 (Dimensions II) in the content area they declare to be their concentration area.

Program Notes:

MAT-S Program with a Concentration Area of Social Studies
To obtain a Master of Arts in Teaching-Secondary degree with an emphasis in social studies, candidates must complete coursework in each of the subject areas listed below with a grade of at least a C in each course:

- History
- Geography
- Political science
- Economics

Undergraduate and/or graduate courses may be used to meet this requirement.

MAT-S Program Requirements for Math Endorsement
To obtain a Master of Arts in Teaching-Secondary degree with an emphasis in math, candidates must complete coursework in each of the subject areas listed below with a grade of at least a C in each course:

Calculus - MA 1713 Calculus I - MA 1723 Calculus II

Advanced Algebra Course - MA 3113 Introduction to Linear Algebra

Statistics - MA/ST 3123 Introduction to Statistical Inference

Geometry - MA 3463 Foundations of Geometry

Foundations - MA 3053 Foundations of Mathematics

Methods - EDS 3633 Secondary Mathematics Education