

Certification Information

Department of Middle Grades and Secondary Education

Middle Grades Education

Introduction

Thanks for your interest in Valdosta State University for obtaining a teaching certificate. Admission requirements into a certification program are a bachelor's degree, an overall GPA of 2.5, and have passed or exempted the Praxis I tests. Exemptions for the Praxis I test are achieved by high scores on the SAT (1000), ACT (43) or GRE (1030).

At the completion of this program you will be eligible to teach middle grades in science and social studies at the 4 – 8 grades levels. There are several courses in this program that are only offered during the day due to field experiences in the public schools. Many classes are offered at night BUT not all of them so this program cannot be completed just through evening classes.

Certification Evaluation: A review of all previous course work will be compared with the required courses as listed on the attached pages to determine an individualized certification plan leading to your secondary mathematics certificate. Professional development, relevant work experiences, similar courses, or other activities may be used to satisfy some of the required courses. You are expected to provide all college transcripts and any other documentation needed to verify which course expectations have been met and which courses will be included in your plan. There is a \$35 fee for this plan, which will represent a contract that lists all requirements needed for you to obtain the secondary math certificate. The plan is good for three years.

The writer of your certification plan will also serve as your advisor throughout completion of your program. After you receive the plan, you should review the courses to ensure that you have not completed similar courses or professional development activities. After your plan is finalized then you and your advisor can develop a tentative long-range schedule for completing the required courses.

Certification Test Requirements: The middle grades certificate requires successful completion of the two Praxis II tests that relate to your concentration areas as listed below

<u>Test Title</u>	<u>Test Code</u>	<u>Cost (plus registration fee)</u>
Middle Grades Science	10439	\$80
Middle Grades Social Studies	20089	\$80
Middle Grades Language Arts	10049	\$80
Middle Grades Math	20069	\$80

These two tests should be taken as you complete the content courses listed in your certification plan. Both tests must be passed to complete the requirements for a teaching certificate in middle grades. Registration materials and information about these two tests are available in the Dean's Office or at the Georgia Professional Standards Commission's web site: www.gapsc.com

Questions?? Your advisor will be Dr. Adele Ducharme at 333-5511 or email ducharme@valdosta.edu

Middle Grades Certification Course Requirements

Name _____ Date _____

Education Courses (hrs)	Schedule	Pre-requisites	Notes	Grades
MSED 2000 3	Each term Day or Night			
ACED 2400 3	Each term Day or Night			
PSYC 2500 3	Each term Day or Night			
SPEC 2000 3	Each term Day or Night		Field Experience, 20 hours	
Admitted to teacher ed				
PSYC 3110 3	Each term Day or Night	PSYC 2500/2700	Field experience, 20 hours	
MGED 3990 3	F & Sp Day		Field experience, 40 hours	
Professional Program Must be taken together				
MGED 4000 3	F & Sp Day			
MGED 4030 3	F & Sp Day			
MGED 4050 3	F & Sp Day			
MGED 4620 1	F & Sp Day		4 weeks in school	
MGED 3110 2	F & Sp Day		7 days of classes	
Capstone courses				
MGED 4790 & 4800 12	F & Sp Day		Student teaching 15 weeks in school	
Or			Hired on provisional, two semesters	/
MGED 4780 12				

48 hours total but the 12 hours of internship can be done on the job
 Courses with field experiences are identified in the Notes column

Test Requirements

Praxis I test completed - _____

Praxis II test completed - _____

You will select two concentrations from: language arts, social studies, science, mathematics.

Concentration Classes	Schedule	Prerequisites	Notes	Grades
MATH 3180	3	Fall & Spring Day		
READ 4550	3	Each term Day/night		
Concentration 1 12 hours			Required courses listed once concentration area selected	
Concentration 2 12 hours			Required courses listed once concentration area selected	

30 hours of content

Steps in the Certification Program

1. Review information in certification packet
2. Resolve questions or concerns regarding certification issues
3. Pay \$35 fee to get certification plan
4. After plan is completed, review with advisor and develop long schedule
5. Apply to VSU as second degree undergraduate student
6. Complete coursework as required in plan
7. Complete Praxis II tests after completion of math courses
8. Seek employment and provisional certification
9. Complete student teaching or internship (requires a teaching job in math)
10. Complete certification application for professional certificate in middle grades education.