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DEWAR COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES

M.Ed. in Middle Grades Concentration Areas: Math & Science

The M.Ed. in Middle Grades Concentration Areas: Math & Science program is an online degree offered collaboratively with two accredited Colleges of Education in the University System of Georgia: Valdosta State University (CAEP accreditation) and North Georgia College and State University (NCATE accreditation). Math and Science are the two concentration areas of study for this online M.Ed. program.

The M.Ed. in Middle Grades Math and Science is an advanced degree, offering in-service middle grades teachers the opportunity to pursue advanced training in their teaching fields. Current certification in Middle Grades Math and/or Science is required for admission to the degree program, in order for the candidate to be considered for a teaching certificate upgrade. This 12-course program can be completed in four consecutive semesters – about 16 months – with full-time enrollment. Courses are offered on a continuous basis, allowing for part-time enrollment. All coursework, including exams, is done online. No campus visits are required to complete the program.

Admission Requirements (Note: GRE or MAT scores are not required)

- Completed Graduate School admission application and application fee of \$45.
- Bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited institution.
- Must have a cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) or combined undergraduate and graduate GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale. Alternate admission pathways are available.
- Must hold a valid Level 4 or higher Induction or Professional teaching certificate in Middle Grades Math and/or Middle Grades Science in the state of Georgia. Teachers certified in states other than Georgia may be eligible if they hold the equivalent of a Georgia professional teaching certificate in Middle Grades Math or Science. VSU reserves the right to request additional documentation, if needed. Applicants must be employed as a middle grades math or science teacher.
- To be eligible for a certificate upgrade from PSC upon completion of the M.Ed. in Middle Grades Concentration Areas: Math and Science, a candidate must hold a certification in Middle Grades math and/or science prior to beginning the program.

Program of Study

Master's Core (15 hours)

- MGMS 7200: Conceptualizing Middle Level Learning and Diversity in Context (Fall)
MGMS 7240: Instructional Leadership and Assessment (Summer)
MGMS 7300: Collaboration and Professionalism (Spring)
MGMS 7100: Research Methodology in Education (Spring & Fall)
MGMS 7000: Professional Development Seminar I (Spring & Fall)

Math Content (9 hours)

- MATH 5180: Mathematics for Middle School Teachers (Spring)
MATH 5190: Algebra and Geometry for Teachers (Summer)
MATH 6161: Mathematical Reasoning (Summer)

Science Content (9 hours)

- MGMS 7400: Physical Science for Middle School (Summer)
MGMS 7401: Chemistry, Earth Science, and Astronomy for Middle Grades (Fall)
MGMS 7402: Life Science and Natural History for Middle Grades (Spring)

Capstone Course (3 hours)

- MGMS 7650: Teaching Practicum (Spring & Fall)

Total hours required for the degree – 36 semester hours

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Frequently Asked Questions

1. How long does it take to complete the online Master's in Middle Grades Concentration Areas: Math & Science?

This 12-course, 36 semester hours program can be completed in four or more consecutive semesters (approximately 16 months) depending upon the number of courses a student is able to successfully complete each semester.

2. What are the admission requirements?

Must hold a valid Level 4 or higher Induction or Professional teaching certificate in Middle Grades Math and/or Middle Grades Science in the state of Georgia. Teachers certified in states other than Georgia may be eligible if they hold the equivalent of a Georgia professional teaching certificate in Middle Grades Math or Science. VSU reserves the right to request additional documentation, if needed. Applicants must be employed as a middle grades math or science teacher. Must have a cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) or combined undergraduate and graduate GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.

3. Is the program designed as a cohort that determines a specific order for coursework?

No, students may enter the program and complete during any semester.

4. Could you give me more information about the elective options?

There are no elective options in this program. Electives in the content areas of math and science are predetermined.

5. Can required courses be taken in any order or do some courses have prerequisites?

The courses required for the program of study have no prerequisites, but every course is not offered each semester, so students must take courses according to the scheduled course offerings. For example, MGMS 7400 is offered summer only, so while students may take the course at any point in the program, they would have to complete it during a summer semester.

6. Can I transfer credit from another institution into the program?

A maximum of 9 semester hours of graduate coursework may be considered; credits must be less than 7 years of age at the point of completing the program. Requests for transfer credit prior to entering the M.Ed. program must be documented in the form of an official transcript during the admission process. Eligibility is determined by the candidate's academic advisor.

7. Is there a certification test that is required after the completion of the program?

To be eligible for a certificate upgrade from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission upon completion of the MED in Middle Grades Math and Science, a candidate must hold a certification in Middle Grades math and/or science prior to beginning the program.

8. What is the estimated cost for tuition?

The estimated cost is \$16,080** for 6 semesters (36 sem. hrs.).

**All cost estimates are based on fall, 2019 tuition and fees.

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