

# Master of Arts in Teaching

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION | MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION | SECONDARY EDUCATION

INITIAL TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

★ Blended



Mercer University's College of Education offers the **Master of Arts in Teaching** (M.A.T.) for those who hold a bachelor's degree and are seeking initial teacher certification in Georgia at the master's level. Successful completion of the program and passing scores on the appropriate Content Pedagogy Assessment and Georgia Assessment for the Certification of Educators (GACE) Content Assessments, as approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC), lead to eligibility for Level 5 certification. Choose from three majors:

## Elementary Education Blended (Online and On Campus)

Atlanta | Henry County

Designed for students seeking to teach young children in grades **Pre-K through 5**, this program offers course content and field experience to prepare teachers to support the diverse needs of young students.

## Middle Grades Education Blended (Online and On Campus)

Atlanta

This program is designed to offer a comprehensive study of the specialized skills needed to teach and support students in **grades 4 through 8**. Teacher candidates will achieve a wide variety of learning outcomes, including understanding the characteristics and needs of preadolescent and adolescent students.

## Secondary Education Blended (Online and On Campus)

Atlanta | Macon

This program consists of course content and field experience designed to equip individuals to teach **grades 6 through 12**. Candidates may choose from secondary education certification fields in biology, chemistry, earth/space science, English, geography, history, mathematics, physics, political science, or trade and industrial education.

## Why Mercer's M.A.T.?

Mercer University has been teaching Georgia's teachers and educational leaders for over 100 years and is widely recognized for its highly individualized, student-centered approach to education. The M.A.T. is a path for individuals entering the field of teaching from other vocations or areas of study. It is also an option for those who are already in the classroom seeking initial certification. Courses in Mercer's M.A.T. are designed to develop knowledge and skills of the teacher candidate. The curriculum is approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC).

## Delivery Format

Classes are taken in 16-week courses during fall and spring, and eight-week courses during summer, depending on location and major. Some required coursework may also be completed online.

## Daytime Field Experience

Students in the M.A.T. program must complete a sequentially planned series of field experiences that begins with observation, moves through tutorial, small-group, and whole-group teaching experiences, and culminates with a semester of student-teaching. Field experiences take place during daytime school hours.

## Beyond The Classroom

Mercer University is committed to serving the needs of schools and communities, and we partner with peer institutions and school districts throughout the state of Georgia and beyond.

Through Enterprise Learning Partnerships, the University collaborates with Georgia school systems and districts in Bibb, Clarke, Cobb, DeKalb, Dodge, Douglas, Griffin-Spalding, Gwinnett, Henry, Houston, and Monroe counties to provide support and opportunities for continuous professional development.

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## PROGRAMS OF STUDY

### Elementary Education (P-5)

Offered: Blended (Online and Atlanta or Henry County combination)

Foundational Classes  
Methods Classes  
Content Area Classes  
Field Experiences

Total . . . . . 37 hours

### Middle Grades Education (4-8)

Offered: Blended (Online and Atlanta combination)

Foundational Classes  
Content Concentrations and Methods Classes  
(choose one area from Language Arts, Mathematics,  
Science, and Social Science)  
Field Experiences

Total . . . . . 31 hours

### Secondary Education (6-12)

Offered: Blended (Online and Atlanta or Macon combination)

Foundational Classes  
Content Area and Methods Classes  
Content Area Studies  
Field Experiences

Total . . . . . 31 hours

## A Top-Ranked Leader in Education

Founded in 1833, Mercer University is one of America's most distinctive universities. *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked Mercer among the leading universities in the nation—including a “Best Value”—and The Princeton Review consistently ranks us in the **Top 15%** of colleges and universities nationwide. The University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

Mercer University prepares more educators and educational leaders than any other private institution in Georgia, and our graduates are highly sought after and asked for by name. Our students develop the knowledge and experience to teach, lead, and transform schools, districts, and communities, and our graduates are frequently recognized for their commitment to excellence. The College of Education is widely known for our highly individualized, student-centered approach to education. We collaborate with teachers, principals, human resource officials, and other community leaders to ensure that our teacher education and educational leadership programs remain relevant and align with our philosophy that students learn best when engaged in hands-on experiences.

A hallmark of the College of Education experience, our vision of “The Transforming Educator” is the foundation for all of Mercer’s teacher education and educational leadership programs. To become a “Transforming Educator,” an individual seeks to continually and thoughtfully change one’s self in order to serve as an advocate for all learners.

## Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking admission must hold a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution with a minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. The program enrolls students five times per year in January, March, May, August, and October on the Atlanta campus, once per year in May on the Macon campus, and once per year in August at the Henry County location.

### Required Application Materials Include:

- Completed application for admission
- \$25 non-refundable application fee
- Official transcripts from each college/university attended
- GACE for Program Admission test scores
- GACE Georgia Educators Ethics Assessment for Program Entry completion certificate

### Middle Grades and Secondary Education applicants must also meet one of three additional admission requirements:

- An undergraduate major in the field of certification sought from a GaPSC-approved institution
- Passing score on the GACE Content Assessment in the field of certification sought
- Successful completion of a specified number of semester hours of content area coursework earned in conjunction with a bachelor’s degree or higher from a GaPSC-approved institution. Number of hours depends on transcript analysis.

International applicants should consult the University catalog for additional requirements.

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Office of Admissions  
678.547.6084 or [mercereducation@mercer.edu](mailto:mercereducation@mercer.edu)  
[education.mercer.edu](http://education.mercer.edu)

