

Bachelor of Science in Education

ELEMENTARY/SPECIAL EDUCATION | MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION

INITIAL TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

★ Blended

Mercer University's **Bachelor of Science in Education (B.S.Ed.)** programs prepare students to enter the teaching profession and become certified teachers in the state of Georgia. Following an integrated, technologically enhanced curriculum, approved by the **Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC)**, candidates experience varied field and life experiences within the culture of diverse school and community populations. Successful completion of a B.S.Ed. program and passing scores on the appropriate Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators (GACE) Content assessments lead to eligibility for initial teacher certification.

CHOOSE FROM TWO MAJORS:

Elementary/Special Education ★

Atlanta | Douglas County | Henry County | Macon

Designed for individuals who seek to be certified to teach children in **grades P through 5**, the Elementary/Special Education major prepares you to understand young children from a holistic perspective and equips you to construct a classroom curriculum appropriate for a child's cognitive, emotional, social, and physical development.

Middle Grades Education ★

Douglas County | Henry County

Designed for individuals who seek to be certified to teach children in **grades 4 through 8**, the Middle Grades Education major prepares you to effectively facilitate learning for a group of unique and diverse individuals transitioning from childhood to adolescence. Candidate preparation includes two subject area concentrations: **Language Arts and Social Studies**, or **Mathematics and Science**.



Blended Delivery Format

The B.S.Ed. programs are offered through a blended combination of online and in-person evening classes, with daytime field experiences. In each course, students engage in:

- 50% synchronous online instruction
- 25% asynchronous online instruction
- 25% in-person instruction, which equates to attending class in person only twice per course

Courses are structured in eight-week sessions, and students can comfortably take two classes per session while maintaining a work-life balance.

Daytime Field Experience

Students in the B.S.Ed. programs must complete a sequentially planned series of field experiences during three to four semesters of the program that begins with observation, moves through tutorial, small-group, and whole-group teaching experiences, and culminates with a full-time semester of student teaching. Field experiences take place during school hours, which are primarily during the day.

GACE Resources

Mercer offers workshops, preparatory courses, and more to help students prepare for the GACE assessments. Students may access some of these free resources prior to enrolling at Mercer.

MERCER
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

PROGRAM OF STUDY

B.S.Ed. in Elementary/Special Education (P-5)

General Education Requirements: 30 hours
Professional and Pedagogical Studies: 29 hours
Content Studies: 51 hours
Electives: 10 hours

Total Degree Requirements: 120 hours

B.S.Ed. in Middle Grades Education (4-8)

**Concentrations: Language Arts and Social Studies |
Mathematics and Science**

General Education Requirements: minimum 30 hours
Professional and Pedagogical Studies: 32 hours
Content Studies: minimum 51 hours
Electives: 7 hours

Total Degree Requirements: minimum 120 hours

For specific courses, consult the Mercer University catalog.

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS FOR INITIAL TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Students who already hold a bachelor's degree in a field other than education may wish to consider Mercer's Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) that leads to initial teacher certification. This option is beneficial for both recent college graduates and career changers. A full list of initial teacher certification options and locations is available at education.mercer.edu.

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 Mercer 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's College of Education is widely known for our highly individualized, student-centered approach to education. 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. 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.



Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking undergraduate admission must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale and must be in good standing at the college or university most recently attended. The programs admit students five times per year in January, March, May, August, and October. Applicants may be eligible to transfer credits toward the degree. Learn more and apply at workingadults.mercer.edu.

REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS INCLUDE:

- Completed application for admission
- \$25 non-refundable application fee (\$50 for international students)
- Official transcripts from all previously attended institutions
- High school or GED transcript (if applicable)

International applicants should consult the University catalog for additional requirements.

Note: After being granted admission to the University, students must pass the Georgia Educator Ethics assessment and pass or exempt the GACE Program Admission assessment to be fully admitted to teacher candidacy and begin the program.

CONTACT US

Office of University Admissions

877.840.8599

enroll@merc.edu

education.mercer.edu

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