MERCER UNIVERSITY | TIFT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Specialist in Education – The Accomplished Teacher

ADVANCED TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM



Mercer University's **Specialist in Education (Ed.S.) – The Accomplished Teacher** degree is a fully online 30-hour program that focuses on enhancing educators' knowledge and skills. This specialist degree prepares teachers to advance in their careers in education, and equips them with the necessary skills and experience for success.

Through this program, individuals gain a greater depth of knowledge relating to issues of diversity, curriculum assessment and development, theory and research, and pedagogy. Students also develop written and oral communication skills, which prepare them to advocate more effectively for their students, their students' families, and the community.

Mercer University's Ed.S. – The Accomplished Teacher is designed for teachers who are certified at the master's (T-5) level. Concentrations are available in:

- **Early Learning and Development (Birth Through Five Years)**
- **Elementary Education**
- **Middle Grades Education**
- **Secondary Education**
- **P-12 Education**

As part of the program curriculum, eligible students complete courses to earn a **Coaching endorsement**.

Candidates may be eligible for up to six credit hours through prior learning assessment.

Successful completion of the program will lead to eligibility for an upgrade of the candidate's teaching certification to a Level 6 certificate by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC).

PROGRAM DETAILS

Format: Online (combination of synchronous and asynchronous coursework)

Start Term: January, May, August

Course Length: 8 or 16 weeks

Completion Time: 16 months

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Education programs that lead to initial and advanced certification are approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC).

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Professional Studies: 15 hours

EDUC 728 Socio-Political Influences in Education
EDUC 735 Trends and Issues in P-12 Education
EDUC 740 Connecting Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
EDUC 742 Curriculum and Assessment for Students with Disabilities
EDUC 750 Advanced Seminar in P-12 Education

Electives: 6 hours

EDUC 617 Classroom Management & Applied Learning Theory
EDUC 625 Culturally & Educationally Responsive Pedagogy
EDUC 639 Teaching Strategies and Classroom Environment for Active Learning
EDUC 677 Coaching Fundamentals*
EDUC 678 Advanced Coaching*
EDUC 690 Introduction to Educational Research
EDUC 755 Play-based Learning in Elementary Environments
EDUC 760 Advanced Professional and Ethical Practices in P-12 Education

*Passing both EDUC 677 and EDUC 678 will lead to earning the Coaching endorsement

Endorsement: 9 hours

With advisor approval, students may select a 9-hour endorsement from the options below as part of their degree program.

Autism
Coaching
Computer Science
Elementary (K-5) Math
Elementary (K-5) Science
English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
Gifted
Online Teaching
Personalized Learning
Reading
Special Education
STEM

Total Degree Requirements: 30 hours

Tuition Benefit for Partner Schools

If your school district has an Enterprise Learning Partnership with Mercer, you may be eligible for a tuition benefit. Visit **elp.mercer.edu** to see if you qualify.

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Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking admission must hold a master's degree from a college or university accredited by an institutional accreditor recognized by the U.S. Department of Education with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on all graduate work attempted. Applicants must possess or be eligible for a master's-level certificate, and provide documentation of one year of relevant experience as a certified educator.

REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS INCLUDE:

- Completed application for admission
- $30 non-refundable application fee
- Official transcripts from all previously attended institutions
- GACE® Georgia Educator Ethics Assessment completion certificate

International applicants should consult the University catalog for additional requirements.



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