

Master of Arts (MAT)

The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Program is an intensive 53 credit hour master's and initial teacher licensure program that prepares future educators to enter the classroom ready to create innovative and rigorous learning experiences for today's students. The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) is designed for individuals who do not have prior teaching experience or an undergraduate degree in education. The MAT at Southeast Missouri State University is approved by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) for licensure in two areas: Mild / Moderate Cross-Categorical (K – 12) and Early Childhood Special Education (Birth – 3rd grade). This program is completely online and can meet the needs of those who are not able to relocate or must work full time.

Southeast Missouri State University is consistently recognized for academic excellence by the U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges Rankings for institutions in the Midwest and is fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education. In addition, the College of Education has received national recognition for excellence from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), & Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI). This recognition highlights the College of Education's commitment of providing education of the highest quality and standards to students.

Graduate education at Southeast is guaranteed quality at an affordable price. Southeast offers competitive tuition rates for graduate students, compared to other online graduate programs.

Mild Moderate Cross Categorical Candidates will...

- Be certified to teach students with exceptionalities in grades K-12.
- Participate in multiple internships.
- Complete research relating to issues in K – 12 special education.

Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will...

- Be certified to teach students with exceptionalities birth – through grade 3.
- Participate in multiple internships.
- Complete research relating to issues in early childhood special education.

Career Planning

Graduates of this program may find new teaching opportunities with the increased expertise and certification. Special education is a high demand field, with teachers certified in special education finding jobs easily. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that employment opportunities for K – 12 special education teachers are expected to grow by 6%. Additionally, children with disabilities are being identified at an earlier age, with an expected 16% increase in demand for early childhood special education teachers.

Full Admission: Mild Moderate Cross Categorical Emphasis Certification in Special Education K – 12:

- 2.75 Cumulative Undergraduate GPA
- Pre-Requisite Courses:
 - PY/CF 120 The Child or PY 222 Adolescent Development or PY 521 Advanced Child Development (or equivalent course)
 - EX 390 Psychology of the Exceptional Child or EX 635 Psychology of the Exceptional Child (or equivalent course)
- Passing Score: 007-010 Elementary Education Multi-Content (4 subtests)
- Completion of Missouri Educator Profile (MEP)

Probationary Admission: Mild Moderate Cross Categorical Emphasis Certification in Special Education K – 12

- 2.75 Cumulative Undergraduate GPA
- Pre-Requisite Courses:
 - PY/CF 120 The Child or CF 222 Adolescent Development (or equivalent course)
 - EX 390 Psychology of the Exceptional Child or EX 635 Psychology of the Exceptional Child (or equivalent course)
- Passing Score: A minimum of 2 out of 4 subtests on 007-010 Elementary Education Multi-Content (4 subtests) (must pass all subtests prior to the Mid-Level Field Experience, EX 621/622, and continue in program)
- Completion of Missouri Educator Profile (MEP)

Admission: Early Childhood Special Education Emphasis Certification Education Birth – 3rd Grade:

- 2.75 Cumulative Undergraduate GPA
- Pre-Requisite Courses:
 - PY/CF 120 The Child or PY 521 Advanced Child Development (or equivalent course)
 - EX 390/635 Psychology of the Exceptional Child (or equivalent course)
- Passing Score: 064 Early Childhood Education MO Content Assessment
- Completion of Missouri Educator Profile (MEP)

Note: There is no probationary admission status for the Early Childhood Special Education Emphasis Certification Birth – 3rd grade.

Exceptional Child

Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)

This is a guide based on the 2017-2018 Graduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students meet with an academic advisor each semester and use DegreeWorks to monitor their progress.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILD – 44 hours required

- ___ EX 507 Families and the Exceptional Child (3)
- ___ EX 601 Educational Assessment (3)
- ___ EX 602 Language Acquisition of the Exceptional Child (3)
- ___ EX 618 Intro to Children with Exceptionalities (2)
- ___ EX 619 Intro to Mild Moderate Cross Categorical Internship (1)
- ___ EX 621 Behavior Intervention Strategies (2)
- ___ EX 622 Behavior Intervention Strategies Internship (1)
- ___ EX 652 Techniques of Teaching Mild Moderate Cross Categorical (3)
- ___ EX 693 Special Education and the Law (3)
- ___ EX 696 Exceptional Child Education Advanced Internship (8)
- ___ EL 606 Curriculum Construction in a Multicultural Society (3)
- ___ EL 615 Action Research (3)
- ___ GR 698 Masters' Final Comprehensive Exam (0)

Choose One Area of Emphasis:

EMPHASIS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

- ___ CE 530 Foundations of Early Childhood Special Education (3)
- ___ CE 605 Issues and Trends in Early Childhood Education (3)
- ___ CE 634 Informal Assessment (3)

EMPHASIS IN MILD MODERATE CROSS CATEGORICAL

- ___ EL 647 Reading Assessment (3)
- ___ EX 691 Transition Planning for Individuals with Exceptional Learning Needs (3)
- ___ EL 608 Diagnosis and Remediation of Difficulties in Learning Mathematics (3)

Recommended sequence of required coursework

Because of the intensive work load for this program, graduate students will work closely with an advisor to take the appropriate sequence of courses, including clinical experiences. The field work must be completed in approved settings, under the supervision of a certified special education teacher and qualified university supervisor. This field work may be done in the graduate student's workplace, if the setting meets the requirements. The general course sequence for all students completing the required clinical experiences is:

- Early Internship: EX 619 (1)
- Mid-Level Internship: EX 622 (1)
- Culminating Practicum: EX 696 (8)
- Capstone Research Project: EL 615 (3) and GR 698 (0)

Mild Moderate Cross Categorical Licensure Requirements

- Passing score on MO Content Exam – 050 Mild/Moderate Cross Categorical Special Education (Must be completed prior to EX 696 Advanced Internship)
- Passing score on Mo Pre-Service Teacher Assessment: completed in EX 696 Advanced Internship
- 3.0 Cumulative GPA

Early Childhood Special Education Licensure Requirements

- Passing score on MO Content Exam – 049 Early Childhood Special Education (Must be completed prior to EX 696 Advanced Internship)
- Passing score on Mo Pre-Service Teacher Assessment: completed in EX 696 Advanced Internship
- 3.0 Cumulative GPA

To learn more

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