



The University of Georgia

University Council
Athens, Georgia 30602

October 2, 2009

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2008-2009

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Undergraduate Student Representative – Cameron Secord

Graduate Student Representative – Robert Shostak

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal to offer a major in Science Education (M.A.T.) on the Gwinnett Campus will be an agenda item for the October 9, 2009, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

David E. Shipley, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Dr. Arnett C. Mace, Jr.
Professor Jere W. Morehead



The University of Georgia

Department of Mathematics and Science Education
105 Aderhold Hall
Athens GA 30602-7124

August 28, 2009

Maureen Grasso, Dean
Graduate School
320 East Clayton Street, Suite 400
Athens GA30602-4401

Dear Dean Grasso,

Attached please find a proposal to offer the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree in secondary science education at the Gwinnett campus. We have been offering courses leading to secondary science certification at the Gwinnett campus for many years, and the majority of the students in that non-degree program have been completing a master's degree on the Athens campus. We wish to offer the students the opportunity to complete the master's degree at the Gwinnett campus, and we believe that doing so will make our program more attractive to students in the area. There is currently a critical shortage of qualified secondary school science teachers in our state and nation, and the Board of Regents is aggressively trying to meet this need by encouraging USG institutions to graduate more teachers who are highly qualified. This program helps make UGA more responsive to that need by providing an avenue for career change individuals to pursue science education certification along with a master's degree. This proposal was discussed extensively in multiple faculty meetings and has the unanimous support of the faculty. I will be happy to answer any questions that you or committee members have about the proposal.

Sincerely,

Denise S. Mewborn

Denise S. Mewborn
Department Head

**Proposal for an External Degree
The University of Georgia**

Institution: University of Georgia–Gwinnett Campus

Date: 2-19-09

College/School/Division: College of Education

Department: Mathematics and Science Education

Degree (please indicate whether this is a stand-alone degree): MAT (stand alone)

Major: Science Education

CIP Code:

Proposed Start Date: Spring 2010

1. Assessment

There is currently a shortage of highly qualified secondary school science teachers in Georgia, and that shortage is projected to worsen in the coming years. The Board of Regents has developed an ambitious plan for system institutions to produce more teachers to meet the state's needs. In response to that plan, we propose to offer a Master of Arts in Teaching degree at the Gwinnett campus. Gwinnett County is one of the fastest growing counties in Georgia and the United States, and they hire many new teachers per year. A location in Gwinnett County will allow us to attract a large pool of prospective science teachers and science teachers teaching on provisional certificates. We are currently offering courses that lead to teacher certification at the Gwinnett campus; this proposal will allow us to offer a few additional courses to enable students to earn a master's degree as well.

2. Admission Requirements

All requirements for admission to the MAT at Gwinnett will be the same as those for the MAT on the Athens campus. Specifically, students must hold a bachelors degree from an accredited institution; have a minimum undergraduate (or combined undergraduate and graduate) GPA of 2.6; present a Graduate Record Examination (GRE) combined score (verbal + quantitative) of 850 or above, including a verbal score of 400 or above or a minimum raw score of 44 or scaled score of 400 on the Miller Analogies Test; and show evidence of appropriate preparation in one of the initial secondary Science teacher certification fields: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or Earth/Space Science.

3. Program Content

The curriculum of the MAT at Gwinnett will be identical to the curriculum of the MAT program on the Athens campus, and the criteria for electives or substitutions for specific requirements will be identical at both locations.

4. Student Advising

Each student will be advised initially by the Graduate Coordinator (located in Athens) to

determine courses needed for teacher certification as well as to review the MAT program of study. Each student will then be assigned a faculty advisor at the Gwinnett campus for the duration of the program. That faculty member attends faculty meetings on the Athens campus and is in regular contact with Athens faculty to ensure program consistency across the two campuses.

5. Resident Requirements

The residency requirements for the MAT at Gwinnett will be identical to the requirements for the MAT in Athens.

6. Program Management

The Board of Regents recently approved the creation of MAT degrees for various programs in teacher education at UGA. Following this approval, the science education faculty in the Department of Mathematics and Science Education at UGA in Athens designed the MAT program of study for both Athens and Gwinnett with the full participation of the faculty member serving as program coordinator for the science education program at Gwinnett. The contacts for this program are Steve Oliver, Science Education Program Coordinator (soliver@uga.edu) and David Jackson, Science Education Graduate Coordinator (djackson@uga.edu), both of whom are tenured faculty based on the Athens campus. The Science Education faculty on the UGA campus will retain all decision-making authority over the program and will monitor it as they do all other degree programs. All programs are reviewed annually by the Science Education Graduate Programs Committee. This standing committee is composed of science education faculty members who are also members of the UGA graduate faculty. The function of this committee is to review the status of all science education graduate programs, formulate recommendations for program improvement, and bring recommendations to the science education faculty for action.

Because we are already offering many of the courses needed for the MAT at the Gwinnett campus, we are prepared to begin admitting students as soon as approval is received. Students will apply to the MAT program through the UGA Graduate School using the online application process, and admissions will be handled in the same manner as MAT admissions for the Athens campus. As noted above, students will be advised initially by the Athens-based graduate coordinator and then assigned to the program coordinator at Gwinnett for semester-by-semester advisement. Because this is a continuing program, students who have to “stop out” for a semester or more will be able to pick up classes missed in a subsequent academic term. We will also allow such students to pick up missed courses by coming to the Athens campus.

The MAT program consists of 12 courses (36 semester hours) configured as follows:

	Summer	Fall	Spring
Year I	EPSY 6010 (3 hours)- Foundations of Human Development for Education ESCI 4480/6480 (3 hours)- Technological	ESCI 4460/6460 (3 hours)- Methods of Science Teaching	ESCI 4450/6450 (3 hours)- Science Curriculum and Learning ESCI 4030/6030- (3hours) Teaching

	Capabilities for Science Teaching		Science to Students with Special Educational Needs
Year II	<p>ESCI 5480/7480 (3 hours)– Philosophy and Leadership in Science Classroom Practice</p> <p>ESCI 6990 (3 hours)– Research Seminar in Science Education</p> <p>Elective (3 hours)</p>	<p>ESCI 7040 (3 hours)– Teaching Strategies for Middle and Secondary School Science Teachers</p> <p>Elective (3 hours)</p>	<p>ESCI 7080 (3 hours)– Curriculum Planning in Science Education</p> <p>Elective (3 hours)</p>

Students must also complete 9 hours of internship (ESCI 5460/7460) in each of 2 semesters; this is a requirement for certification, but the hours do not count toward the degree. Students are also required to successfully present a certification portfolio as an exit requirement.

We are not aware of duplication with any other programs in the immediate area. We also do not anticipate any impact on other departments. The only courses taken outside the department are EPSY 6010 (or equivalent) and electives, and such courses are regularly offered at the Gwinnett campus and through distance learning via UGA. Students may also select electives from existing UGA courses offered in Athens.

7. Library and Laboratory Resources

Library resources required by the program are those available online through the University of Georgia libraries.

8. Budget

This program requires us to offer 3 courses beyond those that we are currently offering at Gwinnett. Specifically, we are not currently offering ESCI 6990, ESCI 7040, or ESCI 7080 at Gwinnett. Because we will start a new cohort every summer, we will need these 3 courses every year at a cost of \$12,000 (if we use adjuncts) to \$24,000 (if we use existing tenure-track faculty members).

9. Program Costs Assessed to Students

There will be no costs to students beyond those normally associated with the program in Athens.

10. Accreditation

The program will be accredited by the Professional Standards Commission, the National Commission on Accreditation in Teacher Education, and the National Science Teachers Association on the same cycle as Athens programs.