MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING (MAT) DEGREE, FOR CURRENT RICE UNDERGRADUATES

Program Learning Outcomes for the MAT Degree

Upon completing the requirements for the MAT degree, students will be able to:

1. Create environments where students discover and construct meaning from content (using classroom students’ unique perceptions, thoughts, and feelings).
2. Facilitate teaching strategies for diverse learners.
3. Assess students’ progress and content mastery to guide instruction.
5. Demonstrate instructional and organizational leadership.

Requirements for the MAT Degree

The MAT degree is a non-thesis masters degree. For general university requirements, please see Non-Thesis Master’s Degrees (ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-non-thesis-masters-degrees). For additional requirements, regulations, and procedures for all graduate programs, please see All Graduate Students (ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees). Students pursuing the MAT degree must complete:

- A minimum of 11 courses (36 credit hours) to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum of 36 credit hours of graduate-level study (coursework at the 500-level or above).
- A minimum of 24 credit hours must be taken at Rice University.
- A minimum residency enrollment of one fall or spring semester of full-time graduate study at Rice University.
- A minimum overall GPA of 2.67.
- A minimum GPA of 2.67 in required coursework with a minimum grade of B- (2.67 grade points) in each course.

The MAT is a non-thesis degree program for students who want to qualify for secondary school teaching following the completion of a bachelor’s degree. Most MAT degree candidates entering the program have had no professional education courses. MAT degree and Education program participants who wish to obtain Texas Teacher (TEA) Certification (for grades 7-12) must satisfy the following requirements:

- Students must begin two-semesters of work in assigned school with first semester curriculum development and theory and methods courses and a second semester full-day practicum with a cooperating teacher (EDUC 521, EDUC 560, EDUC 561, EDUC 562, EDUC 563, EDUC 564, EDUC 565, EDUC 566, and EDUC 570).
- Students must complete a two-semester supervised teaching internship by acquiring and fulfilling all professional responsibilities of a teaching position in a local accredited secondary school and completing a seminar course (EDUC 540).
- Students must complete 75 hours of field-based experience in local secondary schools, in conjunction with satisfactory results on background check with participating school districts.
- Students must earn grades of B- (2.67 grade points) or better in all teaching field and education courses.
- Students must pass the appropriate TExES exams.
- Students must apply with the appropriate (Texas) state agency for Texas Teacher (TEA) Certification when all requirements are completed.

The cooperating school districts pay a regular salary for internship teaching.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this degree program. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the program’s academic advisor, or where applicable, the department or program's Director of Graduate Studies. (Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the department or program’s Official Certifier (https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier).) Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours Required for the MAT Degree</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Core Requirements</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 504</td>
<td>RACE, CLASS, GENDER IN EDUCATION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or HIST 521</td>
<td>RACE, EDUCATION AND SOCIETY IN THE URBAN SOUTH</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 505</td>
<td>EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 516</td>
<td>ASSESSMENT</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 519</td>
<td>TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH INQUIRY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 520</td>
<td>TEACHING DIVERSE LEARNERS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 521</td>
<td>CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 522</td>
<td>LITERACY ACROSS THE CURRICULUM</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Select 1 from the following:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 560</td>
<td>THEORY AND METHODS: ART</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 561</td>
<td>THEORY AND METHODS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS &amp; READING (ELAR)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 562</td>
<td>THEORY AND METHODS: LOTE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 563</td>
<td>THEORY AND METHODS: MATHEMATICS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 564</td>
<td>THEORY AND METHODS: PHYSICAL EDUCATION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 565</td>
<td>THEORY AND METHODS: SCIENCE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 566</td>
<td>THEORY AND METHODS: SOCIAL STUDIES</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 570</td>
<td>FIELD-BASED STUDIES IN TEACHING AND LEARNING</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Supervised Teaching) Internship
EDUC 540  SEMINAR FOR FIRST-YEAR TEACHERS (2 semesters required, 1st semester)  3

EDUC 540  SEMINAR FOR FIRST-YEAR TEACHERS (2 semesters required, 2nd semester)  3

Total Credit Hours  36

Footnotes and Additional Information
1 At the discretion of the associate dean and academic advisor, some students may require additional courses to address deficiencies prior to seeking Texas Teacher Certification

Fifth-Year MAT Degree Option for Rice Undergraduate Students

Rice students have the option to pursue the MAT degree by adding an additional fifth year to their four undergraduate years of study. Advanced Rice students in good academic standing may apply during their sophomore year to the graduate program. Upon acceptance, depending on course load, financial aid status, and other variables, they may then start taking required core courses for the MAT degree during their junior year. A plan-of-study based on their particular focus area will need to be approved by the program director and the MAT advisor.

As part of this option and opportunity, Rice undergraduate students:

• must complete the requirements for their bachelor’s degree (a minimum of 120 credit hours) and the MAT degree (an additional 36 credit hours) independently of each other (i.e., no course may count toward the fulfillment of both degrees).
• must complete at least 24 credit hours in the selected teaching area.
• should be aware there could be financial aid implications, if the conversion of undergraduate coursework to that of graduate level reduces their earned undergraduate credit for any semester below that of full-time status (12 credit hours).

Policies for the MAT Degree

Admission

Applicants must have a bachelor’s degree, scholarly ability, and a commitment to teaching, and they must have taken the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) within 5 years. Specific requirements include:

• Completion of a bachelor’s degree before admission to the program.
• Completion of 24 credit hours in a specified content area is required.
• Grades of B- (2.67 grade points) or better in all semester hours attempted in the teaching field and a grade point average of 3.00 or better, both in courses for the teaching field and overall.
• Evidence of adequate physical vigor and speech to perform as a teacher in a classroom.

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) requires candidates to undergo a criminal background check prior to field-based experience, prior to clinical training, and prior to being hired as a first-year teacher. Candidates may go through the fingerprinting process before applying for admission. More information on this important rule is on the Education program website at: http://glasscock.rice.edu/departments/education/master-arts-teaching/master-arts-teaching-new-teachers

Transfer Credit

For Rice University’s policy regarding transfer credit, see Transfer Credit (ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/#transfer). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program’s advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Education program website: https://education.rice.edu/

Opportunities for the MAT Degree

Requirements for Visiting Post-Baccalaureate (VPB) Certification

A non-degree (Visiting Post-Baccalaureate) plan leading to secondary teacher certification or principal certification is available for those who have earned a BA and/or MA degree, but do not choose to pursue a Rice University graduate degree. Candidates complete all requirements for secondary teacher certification or principal certification, including professional education courses. Interested students should contact the Education Program.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Education program website: https://education.rice.edu/