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

Program Learning Outcomes for the MAT Degree

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

1. Foster culturally responsive pedagogy that uses the lives, culture, and community assets of the students.
2. Facilitate teaching strategies for diverse learners.
3. Assess students’ progress and content mastery to guide instruction.
5. Demonstrate instructional leadership.

Requirements for the MAT Degree, for Current Rice Undergraduates

The MAT degree is a non-thesis master’s degree. For general university requirements, please see Non-Thesis Master’s Degrees (https://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 (https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/).

Students pursuing the MAT degree must complete:

- A minimum of 10 courses (30 credit hours) to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum of 30 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 part-time graduate study at Rice University.
- A minimum overall GPA of 2.67 or higher in all Rice coursework.
- A minimum GPA of 2.67 or higher in all Rice coursework that satisfies requirements for the non-thesis master’s degree 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 field-based study 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/). Additionally, these must be approved by the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

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<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 504</td>
<td>RACE, CLASS, GENDER IN EDUCATION</td>
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Theory and Methods

Select 1 course from the following:

- EDUC 560 THEORY AND METHODS: ART
- EDUC 561 THEORY AND METHODS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING (ELAR)
- EDUC 562 THEORY AND METHODS: LOTE
- EDUC 563 THEORY AND METHODS: MATHEMATICS
- EDUC 564 THEORY AND METHODS: PHYSICAL EDUCATION
- EDUC 565 THEORY AND METHODS: SCIENCE
- EDUC 566 THEORY AND METHODS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Senior Year, Full-time Practice Teaching
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. For more information, please see the Opportunities (p. 2) tab.

Policies for the MAT Degree, for Current Rice Undergraduates

Department of Education Graduate Program Handbook

The General Announcements (GA) is the official Rice curriculum. As an additional resource for students, Education publishes a graduate program handbook, which can be found here: https://gradhandbooks.rice.edu/2020-21/Education_Graduate_Handbook.pdf

Admission

Applicants must have at least 12 to 15 credit hours in the content area before admission, scholarly ability, and a commitment to teaching, and SAT or ACT scores. Specific requirements include:

- Completion of a bachelor's degree before the internship year (5th year).
- 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. If the results are unsatisfactory, the candidate may petition the TEA for reconsideration of the results. More information on this important rule is on the Education program website at: https://glasscock.rice.edu/degrees-certificates/degrees/master-arts-teaching/master-arts-teaching-new-teachers/https://glasscock.rice.edu/degrees-certificates/degrees/master-arts-teaching/master-arts-teaching-new-teachers/

Education team members review each application. Limited tuition assistance is available. See Admission to Graduate Study (https://graduate.rice.edu/admissions/).

Transfer Credit

For Rice University’s policy regarding transfer credit, see Transfer Credit (https://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.

Opportunities for the MAT Degree, for Current Rice Undergraduates

Fifth-Year Master's Degree Option for Rice Undergraduate Students

Rice students have an option to pursue the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree by adding an additional fifth year to their four undergraduate years of studies.

Advanced Rice undergraduate students in good academic standing may apply to the MAT degree program during their sophomore year. Upon acceptance, depending on course load, financial aid status, and other variables, they may then start taking some required courses of the master’s degree program during their junior year. A plan of study will need to beapproved by the student's undergraduate advisor and the MAT program director.

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

- must complete the requirements for a bachelor's degree (a minimum of 120 credit hours) and the master's degree (an additional 30 credit hours) independently of each other (i.e. no course may be counted 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).
- must be enrolled in and complete 12 credit hours at the undergraduate level in order to be able to take one graduate level course each semester.
- more information on this Undergraduate - Graduate Concurrent Enrollment opportunity, including specific information on the registration process can be found here (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/undergraduate-graduate-concurrent-enrollment/).

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 state of Texas secondary teacher certification or principal certification, including professional education courses. Interested students should contact the Education Program.

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.
Additional Information
For additional information, please see the Education program website:
https://glasscock.rice.edu/departments/education-department (https://glasscock.rice.edu/departments/education-department/)