# Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Degree, for New Teachers

## 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 professional education courses, MAT degree and Education program) degree. Most MAT degree candidates entering the program have had no secondary school teaching following the completion of a bachelor's degree graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures-regulations-procedures-all-degrees. Students pursuing the MAT degree must complete:

- Students must complete 75 hours of field-based experience in local secondary schools, in conjunction 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

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours Required for the MAT Degree</td>
<td>36</td>
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## Degree Requirements

### Core Requirements

1. **EDUC 504**  RACE, CLASS, GENDER IN EDUCATION  3
   - or **HIST 521**  RACE, EDUCATION AND SOCIETY IN THE URBAN SOUTH  3
2. **EDUC 505**  EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY  3
3. **EDUC 516**  ASSESSMENT  3
4. **EDUC 519**  TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH INQUIRY  3
5. **EDUC 520**  TEACHING DIVERSE LEARNERS  3
6. **EDUC 521**  CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT  3
7. **EDUC 522**  LITERACY ACROSS THE CURRICULUM  3

Select 1 from the following:

- **EDUC 560**  THEORY AND METHODS: ART  3
- **EDUC 561**  THEORY AND METHODS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING (ELAR)  3
- **EDUC 562**  THEORY AND METHODS: LOTE  3
- **EDUC 563**  THEORY AND METHODS: MATHEMATICS  3
- **EDUC 564**  THEORY AND METHODS: PHYSICAL EDUCATION  3
- **EDUC 565**  THEORY AND METHODS: SCIENCE  3
- **EDUC 566**  THEORY AND METHODS: SOCIAL STUDIES  3
- **EDUC 570**  FIELD-BASED STUDIES IN TEACHING AND LEARNING  6

**Supervised Teaching Internship**

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

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](http://glasscock.rice.edu/departments/education/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](https://graduate.rice.edu/admissions)).

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](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/](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.