



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

University Council

April 11, 2025

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2024-2025

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Graduate School – Rodney Mauricio

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Undergraduate Student Representative – Ella Colker

Graduate Student Representative – William Walker

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the Mary Frances Early College of Education to terminate the following areas of emphasis under the major in Middle Grades Education (M.Ed.) will be an agenda item for the April 18, 2025, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

- Area of Emphasis in Mathematics and Language Arts
- Area of Emphasis in Mathematics and Science
- Area of Emphasis in Mathematics and Social Studies
- Area of Emphasis in Science and Language Arts
- Area of Emphasis in Social Studies and Language Arts
- Area of Emphasis in Social Studies and Science

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu

Dr. Marisa Pagnattaro

PROPOSAL FOR TERMINATION OF AN AREA OF EMPHASIS

Date: March 25, 2025

School/College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department/Division: Educational Theory and Practice

Areas of Emphasis to be terminated:

- Mathematics and Language Arts (MALA)
- Mathematics and Science (MASC)
- Mathematics and Social Studies (MSST)
- Science and Language Arts (SCLA)
- Social Studies and Language Arts (SSLA)
- Social Studies and Science (STSC)

Major(s) and degree(s) the areas of emphasis are offered under? Middle Grades Education (M.Ed.)

Which campus(es) offer these areas of emphasis? Athens

Proposed effective date: Summer 2025

Last date students will be admitted to these areas of emphasis: Summer 2024

Last date students will complete these areas of emphasis: Spring 2025

Program Abstract:

Provide a brief summary of the area of emphasis being proposed for termination.

The Master of Education in Teaching (M.Ed.) in Middle Grades Education leads to advanced certification for students who hold undergraduate degrees in middle grades education. The curriculum includes required courses and applied research individualized to the student's teaching interests in Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies, allowing students to gain advanced content knowledge and pedagogical skills in educating young adolescents.

The state approval body for teacher certification, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, now requires that candidates in the program choose one area of specialization (i.e., Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies). Previously, students were required to choose two areas of specialization, and thus the different subjects were combined into multiple Areas of Emphasis. This degree is offered at the graduate level and there are numerous courses available to satisfy this content specialization requirement. Therefore, it is no longer necessary to codify the specific areas of emphasis. In the revised program of study, the candidates will take three courses in one of the content areas (English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies) based on consultation with their advisor.

1. Why are these area of emphasis being proposed for termination?

These areas of emphasis are no longer necessary to codify in the student's record. The completion of three courses focusing on English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies will be clear on the transcript.

2. What will be done to ensure that termination of the areas of emphasis do not weaken the major(s) under which they are offered?

Not applicable. This designation was a coding need when two areas of emphasis were required. This is no longer necessary.

3. How will faculty and staff be notified of the termination? Will termination of the areas of emphasis have any impact on the faculty and staff offering the areas of emphasis?

Not applicable. Students will complete three courses within a specific content area. This is the same level of engagement from faculty partners who teach this content.

4. How will students be notified of the termination? How will students currently in the areas of emphasis be advised to complete the requirements?

All courses will continue to be offered, so students will be able to complete as intended.

5. What plans, if any, are there for subsequent reactivation of the areas of emphasis?

There are no plans to reactivate the areas of emphasis as of now. This change is a result of a state agency change.

6. Provide a revised program of study/Bulletin layout of the major's requirements once the area of emphasis has been removed.

Middle Grades Education (M.Ed.)

Middle Grades Education/Young Adolescents (15 hours)	Choose 15 hours from the following courses: EDMG 7030, The Middle Grades (4-8): Creating Safer and Equitable Spaces for Young Adolescents (3 hours) EDMG 7050, Critical Constructions of Young Adolescents (3 hours) EDMG(ETAP) 7060S, Theory and Practice of Service-Learning in P-12 Settings (3 hours) EDMG 7080, Equity-Oriented Curriculum Planning in the Middle Grades (4-8) (3 hours) EDMG 7090, Equity-Oriented Instructional Strategies for Young Adolescents (3 hours) EDMG 7200, Trends and Issues in Middle Grades Education ETAP 7610, Classroom Management in Culturally Responsive Classrooms (3 hours)
Middle Grades Content Specialization (9 hours)	Choose 3 courses for a total of 9 hours in one of four content areas, as chosen with advisor: English/Language Arts Education, Mathematics Education, Science Education, or Social Studies Education (LLED, EMAT, ESCI, or ESOC)
Electives Related to Education (9 hours)	Possibilities include, but are not limited to, endorsements in: reading education (LLED), English as a Second Language (LLED), or gifted education (EPSY); certificates; additional EDMG or ETAP courses; courses in educational technology (EDIT), education psychology (EPSY), literacy (LLED), ESOL pedagogy (LLED), educational law (EDAP), etc.
Educational Research (3 credit hours)	EDMG 7300, Teaching Young Adolescents with an Equity-Oriented Inquiry Stance (3 hours) or ETAP(QUAL)(ERSH) 7500, Action Research (3 hours)

Total = 36 hours

Documentation of Approval and Notification

Proposal: Proposal to terminate the following Areas of Emphasis under the Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Middle Grades Education: Area of Emphasis in Mathematics and Language Arts; Area of Emphasis in Mathematics and Science; Area of Emphasis in Mathematics and Social Studies; Area of Emphasis in Science and Language Arts; Area of Emphasis in Social Studies and Language Arts; Area of Emphasis in Social Studies and Science

College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department: Educational Theory and Practice

Proposed Effective Term: Summer 2025

School/College:

- Head of the Department of Educational Theory and Practice, Dr. Julie Kittleson, 4/10/2025
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Associate Dean, Dr. Stacey Neuharth-Pritchett, 3/27/2025
- Graduate School Associate Dean, Dr. Anne Shaffer, 4/9/2025