

Online Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Science Education Program
Department of Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Education, University of Georgia
Requirements/Advising Worksheet
Revised August 2022

36 Semester Hours of graduate credit (courses numbered 6000+) are required in total.

M.Ed. students normally should already hold Clear Renewable T-4 teacher certification, either in a Secondary Science field (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth/Space Sciences, “Broad Field” Secondary Science) or in Middle Grades Education with a primary current teaching assignment in science. Students with these backgrounds should qualify for an upgrade to T-5 certification in Georgia, and may do so in other states. Students wishing to earn initial certification as part of a master’s program should consider the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) program instead. Students with other backgrounds and interests (e.g., science teaching at the college level, in a corporate or military setting, or at an informal science education institution) may be accepted, but should realize that the focus of our ESCI master’s-only courses is on classroom teaching in Grades 6-12. Teachers with Early Childhood Education certification (but with a special interest in science) may be accepted but should check with Georgia (or other state) teacher certification officials (e.g., the Georgia Professional Standards Commission) about upgrade status.

1. Curriculum and Instruction in Science Education (4 courses; 12 hours total)

_____ ESCI 7040E Teaching Strategies for Secondary School Science [required]

_____ ESCI 7080E Curriculum Planning in Science Education [required]

choose at least 2 from:

_____ ESCI 6200E Science, Technology and Society [STEM Integration focus]

_____ ESCI 6200E Science, Technology and Society [Socioscientific Issues focus]

_____ ESCI 6230E Environmental Science Education

2. Educational Research (1 course; 3 hours)

_____ ESCI 6990E Introduction to Research in Science Education [required]

3. Educational Psychology (1 course; 3 hours)

_____ EPSY 6010E, 6060E, or 6800E

4. Electives (6 courses; 18 hours)

May include an additional ESCI course, courses in other fields/departments in the Mary Frances Early College of Education, or graduate level courses in science content fields, of which a relatively small number are available at UGA on an online basis. Some students may want to pursue coursework leading to the Gifted In-field Endorsement (<https://online.uga.edu/degrees-certificates/gifted-field-endorsement>) as part of these electives – this requires the courses EPSY 7060E, 7110E, 7230E, and 7250E.

5. Capstone Webinar Project

Each student will design and record a Webinar that serves as a formal Comprehensive Examination for the degree. The specific topic may be drawn from any of those included in the courses in the program, the intended target audience is peers at the teacher's school or other educational institution, and the expected length is a minimum of approximately one half hour. The project is normally submitted during the semester in which the student plans to graduate, and is due three weeks before the Graduate School's deadline for reporting the results of Comprehensive Examinations. These due dates are typically the second Friday in April, July, or November, for the Spring, Summer, and Fall Semesters respectively.

Scheduling of ESCI master's-only courses:

ESCI courses required for the program are offered every other semester, and thus 3 times per 2-year time span, on the following schedule:

ESCI 6990E and 7040E:

Summer of even-numbered years, Spring and Fall of odd-numbered years

ESCI 7080E:

Summer of odd-numbered years, Spring and Fall of even-numbered years

Other ESCI courses designed primarily for students in the program are offered once per year, in a consistent semester, on the following schedule:

ESCI 6200E Science, Technology and Society [STEM Integration focus] – Fall

ESCI 6230E Environmental Science Education – Spring

ESCI 6200E Science, Technology and Society [Socioscientific Issues focus] – Summer

The most common areas for elective courses include Instructional Technology (EDIT), Middle Grades Education (EDMG), Language and Literacy Education (LLED), and Educational Theory and Practice (ETAP).

Substantively advanced coursework in science content fields is largely unavailable online through UGA. Therefore Online M.Ed. students seeking additional science content background most often enroll in one or more of the limited number of introductory courses, having few or no prerequisites yet carrying graduate credit, in science fields that may be largely new to them.

In accordance with UGA Graduate School rules:

- Grades of C or better are required in all courses listed on the Program of Study, and an overall minimum GPA of 3.0 must be maintained in order to graduate.
- Transfer credit from another institution is limited to 6 hours, with grades of B or higher.
- A maximum of 9 hours of graduate coursework initially taken on a non-degree basis at UGA may be applied to degree requirements.
- In order to graduate, a student must be registered for at least 3 hours during the semester in which requirements for the degree are completed (including the capstone project, even if no courses are taken in that semester). Those hours must be through UGA rather than transferred.
- Continuous Enrollment Policy: All graduate degree students must register for at least 3 hours of credit during at least two of the three semesters of each year (Fall, Spring, Summer) until graduation – i.e., in its simplest form, it is not allowed to take consecutive semesters off from coursework without formally applying for and being granted a leave of absence, most often based on extreme personal hardship.