

Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics – Teacher Education

College of Arts and Sciences

FACT

Illinois has suffered from a shortage of mathematics teachers for the last eight years.
Source: “Designated Teacher Shortage Areas,” Illinois State Board of Education

Excellent Prospects

Employment prospects are excellent for math educators in light of the critical shortage of qualified math teachers nationally. The bachelor’s program at GSU prepares you for a career as a math educator with the subject matter expertise and pedagogical skill to make you knowledgeable and effective.

Outstanding Preparation

The sequence of coursework is approved by the Illinois State Board of Education and leads to an initial secondary licensure in Mathematics. You can also earn an endorsement that prepares you for teaching in middle school.

To be recommended for an Illinois State Board of Education teaching certificate, you must present evidence of having passed the Basic Skills, Subject-Matter Knowledge, and Assessment of Professional Teaching examinations of the Illinois Certification Testing System.

You must also meet other requirements for certification through approved programs listed in the teacher education and certification section of the GSU catalog. To be recommended by Governors State University, students must apply for licensure within one year of completing the program.

Unlimited Opportunity

GSU offers a superior educational opportunity at an affordable tuition rate while maintaining the professional quality of its programs. GSU’s outstanding faculty and real-world curriculum prepare graduates to meet the demands of the future.

For More Information:

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2016 – 17 Catalog Year



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Teacher Licensure

This program is approved by the Illinois State Board of Education and is intended to lead to the Initial Secondary License qualifying students to teach mathematics. Students who major in Mathematics with a concentration in Secondary Education may obtain an endorsement that prepares them for teaching in the middle school. Students wishing to pursue this endorsement must take three hours in the psychology of early adolescent development, three hours in curriculum instruction and three hours of methods related to the middle school. Students should contact their advisor for specific course requirements.

To be recommended for an Illinois State Board of Education teaching license, the student must present evidence of having passed the Basic Skills, Subject-Matter Knowledge, and Assessment of Professional Teaching examinations of the Illinois Licensure Testing System.

Students must meet other requirements for licensure through approved programs listed in the Licensure of Teachers and Other School Professionals section in the catalog.

Admission to Mathematics Teacher Education

In addition to meeting all university admission requirements for undergraduate students, applicants must meet the following requirements to continue in the program:

1. have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher in all lower division courses applied to the degree program;
2. submit a word-processed essay not to exceed 300 words explaining why the applicant wishes to be a teacher;
3. submit evidence of having passed the Test of Academic Proficiency of the Illinois Licensure Testing System;
4. submit scores from the ETS Proficiency Profile;
5. complete EDUC-2310 (or equivalent) with a grade of "B" or better; and
6. Attend Secondary Education Orientation.

All candidates for Illinois teacher licensure at Governors State University are required to submit to an Adam Walsh fingerprint-based criminal background check by Accurate Biometrics prior to their initial field experience in the schools. For more information on this testing and available test sites, please visit accuratebiometrics.com. Consult with your advisor for information concerning the related GSU policies and procedures.

Student Progress

The faculty monitors and evaluates candidate progress continually. The section, Licensure of Teachers and Other School Professionals, in this catalog provides a general description of the standards used to evaluate candidate progress. A more detailed statement of the standards and processes followed by the secondary education faculty is available in the Secondary Education Undergraduate Student Handbook.

Conditional Continuation

The faculty may permit a candidate to continue conditionally. In such cases, faculty reviews of the candidate's records identify evidence that the candidate will likely be successful in the program. The status of all candidates allowed to continue under conditions is reviewed by the faculty each term, and the candidates are informed in writing of the conditions necessary for them to be transferred to good standing status. When conditions are met, the candidate is informed in writing of the transfer to good standing status. A candidate may not be admitted to student teaching without being in good standing status.

Admission to Student Teaching

Candidates must apply for admission to student teaching before enrolling in EDUC - 4999 Student Teaching (12). An application for admission to student teaching must be submitted to the director of Field Experiences in the Division of Education. The application must be submitted by November 30 for the following fall term and January 31 for the following spring term. Student teaching is not offered in the summer term.

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This application for student teaching will certify that the candidate applying has or will have met the following requirements:

1. completed at least 48 hours of general education requirements with a GPA of 2.75 or higher;
 2. completed professional education course requirements, except student teaching, including a minimum of 100 clock-hours of field experience with a GPA of 3.0 or higher, with a grade of "C" or better in each course, and EDUC - 4360 and EDUC - 4370 with a grade of "B" or better;
 3. must have completed methods courses no more than two years prior to the commencement of student teaching;
 4. have no more than six hours remaining to be completed in the major in which the student is enrolled with a GPA of 3.0 or higher and completed all courses with a grade of "C" or better;
 5. met all state requirements applicable to the subject matter area(s) in which the student will teach as outlined in Section IX, Staff Qualifications of the Illinois State Board of Education publication, Minimum Requirements for State Licensure;
 6. submit evidence of having passed the Mathematics content area exam of the Illinois Licensure Testing System; and
 7. received a positive recommendation from the Secondary Education Student Progress Committee.
5. have a GPA of 3.0 or higher in math and statistics courses with a grade of "C" or better in each course;
 6. have a GPA of 3.0 or higher for EDCP - 2101, EDUC - 3440, and SPED - 2100, with a grade of "C" or better in each course;
 7. earn a grade of "B" or better in EDEC-4999;
 8. complete a minimum of 100 clock-hours of supervised pre-student teaching experiences;
 9. provide evidence of successful completion of the Illinois and U.S. Constitution examinations;
 10. complete at least one three-hour course in non-Western or Third World cultures;
 11. complete the following course work with a grade of "C" or better: 12 hours of calculus, eight hours of university physics with laboratory;
 12. show evidence of having passed the Assessment of Professional Teaching;
 13. meet any additional requirements listed in the Teacher Licensure section of this catalog; and
 14. receive a positive recommendation from the Secondary Education Student Progress Committee.

Degree Requirements

Candidates must meet all university requirements for a bachelor's degree; and, in addition, must complete the General Education Requirement for Teacher Licensure, Initial Secondary License listed below. Completion of this requirement meets the general education requirement.

In addition, candidates must:

1. have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher;
2. earn a grade of "C" or better in all general education courses;
3. have a GPA of 2.75 or higher for all general education courses;
4. earn a grade of "B" or better in EDUC - 3320, EDUC - 4360, and EDUC - 4370;

General Education Requirements for Teacher Licensure, Initial Secondary License, Mathematics (41 Hours)

The following courses can be taken at either the lower-division or upper-division level and must include at least one three-hour course in non-western or third world cultures:

Written Communication (6)
Oral Communication (3)
American History (3)
U.S. Government (3)
Humanities (6)
Fine Arts (3)
Introduction to Psychology (3)
Health (2)
MATH - 2290 Calculus I (4)
General Biology with Lab (4)
University Physics with Lab (4)

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Required Courses (78 Hours)

The following courses can be taken at either the lower-division or upper-division level: (39 Hours)

MATH - 2150 Discrete Mathematics (3)
EDUC - 2310 Foundations of Education (3)
EDCP - 2101 Intro to Educational Technology (3)
MATH - 2271 Differential Equations (3)
MATH - 2292 Calculus II (4)
MATH - 2294 Calculus III (4)
MATH - 2449 Linear Algebra (3)
MATH - 4337 Modern Geometry (3)
MATH - 4451 Modern Algebra (3)
PHYS - 2143 Intermediate Physics II (3)
PHYS - 2144 Intermediate Physics Lab II (1)
SPED - 2100 Survey of Students w/ Exceptionalities (3)
STAT - 4219 Statistical Methods (3)

The following courses must be taken at the upper-division level: (39 Hours)

EDUC - 4360 Principles of Sec. Math Education (3)
EDUC - 4370 Teaching Secondary School Math (3)
EDUC - 4999 Student Teaching (12)
MATH - 4133 Number Theory (3)
MATH - 4171 History of Mathematics (3)
MATH - 4241 Analysis I: Real Variables (3)
MATH - 4243 Analysis II: Complex Variable (3)
MATH - 4557 Probability (3)
MATH - 4637 Mathematics Laboratory (3)

Electives (1 Hour)

Total - 120 Hours

2016 – 17 Catalog Year

