TEACHING, MASTER OF (M.T.) WITH A CONCENTRATION IN BIOLOGY EDUCATION

Program goal
The Master of Teaching curricula are designed to incorporate eligibility for initial teaching licensure in Virginia in early and elementary, or secondary education (biology, chemistry, earth science, English, history, history and social studies, mathematics or physics).

The approved curricula include undergraduate qualifying courses as well. Individuals pursuing the extended program are awarded undergraduate and graduate degrees simultaneously; baccalaureate degree recipients who meet the admission criteria also may pursue the Master of Teaching degree program, including the qualifying courses. The combined baccalaureate and Master of Teaching program requires a minimum of 153-154 hours, at least 33 of which must be at the graduate level.

Secondary education
The Master of Teaching program includes curricula that lead to endorsement in one of the following disciplines: biology, chemistry, drama, earth science, English, history/social studies, mathematics or physics.

In order to enroll in the program, students must apply and be accepted to both the Extended Teacher Preparation Program and the Graduate School. Admission information for the Extended Teacher Preparation Program (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/school-education/extended-teacher-preparation-program/) is available in this bulletin.

Student teaching requirements
All students pursuing a secondary education endorsement within the Master of Teaching program will student teach in the spring semester. To do so, students must take and pass the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment and their subject-specific Praxis II exams before the fall semester of the academic year in which they will student teach.

Student learning outcomes
1. Learner and learning: Understand human development and learning theory appropriate to the age group they will teach and acquire an awareness of the diversity of the school-age population in cultural backgrounds and styles of learning
2. Content: Demonstrate knowledge of the subjects they will teach
3. Instructional practice: Demonstrate an ability to plan and implement effective teaching and measure student learning in ways that lead to sustained development and learning
4. Professional responsibility: Develop an understanding of purposes for education and a defensible philosophical approach toward teaching and demonstrate professional dispositions

Graduation requirements
As graduate students approach the end of their academic programs and the final semester of matriculation, they must make formal application to graduate. No degrees will be conferred until the application to graduate has been finalized.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following graduation requirements as published in the VCU Graduate Bulletin for complete information and instructions.

Degree candidacy requirements
A graduate student admitted to a program or concentration requiring a final research project, work of art, thesis or dissertation, must qualify for continuing master’s or doctoral status according to the degree candidacy requirements of the student’s graduate program. Admission to degree candidacy, if applicable, is a formal statement by the graduate student’s faculty regarding the student’s academic achievements and the student’s readiness to proceed to the final research phase of the degree program.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following degree candidacy policy as published in the VCU Graduate Bulletin for complete information and instructions.

Admission requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree:</th>
<th>Semester(s) of entry:</th>
<th>Deadline dates:</th>
<th>Test requirements:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.T.</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Feb 1</td>
<td>GRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Oct 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Feb 1</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the general admission requirements of the VCU Graduate School (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/study/admission-graduate-
study/admission-requirements/), the following requirements represent the minimum acceptable standards for admission:

1. Bachelor’s degree with a major, or equivalent, in biology
2. Three letters of recommendation addressing the student’s potential for graduate study in education
3. Statement of intent
4. Transcripts of all previous college work
5. Satisfactory scores on the GRE

Additionally, there are several tests that students must pass for admission to teacher preparation, admission to student teaching and licensure in Virginia. Students should consult the Teacher Preparation page (https://soe.vcu.edu/admission/teacher-preparation-application/) on the School of Education website for current testing requirements. Admission to clinical experiences in schools requires a background check and fingerprinting.

Please visit the School of Education (https://soe.vcu.edu/academics/masters-programs/master-of-teaching/) website for further information.

**Degree requirements**

In addition to general VCU Graduate School graduation requirements (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-reg/grad/graduation-info/), students are required to complete course work in core and elective courses.

1. Credit hour requirements: Students are required to complete a minimum of 33-34 credit hours depending on concentration.
2. Grade requirements: Receipt of a grade of C or below in two courses constitutes automatic dismissal from the program. Courses with a grade below C cannot be used to satisfy degree requirements.
3. Student teaching requirements: Students must successfully complete approved student teaching experience. Note: Students must complete all undergraduate courses before student teaching.
4. Additional testing requirement: Students must pass Praxis II, where applicable, for licensure.

**Curriculum requirements**

### Undergraduate courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDUS 301</td>
<td>Human Development and Learning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEDU 311</td>
<td>Middle School Practicum (secondary; must be taken concurrently with TEDU 537)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEDU 312</td>
<td>High School Practicum (science; must be taken concurrently with TEDU 540)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEDU 510</td>
<td>Instructional Technology in PK-12 Environments</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Graduate courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDUS 617/PSYC 657</td>
<td>Advanced Educational Psychology for Secondary Teachers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUS 673</td>
<td>Democracy, Equity and Ethics in Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEDU 537</td>
<td>Secondary School Curriculum</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEDU 540</td>
<td>Teaching Middle and High School Sciences (fall only)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEDU 562</td>
<td>Reading Instruction in the Content Areas</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEDU 588</td>
<td>Classroom Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Elective

Select one of the following:

- EDUS 610 | Social Foundations of Education | 3
- SEDP 505 | Theory and Practice of Educating Individuals with Special Needs | 3
- SEDP 619 | Multicultural Perspectives in Education | 3
- TEDU 531 | Media Literacy in the K-12 Classroom | 3
- TEDU 651 | Special Topics in Education (selected sections) | 3

### Clinical experience (spring only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TEDU 672</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEDU 674</td>
<td>Internship II</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEDU 681</td>
<td>Investigations and Trends in Teaching (must be taken concurrently with TEDU 672 and TEDU 674)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours 33

The minimum total of graduate credit hours required for this degree is 33.

### Other curricular options

Students who already possess a content major in a discipline appropriate for secondary education may pursue a post-baccalaureate certificate.

### Contact

Communications and Enrollment Management
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(804) 827-2670

Additional contact
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(804) 828-1305

Program website: soe.vcu.edu/academics/masters-programs/master-of-teaching/