

School of Education

Departments

- **Graduate Department of Education**, Yin Lam Lee-Johnson, chair
- **Department of Teacher Education**, Basiyr Rodney, chair

Stephanie Mahfood, interim dean

School of Education website (external to catalog)

Please refer to the Accreditations section of this catalog for specialized accreditations that may apply to programs in the School of Education.

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Mission Statement

The School of Education is a supportive and inclusive community of educator-scholars who are committed to providing our students with transformative experiences that impact life-long learning.

Vision

We empower students to become effective, innovative, and empathetic educators and practitioners.

Assessment Policy of School of Education

MA, MET, EdS and EdD

Programs in the School of Education use key assessments in specific courses to evaluate and promote student achievement of specific learning outcomes. In all courses that use key assessment assignments, the syllabus will list the standards that are used for assessing student academic performance. Students may contact their advisors, if they have further questions.

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Demonstration of Missouri Teacher Standards Through Quality Indicators

MAT

The Department of Teacher Education (DTE) Passport is an integral element in the assessment system for initial teacher certification programs. The system is designed to foster the development of knowledge, skills, and dispositions for pre-service teacher candidates in the digital age and is aligned with the Missouri Teacher Standards, which "convey the expectations of performance for professional teachers in Missouri."

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In order to complete the digital passports, candidates are enrolled in an online learning portal. Using a self-directed approach, pre-service teachers upload artifacts and reflections in the digital passports. Each passport is assessed by a team of faculty who

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required to move from a specific focus in teaching, curriculum, or support services in schools to the broader view of the educational leader in the community.

- Educational Leadership

EdD

The doctor of education (EdD) program at Webster University is a terminal degree for students who aspire to become leaders, researchers and scholars in educational settings. It is designed for preparing well-rounded scholar-practitioners who have the passion and competence to make a difference in this world. Through coursework, research, service learning, doctoral apprenticeship and socialization with faculty mentor and peers, students develop a comprehensive network and supportive system for completing the milestones in the program. Students also build and share their expertise as a cohort to become visionary leaders in today's world.

Emphasis Areas:

- Educational Leadership
- Special Education
- Transformative Learning in the Global Community

General Requirements

School of Education graduate degrees require the satisfactory completion of 33-44 (depending on whether certification is included) credit hours of appropriate graduate-level courses with a B average or the equivalent and completion of requirements for a major. Credits may also be gained through credit by examination, directed study, independent study, and transfer of credit.

Acceptance

MA

A completed admission file includes information on professional experience and the academic transcripts of the applicant's undergraduate degree work. This material is reviewed and the academic record, essay, and letters of recommendation (if requested), are evaluated to determine if the applicant will be accepted. New applicants have one term (8 weeks) to complete the acceptance process.

A final degree conferred grade point average of 2.5 or higher is required for acceptance into an MA program. Special consideration may be given to students with extraordinary professional accomplishments or to those whose grades show marked improvement in the later years of college or in graduate or

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Students may request transfer credit for graduate courses earned with grades of B- or better from another institution to fulfill their degree requirements. Requests are subject to evaluation and approval depending on the requirements of the specific degree program. Transfer credit is limited to a maximum of 12 credit hours for MAT programs, and 9 credit hours for an MA program. For more information, refer to the Transfer of Credit policy in the Academic Policies section of this catalog.

Initial Teacher Certification Content Areas

The MAT program is designed for students who are pursuing Missouri initial teacher certification in one of the following areas:

- Art (Grades K-12)
- Elementary (Grades 1-6)
- Middle School (Grades 5-9) with a focus in Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, or Social Science)
- Secondary Biology (Grades 9-12)
- Secondary Chemistry (Grades 9-12)
- Secondary English (Grades 9-12)
- Secondary Mathematics (Grades 9-12)
- Secondary Social Science (Grades 9-12)
- Special Education (Mild/Moderate/Cross-Categorical) (Grades K-12)
- World Languages (French, German, or Spanish) (Grades K-12)

Candidates seeking certification in secondary education (Grades 9-12) are encouraged to choose a second major in their content area. Advisors from the content area work closely with the School of Education to assure candidates meet the requirements of both their majors and initial teacher certification.

Additional Content Areas

A student who holds a Missouri initial teaching certificate and is interested in an add-on certification in English Language Learners K-12, Reading Specialist K-12, or School Leader K-12 may pursue one of these add-on certifications with the corresponding MA degree. Contact the School of Education Office at soe@webster.edu for information regarding these degrees.

Requirements for Missouri Initial Teacher Certification

Prior to or upon Admission, students must make available official academic transcripts to the Coordinator of Educator Certification in the School of Education to complete an evaluation of coursework. Based on this transcript evaluation, the Coordinator of Educator Certification will identify the exact number of credit hours that an MAT candidate will require to complete initial teacher certification with respect to Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) requirements. Prior coursework, such as transfer courses and content area courses, will be identified from the students' transcripts. Using this evaluation, an academic advisor, in conjunction with the Coordinator of Educator Certification, will prepare a personalized program of study for the student. Students may be required to take more than the required coursework listed for the emphasis area. Students should talk to their advisor and the teacher certification professionals at Webster University throughout their program to understand how any changes to DESE requirements are accommodated in their personalized program of study.

Admission to Teacher Certification

Admission to teacher certification is a significant milestone in a candidate's academic career. This means that a candidate is formally accepted in the initial teacher certification program and on track to meet the requirements of both the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and Webster University.

Candidates of admission to the following are required to:

- Completion of 15 hours of graduate credit, including CMAT 5000 and 5001, with grades of B or better.

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City, St. Louis County, St. Charles County and Jefferson County School Districts along with private and independent schools. All candidates for certification must complete either their practicum or apprentice teaching in a diverse setting.

Sequential Master's Degree in the School of Education

- A student who holds an MA, MAT, or MET from Webster's School of Education may earn a sequential MA by completing the required courses (ranging from 21 to 27 credit hours depending on the sequential program) detailed in the declared major curriculum.
- A student who holds a master's or doctoral degree in an education related field from another regionally accredited college or university may earn a sequential MA by completing the required core courses (ranging from 21 to 27 credit hours depending on the sequential degree program) detailed in the declared major curriculum.
- No transfer of credit may be applied toward the minimum required courses.
- If a student has completed any required courses as part of a previous Webster University master's degree, approval for substitute coursework must be requested and approved.