Secondary Science Education Certification Program
Department of Mathematics and Science Education, University of Georgia
Requirements/Advising Worksheet
[last updated August 2015]

A total of 27 Semester Hours of graduate credit (courses numbered 6000+) are required for the non-degree certification in science education.

1. Courses required for Secondary Science Certification (27 hours total)\(^1\)
   Block 1*, Methods and Practicum [Fall Semester]:
   ——— ESCI 3450**, Practicum in Science Education, 3 hours [MWF mornings]
   ——— ESCI 6450, Science Curriculum and Learning, 3 hours [MWF mornings]
   ——— ESCI 6460, Methods of Science Teaching, 3 hours [MWF mornings]
   ——— ESCI 6480, Technological Capabilities for Science Teaching, 3 hours [evening]
   Block 2*, Student Teaching and associated seminars [Spring Semester]:
   ——— ESCI 7460**, Internship in Science Education (Student Teaching), 12 hours [all day]
   ——— ESCI 7470, Reflection on Science Teaching, 3 hours [evening]

2. Other courses required for Certification (2 courses; 6 hours total)\(^2\)
   ——— Educational Psychology: EPSY 6010, 6010E, 6060, 6800, or 6800E [usually Fall]
   ——— Special Education: SPED 6030 or 6030E [usually Summer]

[Please see the detailed notes on the next page.]
*ESCI 3450, 6450, 6460, and 6480 are mutual corequisites, as are ESCI 7460 and 7470.

In accordance with UGA Graduate School rules:
• Transfer credit from another institution is limited to 6 hours, with grades of B or higher.
• A maximum of 9 hours of coursework initially taken on a non-degree basis at UGA may be applied to degree requirements.
• A student must be registered for at least 3 hours during the semester in which requirements for the degree (e.g., portfolio) are completed. These last 3 hours must be through UGA rather than transferred.
• All students must comply with the Graduate School’s Continuous Enrollment Policy\(^5\)

\(^1\)Passing both parts of the Georgia Assessment for Certification of Educators (GACE) exam for the certification field (for Biology, Chemistry, and Physics) is also required by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) for certification, and normally must be taken during the Block 1 semester. There is no GACE exam specific to Earth/Space Science, therefore the more general Secondary Science GACE is the appropriate test. “Broad Field” Secondary Science certification may also be added to the subject-specific initial certification earned in the MAT program by passing the general Secondary Science GACE and applying directly through the PSC.

\(^2\)At least one of the courses in these two areas is most frequently taken concurrently with Block 1 or earlier (or, in the case of SPED only, later – an EPSY course is a strict prerequisite for Block 2). These courses are typically available on campus in all semesters. “E” after a course number indicates that the course is conducted wholly or primarily online, and these versions may reach their enrollment limit quickly. If comparable undergraduate courses (perhaps taken before starting the program) are used to fulfill one or both of these certification requirements, the number of graduate-level electives required for the degree increases accordingly.

\(^5\)All UGA graduate students must register for at least 3 hours of coursework during at least two of the three semesters of each year (operationally defined as beginning in Fall and ending in Summer) until graduation. To cite the two most common practical implications of this rule, it is not permissible to be a “summers only” student (even at the beginning and/or end of a program), and in order to “take the summer off” it is required to have been registered during both of the preceding two academic year semesters.