

**Master of Education (M.Ed.)
Science Education Program
Department of Mathematics and Science Education, University of Georgia
Requirements/Advising Worksheet**

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

M.Ed. students should already hold Clear Renewable T-4 teacher certification, although not necessarily in a Secondary Science field. Students wishing to earn initial certification as part of a master's program should enroll in the M.A.T. program.

1. Science Content courses (3 courses; 9 or more hours total)¹

2. Curriculum and Instruction in Science Education (4 courses; 12 hours total)²

_____ ESCI 7040 Teaching Strategies for Secondary School Science [even-numbered Summers]
_____ ESCI 7080 Curriculum Planning in Science Education [odd-numbered Summers]

3. Educational Psychology (1 course; 3 hours)

_____ EPSY _____

4. Educational Research (1 course; 3 hours)

_____ ESCI 6990 Introduction to Science Education Research [Fall Semester, evening/online]

5. Electives (3 courses; 9 hours)

Elective courses should be selected by the student in consultation with the advisor, and may be in any field judged relevant to the student's career in science education.

6. Professional Portfolio

Each student will develop a portfolio of artifacts and reflections that serves as a formal Comprehensive Examination for the degree, demonstrating their advanced-level mastery of the Science Teacher Preparation Standards of the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA). The portfolio 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 first Friday in April, July, or November, for the Spring, Summer, and Fall Semesters respectively.

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 Policy³

¹Full-time students are encouraged to enroll in substantively advanced coursework in science fields related to their undergraduate major. Such courses are only very rarely available at UGA in Summer Semester and/or during evening hours, however, and therefore are often difficult or impossible to schedule for students holding a full-time teaching job. Therefore part-time students most often enroll in Summer, evening, or online courses, having few or no prerequisites yet carrying graduate credit, in science fields in which their background is relatively weak.

Note that the highly popular Georgia Shore Program, a Summer Teacher Workshop offered through the UGA Marine Extension Service, carries ESCI credit (under the course numbers 6220 and 6230; see below) but can be considered as Science Content courses for the purpose of fulfilling this requirement.

Advisors are encouraged to use reasonable judgment in considering approval of courses offered at field locations or online by other UGA departments or programs or by other universities or scientific institutions (e.g., in recent years, NASA, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, American Museum of Natural History). In some cases such substantively appropriate courses/workshops do not carry formal graduate credit from any university, and advisors may choose to offer credit under ESCI 6000 for the student to prepare a final report, project, portfolio, or presentation based on the scientific experience in question.

²Other master's-level courses in Science Education include:

- ESCI 6000 Special Problems in Science Education [directed study with a member of the faculty]
- ESCI 6100 Laboratory Teaching Internship [in introductory Biology or Chemistry courses at UGA]
- ESCI 6200 Science, Technology, and Society [Summer; repeatable for 6 hours total credit]
 - Special focus, even-numbered Summers: Socioscientific Issues
 - Special focus, odd-numbered Summers: STEM Integration
- ESCI 6220 Marine Environmental Education [2 weeks at UGA MarEx at Skidaway Island]
- ESCI 6230 Environmental Science Education [2 weeks at UGA MarEx at Skidaway Island]
- ESCI 6420 Science for PreK-8th Grade [every Summer]
- ESCI 6480 Technological Capabilities for Science Teaching [Fall Semester, evening]

ESCI 6480 is intended primarily for students earning initial certification, but may be counted toward this requirement by M.Ed. students without a strong background or experience with educational technology.

8000- and 9000-level ESCI courses (intended primarily for specialist and/or doctoral level students) may also be taken with the permission of the instructor. Most of these courses are offered evenings during Fall and Spring Semesters.

Courses in other fields within the College of Education (e.g., Mathematics Education, Language and Literacy Education) may also be used to fulfill this requirement, at the discretion of the advisor.

³All UGA graduate degree 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. *Very rare* exemptions from this rule may be granted on a case-by-case basis, by formally petitioning the Graduate School, in cases in which UGA schedule constraints that are completely out of the control of the student may make compliance with this policy impossible in particular circumstances, or in cases of extreme personal life problems.