MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING (MAT)
in Early Childhood Education (Birth – 2\textsuperscript{nd} Grade)  
for degree candidates seeking Initial Certification

This 45-credit degree program serves those seeking to teach or work with young children from birth through age 8 and their families. This includes, but is not limited to, infant and toddler settings, pre-schools, public and private pre-kindergartens through 2\textsuperscript{nd} grades, as well as community agencies.

Bi-lingual and Special Education Extension certificates are available through additional coursework.

Program Coordinator and Faculty Advisor  
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Other Program Faculty  
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\textit{Entrance requirements}  Acceptance is dependent upon a B.A. or B.S. from an accredited institution, a 3.0 GPA or its equivalent, a written essay, and two recommendations. An applicant’s undergraduate background must include 30 credits in a liberal arts major, plus 40 credits in the liberal arts from the following disciplines. These credits may overlap with the major.

- 2 courses in English Language Arts
- 2 courses in Arts and Aesthetics
- 4 courses in Social Science (must include 1 in U.S. History)
- 6 courses in Math, Science, OR Technology (must include 1 lab science)
- 2 courses in Foreign Language

Candidates can be admitted with up to three deficits in liberal arts, which must be made up before the last semester in the program.
Full-time option  Candidates take 12 credits in each fall or spring semester before the final one. In the last semester, candidates take 9 credits, which include EECE.565/Student Teaching (6 credits).

Part-time option  Candidates take 6 credits in each fall or spring semester before the final one. In the last semester, candidates take 9 credits, which include EECE.565/Student Teaching (6 credits).

Field requirement  All courses carry a field experience requirement, totaling 100 hours minimum prior to taking Student Teaching. Student Teaching is equal to 12 weeks or 60 full days in the field.

Schedule  Courses are taught in pairs during the week. The first course begins at 4:30. The second begins at 7:10. Some courses are offered in a hybrid format, meaning a percentage of class time takes place online.

Entry  Degree candidates enter in the fall semester only.

Certification  Degree candidates are recommended for certification upon completion of the program, state-approved seminars (child abuse, maltreatment, and abduction; substance abuse; school violence; and safety education), and passing of state exams and assessment requirements.

Internship Certification  Degree candidates who have no more than one year to graduate and hold a teaching position or are guaranteed a position that requires New York State B-2 certification may be eligible for Internship Certification may apply to substitute 2 electives for Student Teaching. See advisor for details.

Required courses
EECE.520 Language Development and Emergent Literacy
EECE.525. Language and Literacy Learning in the Elementary Years
EECE.702 (04) (05) Foundations
EECE.710 Ecological Perspectives on Development: Early Years
EECE.721 Professional Issues in Early Childhood Education
EECE.724 Curriculum and Environmental Design I
EECE.725 Curriculum and Environmental Design II
EECE.728 Integrating Expressive Arts
EECE.737 Infants and Toddlers: Curriculum and Teaching
EECE.750 Modern Learning Technologies
EECE.780 Introduction to Educational Research
EECE.781 Inquiry into Teaching: Thesis
EECE.565 Student Teaching
ECPSE.550 Foundations of Special Education