

**MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING (MAT)**  
**in Early Childhood Education (Birth – 2<sup>nd</sup> 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<sup>nd</sup> 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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*Please direct inquiries to one of the above faculty.*

Other Program Faculty  
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*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