

# Graduate Teacher Education Programs

Lander University offers graduate degree programs leading to the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree with a concentration in art, and the Master of Education degree in elementary education and the Master of Education in Montessori Education. In addition, graduate work is offered for non-degree seeking students, including courses which provide public school teachers with opportunities to meet recertification requirements. While the graduate programs are administered by the College of Education, they involve faculty from across the University.

Students are encouraged to apply for admission online by going to <http://www.lander.edu/bearcatweb>. Requests for graduate application forms may also be addressed to the Office of Admissions, Lander University, Greenwood, South Carolina 29649, 888-4-Lander, or e-mail [admissions@lander.edu](mailto:admissions@lander.edu).

**IMMUNIZATION:** All students taking courses on the Lander campus will be required to meet immunization standards as specified in the current university catalog.

Students enrolled in advanced degree programs in the College of Education are expected to exhibit the knowledge, skills and dispositions delineated in the Unit's conceptual framework (see page 155).

## The Masters of Arts in Teaching degree with a concentration in art education

Lander University recognizes the need for practical preparation of qualified individuals seeking initial certification in art, K-12. The Master of Arts in Teaching degree with a concentration in art education is designed to provide students who have a baccalaureate degree in studio art the knowledge, skills and dispositions that will prepare them to teach effectively.

Admitted students begin an intensive, fourteen-month program of full-time studies. The MAT program cycle begins once each year in May, with all admissions from the previous year beginning and completing required coursework as a cohort group. Students can complete program requirements in one academic year (fall and spring terms) combined with full-time enrollment for two summers. Requirements include internships and clinical experiences related to art and classroom teaching. The program of study consists of 39 graduate hours and 12 additional credit hours of directed teaching (for a minimum of 60 full days.) Completion of the program will lead to both the MAT degree and to South Carolina teacher certification at the masters level.

### Admissions

There are three major steps in the process of degree attainment for the Master of Arts in Teaching with concentration in art education program: initial admission, admission to student teaching, and program completion.

**Initial Admission.** The student seeking admission to the MAT with a concentration in art education must have completed an undergraduate degree in that content area from an accredited institution with a minimum GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale. A completed application, three letters of reference on official Lander recommendation forms, transcripts of all college coursework, and an approved content area worksheet are required to complete the application packet. Applicants will also be required to submit a writing sample, interview with major academic area faculty, and offer a studio portfolio in varied media for review. Since the program is designed to confer initial teacher certification, it is not open to those already certified to teach in South Carolina or in any other state. A non-refundable application fee of \$35 must accompany the student's initial application for admission to graduate studies at Lander University.

**Admission to Student Teaching.** Admission to Student Teaching requires:

- a) application to the South Carolina Department of Education for certification requiring fingerprint and background check approval.
- b) application to the Department of Teacher Education for admission to student teaching.
- c) acceptance during the semester prior to the student teaching experience.
- d) completion of specified courses in the MAT program of studies with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Three C's in any graduate courses precludes continuation in the program.

- e) completion of 100 hours of clinical experience including a two-week placement at a single site.
- f) favorable recommendation by the Coordinator of Art Education Programs and by the Dean of the College of Education.
- g) approval by the Director of Graduate Studies.
- h) passing scores on the Praxis II Subject Assessments/Specialty Area Tests required for certification in art by the South Carolina Department of Education.

**Program Completion.** To complete the degree program, teacher candidates must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale on all graduate work, successfully complete directed teaching, and demonstrate competence with the five learner outcomes of the unit's conceptual framework as evidenced by observed teaching and compilation of a Professional Education Portfolio. Program completion requirements include:

- (a) Presentation of a professional studio portfolio appropriate to the content area (i.e., graduate exhibition for MAT candidates in art education).
- (b) Successful performance of a summative Program Defense evaluated by professionals in the fields of art, art education and education.
- (c) All coursework for the Master of Arts in Teaching degree must be completed within a period of six years.

### **Program Requirements**

#### **1. Demonstration of knowledge in the content area, scholarly inquiry, and pedagogy**

- a. transcripts
- b. graduate coursework at acceptable GPA
- c. Praxis II scores

#### **2. Successful completion of Student Teaching**

- a. Observation of lessons taught
- b. Professional Education Portfolio

#### **3. Graduate Exhibition**

- a. Presentation of studio products of M.A.T courses in variety of media
- b. Presentation of instructional panels

#### **4. Program Defense**

- a. Reflective demonstration of achievement for the learner outcomes of the Professional Instructional Leader. Effective communication incorporating technology and oral response to questions

### **Program of Study**

The program of study leading to the Master of Arts in Teaching degree consists of course work and other learning activities in the following areas *at the 600- level*.

#### **Initial Summer**

ART 621: History, Philosophy of Art Ed.  
 EDUC 625: The Learner  
 ART 611: Curriculum Development in Art, K-12  
 EDUC 604: School and Society

#### **Fall**

ART 600: Practices for Teaching Art  
 ART 660: Design and Sculpture  
 EDUC 663: Content Area Reading, Assessment  
 EDUC 664: Principles of Teaching

#### **Spring**

EDUC 666: Student Teaching

#### **Completion Summer**

ART 630: Art Contexts for Art Education  
 ART 650: Crafts Design and Production

ART 640: Computer and Media Technology  
ART 661: Graduate Exhibition

## The Master of Education Degree in Elementary Education

Lander University recognizes the needs of teachers and other professional educators to continue advanced studies beyond the bachelor's degree level. The M.Ed. program is designed for the student who has graduated from a regionally accredited college or university with a baccalaureate degree in teacher education and is seeking a Master's level degree in elementary education.

### Admissions

There are three major steps in the process for the Master of Education Degree Program in Elementary Education: initial admission, admission to program, and admission to candidacy for the master's degree.

\*NOTE: A non-refundable application fee of \$35 must accompany initial application.

- 1. Initial Admission.** Applicant must have graduated from a regionally accredited college or university and completed a state approved teacher education program or hold a valid teaching license. Applicants must have an overall GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale, or a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the last two years of his or her baccalaureate degree program, or earn a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for 12 hours of graduate work at Lander University for initial graduate admission. Candidates must also submit a GRE score of at least 800 or 380 on the Miller's Analogy Test. Three letters of recommendation on official Lander recommendation forms from professional associates are required. All credentials will be reviewed by the Director of Admissions and an interview with the Director of Graduate Studies is required.
- 2. Admission to Program.** After a student has completed 12 hours of graduate work from an approved program of study at Lander University and maintained an overall B average, program faculty will review the student's graduate work and the required Professional Development Portfolio. A minimum of one foundation of education course must be completed prior of admission to program. If all requirements are met, the Graduate Director will then recommend the student for admission to the M.Ed. program.
- 3. Admission to Candidacy.** Graduate credit will be awarded for A, B, or C grades but students will be admitted to candidacy only after completing at least 24 hours of graduate courses with a GPA of 3.00 or better. A student must have no more than six semester hours with grades of C or lower and have a GPA of 3.0 or above to complete the M.Ed. program. Program faculty will review the students Professional Development Portfolio. If requirements have been met, the student will be admitted to candidacy.

### Degree Requirements

- 1. Admission to Candidacy.**
- 2. Courses.** Completion of 36 semester hours of graduate work. A student must complete an approved program of study, have no more than six semester hours with grades of C and have a GPA of 3.0 or above. All work for the Master of Education degree must be completed within a period of **six years**. For degree completion, at least 27 of the total credit hours required for the degree must be earned through Lander University instruction.
- 3. Professional Development Portfolio.** Each graduate student will present his or her portfolio to the program faculty for review throughout the program of study. The portfolio must demonstrate competence with the five learner outcomes and the preferred dispositions of the Professional Instructional Leader to earn the M.Ed. degree.

### Program of Study

The program of study leading to the Master of Education in Elementary Education degree consists of course work and other learning activities in the following areas *at the 600 level*:

- 1. Foundations of Education --** (Core courses required of all students 12 hours)  
EDUC 606: Philosophy and History of Education

EDUC 620: Applied Contemporary Learning Theories  
EDUC 622: Advanced Human Growth and Development

**2. Curriculum and Instruction -- (15 hours)**

**Elementary -**

EDUC 658: The Integration of Language Arts & Social Studies  
EDUC 640: Curriculum Development in the Elementary School  
EDUC 648: Diagnosis & Correction of Reading Difficulties in the Elementary School  
EDUC 657: Strategies & Techniques for Teaching Science  
EDUC 633: Strategies & Techniques for Teaching Math  
EDUC 655: Methods of Teaching Content Reading

**3. Related Study (9 hours of electives)**

A student may select related courses from the Master of Elementary Education courses in the current catalog.

Transfer credit is applied to the area of related study.

**Master of Education in Montessori Education**

The program of study leading to the Master of Education in Montessori Education degree consists of course work and other learning activities in the following areas *at the 600 level*:

**1. Foundations of Education -- (Core courses required of all students 15 hours)**

EDUC 620: Applied Contemporary Learning Theories  
EDUC 622: Advanced Human Growth and Development  
EDUC 623: Educational Research Methods  
MONT 617: Montessori Practicum I  
MONT 618: Montessori Practicum II

**2. Curriculum and Instruction -- (21 hours) concentration either in ages 3-6 or in grades 1-3**

**For concentration in ages 3-6**

MONT 683 Montessori Methods: Practical Life (3 hours)  
MONT 684 Montessori Methods: Sensorial (3 hours)  
MONT 685 Montessori Philosophy and Theory  
MONT 686 Methods of Observation & Classroom Leadership (3 hours)  
MONT 687 Montessori Methods: Language (3 hours)  
MONT 688 Montessori Methods: Mathematics (3 hours)  
MONT 689 Montessori Methods: Integrated Curriculum (3 hours)

**For concentration in grades 1-3**

MONT 610 Foundations of Montessori Elementary (grades 1-3) Education  
MONT 611 Montessori Methods: Elementary (gr.1-3) Mathematics I (3 hours)  
MONT 612 Montessori Methods: Language (3 hours)  
MONT 613 Montessori Methods: Social Studies (3 hours)  
MONT 614 Montessori Methods: Biological and Physical Science (3 hours)  
MONT 615 Montessori Methods: Geometry and Mathematics II (3 hours)  
MONT 616 Montessori Methods: Creative Arts, Movement and Practical Life (3 hours)

- In addition, students seeking certification at the lower elementary (grades 1-3) level who do not hold certification for ages 3-6 must take EDUC 685 or a 3 credit hour Early Childhood Montessori Methods class to meet the Early Childhood overview requirement for the American Montessori Society..

Transfer credit is applied to the area of related study.

### **Grading System for Graduate Programs**

Credit will be granted only for courses in which a student earns a grade of A, B, C or D and for the grade of P, explained below. Symbols used in the grading system and their meaning are as follows:

- A: Distinguished performance - indicates achievement of distinction for graduate study. Four quality points per semester hour.
- B: Acceptable performance - indicates the minimum level of achievement for completion of a graduate program. Three quality points per semester hour.
- C: Indicates marginal achievement for graduate study. Three C's in any graduate courses precludes continuation in the program. Two quality points per semester hour.
- D: Poor-- Indicates achievement at a level below that required for graduation. One quality point per semester hour. Courses with a grade of D are not applicable to a graduate degree.
- P: Passing – Indicates satisfactory achievement in no-credit or no-grade options. No quality points.
- F: Failure – Indicates unsatisfactory achievement. No quality points.
- FA: Failure because of excessive absences. No quality points are given to F or FA which is considered in computing the grade point ratio. Students earning this grade are considered to have “dropped out unofficially”: instructors assigning this grade must provide on the final grade roster the student’s last date of attendance in the class.
- AU: Audit– Indicates status as auditor. Auditing a course consists of attending classes and listening without the responsibility for any course assignments or examinations. No credit is earned by auditing a course and no credit may be earned in an audited course by examination or otherwise. No audited course may be repeated for credit at a later date. *Students may not audit laboratory or skills courses.*
- W: Withdrawal - Indicates a withdrawal or drop.
- I: Incomplete - Incomplete is assigned at the discretion of the instructor when, in the instructor’s judgment, a student is unable to complete some portion of the assigned work in a course because of an unanticipated illness, accident, work-related responsibility or family hardship; it is not intended to give students additional time to complete course assignments unless there is some indication that the specific condition or event prevented the student from completing course assignments on time. By arrangements with the instructor, the student will have up to six months from the last day of examinations for the semester in which to complete the work before a permanent grade is recorded. After six months an “I” which has not been made up is changed permanently to a grade of “F”. *Re-enrolling in the course will not make up an incomplete grade.* It is the responsibility of the student to insure that all arrangements for removal of the incomplete have been made and that all work for completing course assignments has been accomplished.

**Grade Point Ratio**--Grade points in any course are computed by multiplying the number of semester hours credit assigned to the course by a number determined by the grade according to the following scale.

A = 4	D = 1
B = 3	F = 0
C = 2	FA = 0

The grade point ratio is determined by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the total number of semester hours for courses receiving any grade in the preceding list. The following grades do not affect the grade point ratio: AU, I, P, W.

**Grade Reports**--At the end of each semester, a report of grades is sent to the student’s permanent address and to the student’s academic advisor(s).

**Grade Appeals**--Lander University's Student Handbook includes provisions for grade appeals. Neither grade changes nor appeals for grade changes can be made after one calendar year from the time the grade was given. After graduation no grade can be changed or appealed.

**Transcripts**--Requests for official transcripts of a student's record should be addressed to the Office of the Registrar. Procedures for requesting an official transcript can be found at <http://www.lander.edu/registrar/transcripts.html>.

A transcript of a student's record carries the following information: admissions data; current status; a detailed statement of the scholastic record showing courses pursued with semester hours carried, semester hours earned, grades, grade points, the system of grading, all failures, incomplete grades, and academic penalties such as academic probation, suspension, or other restrictions. A student's official record concerns academic performance only. No partial record will be issued. No official transcript will be issued to or for a student who is indebted to Lander University.

\*Students must submit request for transcripts to be mailed to the State Department of Education.

### **Transfer Credit**

As many as nine semester hours of graduate credit verified by an official transcript and approved by the Director of Graduate Studies may be transferred from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. No more than nine hours of coursework which have prior approval may be used in the degree program. Credit is not awarded for correspondence courses. Only courses on which grades of B or better have been earned will be accepted as transfer credit from another institution. Professional development courses, seminars, and workshops do not transfer toward a degree program. Courses with Pass or Fail offered as final grades do not transfer.

### **Auditing**

All students who wish to audit, must be admitted to the University and go through the regular registration process in order to be eligible to audit a course. Students seeking admission solely for the purpose of auditing are not required to submit test scores or official transcripts.

Auditing a course consists of attending classes and listening without the responsibility for any course assignments or examinations. No credit is earned by auditing a course and no credit may be earned in an audited course by examination or otherwise. No audited course may be repeated for credit at a later date. *Students may not audit laboratory or skills courses.*

A student who has registered for a course on an audit basis and who wishes to change the registration to take the course for credit or a student who has registered for a course on a credit basis and who wishes to change the registration to take the course by audit must do so no later than the last day to add or register for courses as published in the University's Academic Calendar. The change to or from an audit must be requested on an Advising and Registration Card, approved by the instructor and the Department Chair and then submitted to the Office of the Registrar by the appropriate deadline.

### **Petitions**

Lander University provides formal procedures for addressing student petitions for variance from stated policies governing curricular issues. All petitions are submitted to the Director of Graduate Studies for consideration by the appropriate advanced degree committee.

### **Graduate Programs for Non-Degree Students**

Some students pursue graduate study at Lander University for reasons of professional development and personal interest. School teachers who are required to complete graduate courses for the sole purpose of certificate renewal may enroll as non-degree-seeking students. (Degree-seeking students who have not met the initial admission requirements will be allowed to take a maximum of 12 semester hours on a non-degree status.)

### **Special Graduate Workshops**

Groups of teachers in local schools or districts frequently identify a unique problem that can be solved most efficiently through an individually designed special graduate workshop. The workshop activities may lead to one,

two, or three semester hours credit or may result in certificate renewal points if the cooperating school district has an approved in-service program. Graduate faculty members at Lander University are available to work with school district personnel to design a workshop program that meets the specific needs of the host school district. These courses are offered for professional development and count toward recertification but not toward the M. Ed. degree.

### **Recertification Credit**

Many graduate courses at Lander University may satisfy a portion of the recertification requirements for all teachers including those at the secondary level. Teachers who are required to complete graduate courses for the sole purpose of certificate renewal may enroll as non-degree seeking students. All 500 level courses and most MAT content area courses may be used for recertification credit.

### **Transient Students**

Students pursuing a graduate degree at another institution may complete a number of graduate courses at Lander University to be applied as transfer credit in accordance with the regulations and policies of that institution.

### **University of Brighton Summer Study**

Lander University offers a summer graduate study program in England. The courses are conducted at the University of Brighton's Falmer campus on the coast south of London. The four-week summer session provides three-six hours of graduate credit which can be used for teacher recertification in South Carolina, credit towards the Master of Education Degree in Elementary Education, credit towards Bachelor's plus 18, Master's plus thirty hours, and possibly transfer credit toward graduate degrees pursued elsewhere. This program may not be offered each summer.