

# Graduate Studies Programs

## *Masters of Arts in Teaching — Elementary*

### About the Program

The Simmons College MAT Program is committed to providing students who plan to teach at the elementary school level with the expertise, knowledge, and confidence they need to become effective and skillful classroom teachers. Students pursuing licensure at the elementary school level take method courses in reading and language arts, math, social studies, and science. In addition, students study the cultural and historical foundation of the American school and developmental psychology as it applies to learning and teaching strategies. Simmons has been successful in meeting a wide range of educational goals by providing each student with the advising necessary to develop a successful, individualized program of study. This personalized support is further enhanced by the small classes and close mentoring relationships that students develop with faculty in the program. Competitive merit scholarships are available for the most qualified applicants. Applicants are automatically considered for scholarships; there is no separate application.

### Sequence of Courses

The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program offers two options that lead to eligibility for the Initial Licensure. The Internship Program is a 40-credit degree program and requires a full-year internship, beginning in September and continuing to the end of the public school year in June. Students who select this option should plan to begin their studies in the summer semester. The Practicum Program is a 36-credit degree program that leads to the MAT and requires a 14-week, full-time practicum during the spring semester.

### The Simmons Difference

For more than 100 years, Simmons has put the needs of our students first. Through an education that combines intellectual leadership with professional preparation, we help students lead meaningful lives and build successful careers for the 21st Century. The College's commitment can be seen in our state-of-the-art facilities for teaching, learning, living, and working at Simmons, as well as through our exceptional faculty and staff. Simmons College is located in the heart of Boston, a world-class city renowned for unlimited educational, career, and social opportunities. All programs provide a challenging educational experience in which every student develops an informed, critical, and committed voice, and learns to be a leader and collaborative member of the professional community. Simmons College was named a "Best College" in its category in the 2010 US News & World Report. Simmons was also included in the 2010 Princeton Review "Best 351 Colleges," and was named among the "Best in New England" in the first-ever edition of Princeton Review's Best Northeastern Colleges.

*"Simmons's education program has an excellent reputation and it is flexible enough to complement my schedule as a mother. Graduates of the program get jobs and the department provides tremendous support. I've been very impressed with the high caliber of teaching, the curriculum, and with my fellow classmates. The program has exceeded my expectations."*

CATHERINE ZUSY '04GS  
MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

**SIMMONS**  
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES  
GRADUATE STUDIES

## Coursework

### **GEDUC 460 Teaching Strategies for the Inclusive Classroom**

Examines a variety of teaching strategies applicable to students in heterogeneous classrooms: techniques to individualize instruction and promote mastery learning, development of cooperative learning strategies, and consideration of specific classroom and behavior management procedures. Requires fieldwork.

### **GEDUC 445 Educational Psychology**

Examines the implications of psychology for teaching children and adolescents, emphasizing cognitive, social, and emotional development. Also covers learning styles, motivation, assessment, and evaluation. Requires individual presentations and papers that emphasize integration of students' educational experiences, theory, and practice.

### **GEDUC 461 Social Studies, Science, and the Arts in Elementary Classroom**

Considers methods and materials for elementary curriculum in social studies, science, music, and art, emphasizing the unit approach to curriculum organization. Incorporates audiovisual materials. Examines experimental models and techniques of observation. Requires field experience in an inclusive classroom or a museum setting.

### **GEDUC 464 Reading and Language Arts for the Early Childhood and Elementary Classroom**

Considers methods of assessment and instruction in creating balanced literacy programs with reference to the ELA Frameworks throughout: decoding strategies including phonemic awareness and phonics skills; comprehension strategies; guided reading; literature circles; the writing process; and the integration of children's literature and poetry. Requires two mornings a week of fieldwork if taken concurrently with GEDUC 467.

### **GEDUC 467 Math for the Early Childhood and Elementary Classroom**

Considers basic topics of elementary mathematics from contemporary viewpoints to reinforce mathematics learning. Examines varying pupil responses and techniques of instruction and construction of curriculum units. Requires field experience in an inclusive classroom.

### **GEDUC 401 Seminar in Teaching and Learning at the Elementary Level**

Develops integrated curriculum units and explores different models of curriculum design, lesson plans, and interdisciplinary teaching. Teaches strategies to modify curriculum to accommodate different developmental levels and learning styles; and addresses issues of classroom management and parent communication. Develops appropriate assessment and evaluation procedures, measuring student progress. Requires practicum placement.

### **GEDUC 480 Practicum: Elementary Education (Grades 1-6)**

Assigns supervised teaching responsibilities in an inclusive classroom at the first-grade to sixth-grade level. Involves demonstrating effective classroom management procedures, implementing daily class lessons, developing long-range curriculum materials, and demonstrating effectiveness in serving students who are below the expected classroom instructional level.

### **GEDUC Elective**

#### ***Internship Program Only***

**GEDUC 400** Prepracticum Seminar

**GEDUC 488** Prepracticum

## Contact Us

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