

TEACHING, M.A.T. (SPECIAL EDUCATION - LICENSURE)

Overview

Degree Program

The Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) (Licensure) (<https://www.biola.edu/degrees/g/teaching-ma/>), formerly Master of Arts in Teaching, is a highly practical and flexible graduate degree designed to help you thrive as a classroom teacher. Ideal for both current and aspiring educators, this master's program will equip you with the advanced skills and knowledge you need to become more effective and impactful in the classroom. With many specialization options, the M.A.T. (Licensure) allows you to choose a route that is tailored to your specific educational background and career interests.

The Special Education Specialization prepares students who desire to earn an institution-sponsored 12-credit certificate in Special Education while working towards a master's degree. The courses in this specialization fulfill some of the requirements of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) approved Education Specialist credential.

Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Master of Arts in Teaching (Licensure), students will be able to:

1. Analyze, evaluate, and apply knowledge of current educational issues, settings, and legislative requirements from a biblical perspective (ULO 1).
2. Identify personal assumptions and generalizations related to diversity (e.g., gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, and [dis]abilities) while affirming that all students are valued as image bearers of God (ULO 2).
3. Exhibit growth in one's professional practice by utilizing professional databases, conducting empirical research, and articulating findings through effective communication in both speaking and writing. (ULO 1, 2, 3).
4. Synthesize knowledge, skills, and perspectives from concentration-specific content of the master of teaching program to determine implications for professional practice (ULO 2).

Each Program Learning Outcome (PLO) listed above references at least one of the University Learning Outcomes (ULO 1, 2, 3), which may be found in the General Information section (<https://catalog.biola.edu/general-information/#UniversityLearningOutcomes>) of this catalog.

Admission Requirements

Admission Requirements

- Applicants must have completed all bachelor's requirements prior to the start of the program and must have a bachelor's degree conferred from a regionally accredited institution prior to the start of the second term.
- Must be a California resident in order to fulfill fieldwork requirements.

- Foreign transcripts must be evaluated by a California Commission on Teacher Credentialing approved organization ([https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/foreign-transcript-evaluation-\(cl-635/\)](https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/foreign-transcript-evaluation-(cl-635/)) and verified equivalent to a U.S. bachelor's degree.
- Have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Writing proficiency will be evaluated for each applicant in one or more of the following ways: a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above; passage of the CBEST or all CSET subtests, an academic paper, the application essays, or the GRE. A proctored placement exam may be required.
- Applicants for whom English is not a primary language must verify a score of 100 iBT on the TOEFL exam.
- Complete Biola University's Graduate Education Application.
- Interview with a member of the School of Education.
- Hold a valid Certificate of Clearance from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing and submit valid TB tests results if fieldwork is done in California.

Official documents presented for admission or evaluation become part of the student's academic file and normally cannot be returned or copied for distribution.

Graduation Requirements

Graduation Requirements

1. M.A.T. (Licensure) core courses and Capstone must be passed with a grade of B or higher.
2. Candidates must complete the Master of Arts in Teaching (Licensure) with a 3.0 cumulative GPA.
3. Candidates must successfully complete SEED 594 Action Research, and all professional requirements (e.g., conference requirement, concentration reflection) related to the coursework and Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs).
4. Candidates must demonstrate professional behavior as an important aspect of their preparation to effectively impact the field of education (inside and beyond the classroom). For candidates on probationary status, or where a candidate has struggled with professional dispositions (scores of 1 or 2), these concerns may prevent the candidate from moving forward in the program and graduation.
5. A minimum of 30 credits is required for the Master of Arts in Teaching (Licensure).
6. Candidates must complete the program within five years of continuous enrollment. Candidates who are not continuously enrolled must complete the program within eight years total.
7. Candidates must meet with a department advisor and graduate academic records and degree specialist in the Office of the Registrar one semester prior to graduation to declare intent to graduate. (See the Graduate Graduation Application section (<https://catalog.biola.edu/academic-policies/graduation-and-degree-conferral/graduate/#GraduateGraduationApplication>).

Program Requirements

Transfer of Credits

Students transferring from an accredited graduate program may transfer a maximum of 6 approved credits for their M.A. in Teaching (Licensure). Courses transferred must be equivalent to Biola University's and have direct applicability to the student's

program design. Only courses with a grade of B (3.0) on a 4.0 grade scale or higher will be considered for transfer towards the M.A. in Teaching (Licensure) degree; a grade of B- is not transferable. Credits considered for transfer must have been taken within five years prior to the date of admission.

Curriculum Requirements

Offered online

Code	Title	Credits
Program Courses		
Courses must be passed with a grade of B or higher.		
SEED 501	Philosophy and Values in Schools and Society	3
SEED 524	Research in Culture and Intercultural Instruction	3
SEED 554	Professional Writing and Research ¹	3
SEED 7320	The Life of Christ for Educators	3
Select one of the following:		3
SEED 523	Behavior and Classroom Management	
SEED 572	Learning, Motivation, and Student Engagement	
Capstone Course		
Course must be passed with a grade of B or higher.		
SEED 594	Action Research ²	3
Specialization Courses		
SEED 561	Issues in Special Education	3
Select 9 credits from the following:		9
SEED 562	Assessment and Evaluation of Exceptional Learners	
SEED 563	Teaching Students with Mild to Moderate Support Needs in Inclusive Settings	
SEED 564	Behavior and Classroom Management for Students with Special Needs	
SEED 580	Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders	
Total Credits		30

¹ Successful passage of SEED 554 is required for advancement in the program. Writing support and documentation may be mandatory for some students.

² To produce quality research, it is recommended to be the only course taken in the final semester.