LIBERTY
UNIVERSITY.
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Master of Arts in Teaching in Special Education (M.A.T.)
Early Childhood Special Education Cognate
2022-2023 Degree Completion Plan

After completion of the required program coursework (including student teaching), content competencies (if applicable), and the passing of licensure tests, the graduate of this program would be eligible for a VA state teaching license.

CORE COURSES (15 hours)		Hrs	Sem	Grade
EDLC 504	Educational Philosophy & Theories of Learning	3		
EDLC 623	Principles of Behavior Management	3		
EDSP 521	Foundations of Exceptionality	3		
EDSP 522	Special Education & Disability Law	3		
EDSP 622	Assessment & Evaluation in Special Education	3		

EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION COGNATE (15 hours)		Hrs	Sem	Grade
EDEC 670	Curriculum & Methods for Early Childhood Education	3		
EDLC 554	Reading & Language Acquisition	3		
EDLC 651	Literacy & Language for Diverse Learners[2,3]	3		
EDSP 519	Characteristics & Medical Aspects of Severe Disabilities	3		
EDSP 534	Individualized Programming & Curriculum[1,2]	3		

GATE & FIELD EXPERIENCE COURSES (0 hours)		Hrs	Sem	Grade
EDGT 520	School of Education Gate 1 – MAT Initial Licensure	0		
EDGT 560	School of Education Gate 2 – MAT Initial Licensure	0		
EDGT 580	School of Education Gate 3 – MAT Initial Licensure[5]	0		
EDSP 588	Initial Licensure Practicum in Special Education I[1,2]	0		
EDSP 688	Initial Licensure Practicum in Special Education II[2,3]	0		

STUDENT TEACHING COURSES (6 hours)		Hrs	Sem	Grade
EDST 587	The Reflective Practitioner: Resource Seminar – Special Education[2]	3		

Choose one of the following courses:

		Hrs	Sem	Grade
EDST 590	Student Teaching: Local[2,4,5]	3		
EDST 591	Student Teaching: Local – Own Classroom[2,4,5]	3		
EDST 592	Student Teaching: External[2,4,5]	3		
EDST 593	Student Teaching: External – Own Classroom[2,4,5]	3		
	TOTAL HOURS	**36**		

Graduation Requirements
Complete 36 hours
A maximum of 50% of the program hours may be transferred if approved and allowable, including credit from an earned degree from Liberty University on the same academic level
3.0 GPA
No more than two grades of C may be applied to the degree (includes grades of C+ & C-)
No grade of D or below may be applied to the degree (includes grades of D+ & D-)
Degree must be completed within 5 years
Submission of Degree Completion Application must be completed within the last semester of a student's anticipated graduation date

Offered in Online Format

Notes
All applicable prerequisites must be met
[1] EDSP 534 must be taken in the same semester as EDSP 588
[2] Background check clearance required (EDLC 651, EDSP 534, 588, 688, EDST 587, 590, 591, 592, 593)
[3] EDLC 651 must be taken in the same semester as EDSP 688
[4] **International candidates** seeking a "student visa" to study in residence in the U.S. may use EDST 590, 591, 592, or 593 to count as part of their residency requirement
[5] Candidates will be assigned either EDST 590, 591, 592, or 593. Course and section number will be designated during EDGT 580

Suggested Course Sequence on second page

SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCE

First Semester

EDGT 520 (B-Term)	0
EDLC 504 (B-Term)	3
EDGT 560 (D-Term)	0
EDSP 521 (D-Term)	3
Total	6

Second Semester

EDSP 519 (B-Term)	3
EDSP 622 (B-Term)	3
EDLC 554 (D-Term)	3
Total	9

Third Semester

EDSP 588 (A-Term)[1, 2]	0
EDSP 534 (B-Term)[2]	3
EDLC 623 (B-Term)	3
EDSP 522 (D-Term)	3
Total	9

Fourth Semester

EDGT 580 (A-Term)[1, 3]	0
EDSP 688 (A-Term)[1, 2]	0
EDLC 651 (B-Term)[1, 2]	3
EDEC 670 (D-Term)	3
Total	6

Fifth Semester

EDST 59_ (A-Term)[1, 2]	3
EDST 587 (B-Term)[1, 2]	3
Total	6

Notes
[1]Should not be taken during the summer semester
[2]Background check clearance required
[3]Should be taken the semester before student teaching