

MAT Secondary Education (Social Studies Teaching Field) 2004-05

I. Mission / Purpose:

The MAT program is designed for students seeking initial teacher certification in the fields of English, Biology, Social Studies, or Mathematics. The program shares the philosophy and conceptual base of the School of Education: learner-centered education. Students will study learner-centered education in their courses and make its principles a part of their own philosophy. In addition to this underpinning of the program, students must demonstrate an understanding of essential knowledge and its application to the classroom through field experiences and a professional internship. Some of those areas of knowledge include human development, educational foundations, and research, and of course, an understanding of the academic content the student proposes to teach.

II. Expected Results:

It is expected that 100% of the students will graduate with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher and will meet the minimum score on the PRAXIS II specialty exam. Every student will successfully complete ADEPT, *be rated with either agree or strongly agree that the candidate knows and is able to successfully teach Social Studies content by the Social Studies certified supervising teacher during internship intern and a faculty observer from the content area*, and will have developed a comprehensive portfolio.

III. Assessment Tools:

- ADEPT
- PRAXIS II
- *Content area indicators rubric*
- Cooperating teacher evaluation
- Comprehensive portfolios based on internship
- Evaluation by college supervisors
- Successful completion of classroom experience, i.e., internship for a minimum of 60 days
- Successful field experiences

IV. Assessment Results/Actions Taken/Resources Needed

Through the alignment of this program with current NCSS standards, the program has had significant changes. Collection of data and limited analysis on the changes to the assessment system has begun. Implementation of the revised program will provide additional data during the 2005-2006 year.

As the current plan of assessment has recently been revised to reflect changes in the development of the program, very little data are available. All candidates are to take the subject area portion of PRAXIS II prior to student teaching. The results will be reported at the end of each spring semester. Along with the quantitative data derived from PRAXIS II results, qualitative data will be evaluated from the professional

portfolios; ADEPT instruments completed during student teaching, and cooperating teacher and university supervisor evaluations. Student surveys will be sent to graduates one year after the date of graduation. This information will help to determine if the desired results of the program have been carried through to the induction year. ***An additional Content Area Indicators evaluation rubric has been added to the group of assessments. This evaluation instrument is to be completed by the South Carolina Social Studies Certified teacher that serves as the clinical supervisor for the student intern and a faculty observer from the content area. For a candidate to successfully complete their internship, the supervising teacher and the content area faculty member must feel comfortable agreeing that the candidate has appropriate and adequate content background.***

In order to be able to effectively use the information derived from the data, it will be necessary to compile all of the information at the end of each academic year and report data results in conjunction with the expected outcomes. During this period, follow-up surveys will be forwarded to all graduates from the secondary education program. These data will be analyzed and compiled with other information in order to make decisions about the program.

During the past year, some minor programmatic changes made as a result of meeting NCSS standards and because of revisions within the MAT programs. Some of the revisions began immediately and others will be implemented with the publication of the new catalog. The institution has also begun the process of preparing a Middle Grades (6-8) Social Studies Education program in the hopes that addition students will be encouraged to become teachers at the Middle Level.

Resources needed:

- 1. To facilitate organization, evaluation and dissemination of the data that is accumulating on Teacher Candidates, the Teacher Education Division needs access to a database collection system and technology support. Further, because of needed unit alignment, this system needs to mesh with programs utilized by the other divisions.***
- 2. Due to the retirement of a key faculty member, growing numbers of MAT students, and concerns about the use of adjunct university instructors and supervisors, additional faculty members are needed in the Teacher Education Division.***
- 3. Continued support from Social Science faculty in terms of programmatic changes, advising and the supervision of student interns is needed. It would be helpful to Social Science faculty if their activities in relation to this program were recognized in some formal way by the administration.***