

# MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

**The Masterful Teacher:  
A Reflective Practitioner,  
Facilitating Communities  
of Diverse Learners**



**St. Mary's College of Maryland**  
at Historic St. Mary's City

You may download the application at [www.smcm.edu/admissions/apply/apply\\_mat](http://www.smcm.edu/admissions/apply/apply_mat) and return it with other required materials.

# MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

## HOW TO APPLY

1. Submit this application, completed and signed, along with the required essay, and \$50.00 non-refundable fee to the Office of Admissions.
2. Arrange with all institutions of higher education to have your official transcripts sent to the Office of Admissions. If you are a current St. Mary's College of Maryland student completing an undergraduate degree, submit a transcript that includes your course work in progress for the fall term.
3. Submit scores (or registration form) for one of the following tests to the Office of Admissions:
  - PRAXIS I pre-professional skills tests in reading, writing, and math
  - SAT
  - ACT
  - GRE

Have these scores sent directly to SMCM from the Educational Testing Service. Please send scores to the Maryland State Department of Education.

4. Arrange to have two faculty members who have taught you in upper-division courses in your major field send letters of recommendation (use the enclosed form) to the Office of Admissions. Arrange to have someone who has supervised you in interactions with children or young adults submit a general letter of recommendation to the Office of Admissions as well. If it has been more than five years since you completed your undergraduate degree and you are unable to solicit such letters, please contact faculty in Educational Studies for other options. NOTE: Education faculty and staff do not write recommendations.

5. Application and supporting documentation are due to the Office of Admissions by October 1. Admissions decision letters will be mailed by mid-December. Late applications may be considered until April of the cohort year.

*St. Mary's College does not discriminate or condone discrimination on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, or marital status in any College activities or functions including, but not limited to, its admissions, programs, or employment practices. Inquiries concerning the College's responsibility may be directed to the College's Affirmative Action/EEOC Officer at 240-895-4309.*

## INTERVIEW

If you are not a St. Mary's College of Maryland graduate, an interview is required. Contact Dr. Lois Stover, Director of Teacher Education, at [lstover@smcm.edu](mailto:lstover@smcm.edu) or 240-895-2065.

## ESSAY

The purpose of the essay is for you to document your ability to engage in critical thinking, to articulate a well-reasoned point of view that reflects attention to multiple and diverse perspectives, to read creatively and with engagement, to reflect on important issues related to education as a profession and as a social institution, and to write in a way that models effective use of formal English grammar and mechanics.

You must choose two books from psychology, sociology, philosophy, history, journalism, literature, or education that address issues of educational interest. These works may be theoretical and research-based in nature, or they may be pragmatic (but still research-based) overviews of what to do in the classroom or what, in general, seems to work with specific groups of young people in specific situations.

Write a letter to the Educational Studies faculty arguing for the value of including your books in the curriculum of the M.A.T. You cannot assume the faculty will have read your titles (though it is very possible someone on the faculty will have done so), so you will have to provide a brief, global overview of the text, including a description of the authors' major premises, ways in which the authors document their perspectives, and the authors' credentials for writing about the topic. As you carry on with your persuasive letter, feel free to use "I" and to engage in "conversation" with the books, and to allow the authors/books to interact with each other. At the end of your letter, indicate how your own thinking has been challenged or deepened by your reading. And sign the letter appropriately – it is a letter, not a paper!

Here are some books that you might want to consider using for this activity:

Codell, E. (2001) *Educating Esmé: Diary of a Teacher's First Year*. Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill.

Zimmerman, S. (1997) *Mosaic of Thought: Teaching Comprehension in a Reader's Workshop*. Heinemann.

Paley, V. (2000) *White Teacher*. Harvard University Press.

Howard, G. (1999) *We Can't Teach What We Don't Know: White Teachers and the Transformative Vision*. Teachers College Press.

Payne, R. (2001) *Framework for Understanding Poverty*. aha! Process, Incorporated.

Ladson-Billings, R. (1997) *Dreamkeepers: Successful Teachers of African-American Children*. Jossey-Bass.

Latimer, L. (2005) *Higher Ground*. Indigo.

Grant, G. (1988) *The World We Created at Hamilton High*. Harvard University Press.

Suskind, R. (1999) *A Hope in the Unseen: An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League*. Broadway Books.

Orenstein, P. (1995) *Schoolgirls: Young Women, Self-Esteem, and the Confidence Gap*. Knopf Publishing Group.

Dewey, J. (1997) *Experience and Education*. Simon & Schuster Adult Publishing Group.

Gurian, M. (1997) *The Wonder of Boys: What Parents, Mentors and Educators Can Do to Shape Boys Into Exceptional Men*. Tarcher.

Gurian, M. (2003). *Wonder of Girls: Understanding the Hidden Nature of Our Daughters*. Simon & Schuster Adult Publishing Group.

Ashton-Warner, S. (1985). *Teacher*. Simon & Schuster Adult Publishing Group.

Achebe, C. (1994). *Things Fall Apart*. Doubleday & Company, Incorporated.

Danziger, P. (1997) *The Cat Ate My Gymsuit*. Putnam Juvenile.

Danielson, C. (1996) *Enhancing Professional Practice: A Framework for Teaching*. ASCD.

Marzano, R. (2003) *What Works in Schools: Translating Research into Action*. ASCD.

Marzano, R., Pickering, D., & Pollock, J. (2001) *Classroom Instruction That Works: Research-Based Strategies for Increasing Student Achievement*. ASCD.

Sarason, S. (1993). *You are Thinking of Teaching? Opportunities, Problems, Realities*. Jossey-Bass.

Gilson, J. (1997) *Do Bananas Chew Gum?* William Morrow & Company, Inc.

Wong, H. & Wong, T. (2004) *First Days of School: How to Be an Effective Teacher*. Wong, Harry K. Publications.

Kobrin, D. (2004) *In There With The Kids: Crafting Lessons That Connect With Students*. ASCD.

Books by Lisa Delpit, John Ogbu, Signithia Fordham and Maxine Green would also be useful to read for this assignment.

# APPLICATION (PLEASE COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS)

Office Use Only	_____
Date Received	_____
Check:	_____
Revised July 2009	

If you have any questions, you should e-mail the Office of Admissions (admissions@smcm.edu) or the Director of Teacher Education (ltstover@smcm.edu).

I wish to enter the M.A.T. program during the summer of \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST MIDDLE SUFFIX (JR., SR., ETC.) PREFERRED FIRST NAME

Have you ever been known by any other name?  Yes  No If yes, list: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Sex:  Male  Female

Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth (city, state, county): \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnic and Racial Origins *(Voluntary response requested for federal and state reporting purposes.)*

Are you of Hispanic or Latino/Latina origin?  Yes  No

What is your race? *Select one or more of the following categories:*

\_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Black or African-American \_\_\_\_\_ Asian  
 \_\_\_\_\_ American Indian or Alaska Native \_\_\_\_\_ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

U.S. Citizen?  Yes  No If no, type of visa: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: All non-immigrant alien students MUST provide a copy of an alien registration card (that is, visa, green card, etc.)

Permanent Address:

\_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER AND STREET/P.O. BOX CITY STATE ZIP CODE

Billing Address (if different from permanent):

\_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER AND STREET/P.O. BOX CITY STATE ZIP CODE

SMCM Campus Address (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ SMCM ID number: \_\_\_\_\_ SMCM Extension: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): Home: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## OFFICE USE ONLY

Transcripts from  
 College A \_\_\_\_\_  
 College B \_\_\_\_\_  
 College C \_\_\_\_\_  
 College D \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Date/Date of B.A.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 B.A. to be Received/Received from: \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Requisite courses taken/in progress:

Course	Grade Earned	Institution
1. Educational Psychology	_____	_____
2. Exceptionality	_____	_____
3. Child in America	_____	_____
4. Reflective Practice in Educational Studies	_____	_____
5. Appropriate developmental psychology course	_____	_____
6. Foundations of reading course	_____	_____
7. Non-western studies course/other experience	_____	_____

NOTE: Remember that elementary and elementary with early childhood certification seekers also need to complete 12 credits of math, 12 credits of science, and an American history or political science course.

# 2

## DATA ABOUT YOU

Is English the first language you learned to ...speak?  Yes  No ...read?  Yes  No ...write?  Yes  No

If English is not your first language, what is your first language? \_\_\_\_\_

When and in what context did you begin to learn English? \_\_\_\_\_

Graduates of St. Mary's? Please list members of your immediate family who have attended St. Mary's.

NAME	RELATIONSHIP TO YOU	DATES AT ST. MARY'S
NAME	RELATIONSHIP TO YOU	DATES AT ST. MARY'S

U.S. Military: Are you, or one of your parents, or your spouse/partner stationed on active military duty in Maryland?  Yes  No

If yes, do you/they live in Maryland?  Yes  No

If yes, do you/they anticipate leaving Maryland for another duty station?  Yes  No If yes, when? \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: Active duty members of the armed forces (and their spouse/partner and dependents) MUST provide most recent orders showing they are stationed in Maryland.**

## CERTIFICATION AREA

Undergraduate Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Undergraduate Minor (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

SMCM Educational Studies Minor?  Yes  No

Certification intended in (CHOOSE ONE):

\_\_\_ EDEL (grades 1-6)

\_\_\_ EDEL with EDEC (adds Pre-K and K)

\_\_\_ EDSC (grades 7-12): CHECK A CONTENT AREA

- Math  English  Social Studies (must have a major in history or political science)
- French  Spanish  German  Physics  Biology  Chemistry

\_\_\_ EDUC K-12 (grades Pre-K through 12)

- Art  Theater  Music (circle one):   vocal                   instrumental; name instrument \_\_\_\_\_

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

List here all institutions of higher education you have ever attended or are currently attending:

NAME OF COLLEGE CURRENTLY ATTENDING, IF APPLICABLE	LOCATION	ETS CODE	DATES	CREDITS
NAME OF COLLEGE B	LOCATION	ETS CODE	DATES	CREDITS
NAME OF COLLEGE C	LOCATION	ETS CODE	DATES	CREDITS
NAME OF COLLEGE D	LOCATION	ETS CODE	DATES	CREDITS

Have you ever been suspended, dismissed, or placed on probation by any institutions of higher education?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain circumstances on a separate sheet of paper and attach to this form.

Did you receive an AA degree?  Yes  No If yes, from what college? \_\_\_\_\_ What major? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you receive an AAT degree?  Yes  No If yes, from what college? \_\_\_\_\_ What major? \_\_\_\_\_

Overall GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA in your major: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA in education courses: \_\_\_\_\_

Test scores (choose as appropriate):

PRAXIS Pre-professional skills test score in writing: \_\_\_\_\_ Reading: \_\_\_\_\_ Math: \_\_\_\_\_

SAT: \_\_\_\_\_ ACT: \_\_\_\_\_ GRE: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3

List multicultural course (taken within the past five years) and year with institution (foreign language courses may apply):

COURSE TITLE	YEAR	INSTITUTION	GRADE EARNED
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List math courses (taken within the past five years) and year with institution (EDEL and EDEL/EDEC ONLY):

COURSE TITLE	YEAR	INSTITUTION	GRADE EARNED
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COURSE TITLE	YEAR	INSTITUTION	GRADE EARNED
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COURSE TITLE	YEAR	INSTITUTION	GRADE EARNED
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List science courses (taken within the past five years) and year with institution (EDEL and EDEL/EDEC ONLY):

COURSE TITLE	YEAR	INSTITUTION	GRADE EARNED
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COURSE TITLE	YEAR	INSTITUTION	GRADE EARNED
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COURSE TITLE	YEAR	INSTITUTION	GRADE EARNED
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List U.S. history or political science course taken within the past five years and year with institution (EDEL and EDEL/EDEC ONLY):

COURSE TITLE	YEAR	INSTITUTION	GRADE EARNED
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### REFERENCES

Provide the names of two faculty members who have taught you in upper-division major courses from whom you are requesting letters of recommendation (use enclosed form). NOTE: Education faculty and staff do not write recommendations to the M.A. T. program.

NAME OF FACULTY MEMBER

NAME OF FACULTY MEMBER

Provide the name of an individual who can attest to your ability to interact and communicate effectively with children or young adults:

NAME

PHONE NUMBER

### CERTIFICATION

(All applicants must read and sign below)

You may, at your discretion, supply any further information or credentials that you feel will help the Educational Studies Committee on Admissions make a fair and complete evaluation. (Please attach on separate paper.)

I certify that all the above information given in this application is complete and accurate. In making this application, I accept and agree to abide by the policies and regulations of St. Mary's College of Maryland (available in "To the Point" handbook at <http://www.smcm.edu/judicial>) concerning drug and alcohol abuse and understand that the unlawful use of drugs and alcohol will subject me to the penalties contained in those policies and regulations. Furthermore, I understand that I will have to complete a background check with fingerprinting in order to advance into the internship components of this M.A.T. program and that failure to do so will result in dismissal from the program.

Failure to complete all applicable sections of this application is likely to delay or prevent admission decisions.

Student Signature (required): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Office of Admissions  
St. Mary's College of Maryland  
18952 E. Fisher Road  
St. Mary's City, MD 20686

**Application Fee:**  
**attach a check for \$50.00 payable to**  
**Admissions - SMCM.**  
**Include the applicant's name in the memo line.**

## PROGRAM PRE-REQUISITES

In addition to the documentation outlined above, M.A.T. program participants must take the following courses before beginning the program. These undergraduate courses are available every semester at SMCM – and often available at community colleges and other four-year institutions as well. Please check with Registrar's Office for transfer acceptability. All prerequisite course work must be completed with a grade of C or better. The courses listed here are those available at St. Mary's College of Maryland. Consult with Educational Studies faculty prior to taking courses at other institutions in order to determine course equivalencies.

## GPA REQUIREMENTS - ALL APPLICANTS

- 2.75 cumulative
- 3.0 major
- 3.0 education courses (outlined below)

## ELEMENTARY CANDIDATES (GRADES 1-6 =EDEL)

- \* Introduction to Psychology - PSYC 101
- \* Child in America – EDUC 206
- \* Language Acquisition and Phonemic Awareness – EDUC 296
- \* Exceptionality – EDSP/PSYC 336
- \* Educational Psychology – EDUC/PSYC 368
- \* Infant and Child Development – PSYC 331
- \* ESL Across the Curriculum – EDUC 394 or EDUC 491 (4cr)
- \* 12 credits of math
- \* 12 credits of science
- \* 4 credits of American history (pre-1865) or government
- \* Course work reflecting non-western perspectives (often taken routinely as part of the major)

## ELEMENTARY WITH EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CANDIDATES

Elementary candidates seeking additional credentials in Early Childhood Education will be required to take an additional methods course during the M.A.T. The scheduling of the course will depend upon the cohort needs, but will be offered during the program.

## SECONDARY CANDIDATES (GRADES 7-12 = EDSC)

- \*Major in the appropriate content field with appropriate breadth/depth
- \*Introduction to Psychology - PSYC 101
- \*Child in America – EDUC 206
- \*Language Acquisition and Phonemic Awareness – EDUC 296
- \*Exceptionality – EDSP/PSYC 336
- \*Educational Psychology – EDUC/PSYC 368
- \*Adolescence – PSYC 333
- \* ESL Across the Curriculum – EDUC 394 or EDUC 491 (3cr)
- \*Course work reflecting non-western perspectives (often taken routinely as part of the major)

## K-12 CANDIDATES (GRADES PRE-K-12 IN ART, MUSIC, THEATER=EDUC)

- \*Major in the appropriate content field with appropriate breadth/depth
- \*Introduction to Psychology - PSYC 101
- \*Child in America – EDUC 206
- \*Language Acquisition and Phonemic Awareness – EDUC 296
- \*Exceptionality – EDSP/PSYC 336
- \*Educational Psychology – EDUC/PSYC 368
- \*Infant and Child Development – PSYC 230 Lifespan and Development
- \* ESL Across the Curriculum – EDUC 394 or EDUC 491 (4cr)
- \*Course work reflecting non-western perspectives (often taken routinely as part of the major)
- \*Music majors should complete any four one-credit methods courses in strings, brass, percussion, etc.

## PROGRAM COURSES TYPICALLY OFFERED BY SMCM IN THE TRADITIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL SESSION

- \*Child in America – EDUC 206
- \*Exceptionality – EDSP/PSYC 336
- \*Educational Psychology – EDUC/PSYC 368
- \* ESL Across the Curriculum – EDUC 394 or EDUC 491 (4cr)

## PROGRAM COMPLETION

M.A.T. participants who successfully complete the program course work with a 3.0 average or better, successfully complete all aspects of the internship, submit an acceptable portfolio, and achieve passing scores on the appropriate PRAXIS II tests will be eligible for "approved program" certification in Maryland. Names of program completers will be sent to the Maryland State Department of Education, after which individuals may apply for their teaching certificate. Individuals who meet criteria are eligible for Maryland's "Meritorious New Teacher Candidate" title, which simplifies certification across state borders. But, in general, approved program certification allows for reciprocity with minimal additional requirements in approximately 37 other states.

## OTHER IMPORTANT NOTES

- \* There are no residential/on-campus living options for M.A.T. students during the regular academic year. Housing is available for the mid-May through June traditional summer session.
- \* All internship experiences will be fulfilled in either St. Mary's County or Baltimore City public schools.
- \* All program participants are charged full-time tuition for the fall and spring terms.
- \* All program participants pay the per-credit rate for the July (Summer I – 11 cr) course work and for the May/June (Summer II – 2 cr) course work, as well as the per-credit rate for any courses taken at the undergraduate level through "Continuing Education" or in the traditional summer session. Students who plan to earn the EDEL/ECE credentials will pay additional tuition (a per-credit charge) for the requisite methods courses for those credentials.
- \*All program participants will pay a \$1,330 M.A.T. Program fee, in addition to all regular full-time student fees
- \*All admitted students will be required to bring a personal laptop computer with them into the program; specifications will be provided in the admissions letter.
- \*The program will admit approximately 40 students a year, with approximately 25 elementary candidates and 15 secondary/K-12 candidates enrolled.
- \*The program is a full-time cohort program; that is, there are no electives and no options for part-time enrollment.
- \*Students should check with the Business Office at 240-895-4315 for summer session balance. Payment is due at time of registration. Fall tuition bills are mailed in mid-June with payment due in July; spring tuition bills are mailed in mid-November with payment due in December. Students will be cancelled from classes for non-payment.
- \*Out-of-state students who complete their degree at SMCM and then enter the M.A.T. program will be charged in-state tuition for their graduate year.
- \*Though not a requirement for admission, students are strongly encouraged to take the PRAXIS II content area examinations in the areas you intend to teach while still an undergraduate. The tests may be better to manage while you are still taking content-related coursework. If you have questions, please contact the Director of Teacher Education.

## FINANCIAL AID

- \*After graduation, students are no longer eligible for many of their undergraduate scholarships and loans.
- \*After graduation, students are eligible for federal Stafford loans, and the limit increases for graduate study. Also, during senior year, students can apply for more than the norm – and then, exercising discipline in spending the funds, can apply funds to the first summer session (mid-May through June) if necessary.
- \*Alumni Scholarship: Each year the Alumni Council selects one awardee to receive a \$5,000, one-time award for a graduating senior or an alumna/us pursuing a professional or graduate degree (the grant is provided by an anonymous donor). You can download an application at [www.smcm.edu/alum\\_documents/postgradscholapp.pdf](http://www.smcm.edu/alum_documents/postgradscholapp.pdf).
- \*Other Maryland scholarships, as noted on the MHEC Web site, [www.mhec.state.md.us](http://www.mhec.state.md.us), may be applied towards the M.A.T.

Contact the SMCM Office of Financial Aid for help at [finaid@smcm.edu](mailto:finaid@smcm.edu) or at [www.smcm.edu/financialaid](http://www.smcm.edu/financialaid).

NOT JUST AN HONORS PROGRAM . . .  
AN ENTIRE HONORS COLLEGE

St. Mary's College of Maryland  
Office of Admissions  
18952 E. Fisher Road  
St. Mary's City, MD 20686

800-492-7181  
[admissions@smcm.edu](mailto:admissions@smcm.edu)  
[www.smcm.edu/admissions](http://www.smcm.edu/admissions)

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