



## MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING Grades Pre-K through Three (548)

Northwestern State University (NSU) is proud to offer the M.A.T. in Early Childhood Education (Grades Pre-K through 3). This program prepares teachers seeking alternate certification to work with young children, their families, and their communities. The degree program is comprised of Education courses and a Practicum experience that address the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) standards, and the program involves advanced candidates in strengthening their knowledge, skills, and dispositions relating to working with children from birth to eight years. It is nationally recognized by NAEYC and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). Through the completion of coursework, students engage in critical and creative thinking and problem solving as they practice differentiating content to meet all students' needs while modeling culturally responsive practices.

The program seeks to prepare teachers of young children for real classrooms in the real world. Students are consistently involved in analyzing best practices for teaching young children, designing and implementing developmentally appropriate activities for their classrooms, and assessing and documenting their students' achievement. Graduate students also learn to plan and evaluate child-centered emergent curricula and design environments that promote growth in all domains. They explore STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) teaching approaches that focus on children's needs and interests, such as the Project Approach and the Reggio Emilia Approach. Finally, they engage in problem-solving and brainstorming solutions for issues that often arise in today's classrooms while enhancing family engagement and family literacy.



### The following courses are taken by all candidates seeking a master's degree and teacher certification in Grades PK-3 through the MAT program:

- ECED 5010 Advanced Child Development
- ECED 5530 Positive Relationships with Children, Families, and Communities
- ECED 5560 Early Childhood/Primary Learning Space Design
- ECED 5570 Early Childhood/Primary Curriculum and Standards
- ECED 5580 Early Childhood/Primary Practicum
- RDG 5030 Dyslexia and the Science of Reading: Foundations of Literacy Instruction
- RDG 5020 Early Childhood/Primary Reading Instruction
- RDG 5510 Diagnosis and Correction of Reading Disabilities
- SPED 5510 The Study of Individuals with Disabilities
- EDUC 5840 Research Based Decision-Making in Education
- ETEC 5610 Technology Integration for P-12 Digital Age Learning

### ALL COURSES MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO ENROLLING IN:

- EDUC 5450 Early Childhood Internship in Teaching I
- EDUC 5451 Early Childhood Internship in Teaching II

Praxis Requirements: Content Exam 7001 (to be admitted); PLT 5621 (to enter Residency I).

## Program Admission

For those seeking admission to the M.A.T. in Early Childhood Education program, please submit the following to NSU's Graduate School (1) an application for admission (<https://graduateschool.nsula.edu/admissions/>), (2) official transcript(s) of undergraduate work or degree earned, and (3) two letters of recommendation.



## Application Process

1. Complete the College of Education and Human Development (COEHD) application for admission to an alternate certification program. Return this application and the attached Louisiana Department of Education Professional Conduct Form to the NSU Office of Teacher Certification, with a resume and official transcripts from all colleges attended as well as PRAXIS scores (if you have taken those tests).
2. Complete a Graduate School application (available at: <https://graduateschool.nsula.edu/admissions/>). All students who are admitted to an Alternate Certification program must also be admitted to the Graduate School. For Graduate School information, please call 1-800-232-9892.
3. Register for and present passing scores on the following examination:
  - a. PRAXIS II Content Area exam in your certification area (7001)



**NORTHWESTERN STATE**  
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Candidates must be admitted to Northwestern State Graduate School.

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School of Education  
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318-357-5067

### Dr. Katrina Jordan

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/NSULA-College-of-Education-and-Human-Development

### The Graduate School

Room 123, Caspari Hall  
318-357-5851  
Toll-Free: 1-800-232-9892  
[grad\\_school@nsula.edu](mailto:grad_school@nsula.edu)  
[graduateschool.nsula.edu](http://graduateschool.nsula.edu)

Visit us at: [education.nsula.edu/](http://education.nsula.edu/)

## QUESTIONS?

### University Recruiting

318-357-4503 • [recruiting@nsula.edu](mailto:recruiting@nsula.edu)

### Admissions

318-357-4078 • [applications@nsula.edu](mailto:applications@nsula.edu)

### Financial Aid and Scholarships

318-357-5961 • [nsufinaid@nsula.edu](mailto:nsufinaid@nsula.edu)

**ACCREDITATION:** Northwestern State University is accredited by the Commission of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia, Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award associate, baccalaureate, master's, specialist's, and doctoral degrees.

Northwestern's College of Education and Human Development has been continuously accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) since its initial accreditation in 1954. All teacher and other school professional preparation programs are recognized as accredited by the NCATE. This designation describes the professional education unit's conceptual framework and provides evidence which demonstrates that the NCATE six standards are met.

**NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION:** Northwestern State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, genetic information, age, pregnancy or parenting status, and veteran or retirement status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individuals have been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies (i.e., Title IX): Employees/Potential Employees – Veronica M. Biscoe, EEO Officer (318-357-6359) and Students – Reatha Cox, Dean of Students (318-357-5285). For Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) concerns, contact the Accessibility and Disability Support Director, Taylor Camidge, at 318-357-5460. Additionally, Northwestern complies with the Jeanne Cery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy & Campus Crime Statistics Act. Information about NSU's campus security and crime statistics can be found at <https://www.nsula.edu/universityaffairs/police/>. Full disclosure statement: <https://www.nsula.edu/tehr/>.