MASTER OF ARTS
IN TEACHING

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online.shorter.edu
WHO WE ARE Founded in 1873 and located in Rome, Georgia, Shorter University is a private, liberal arts university with a legacy of academic excellence and a dynamic Christian heritage. Shorter University has been ranked as one of the “Top 20 Southern Comprehensive Colleges” by U.S. News and World Report since 2002 and as a “Best in the Southeast” and a “Best Value College” by The Princeton Review.

137 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Shorter University has a rich history of providing students with a quality education in an intentionally Christian atmosphere. Shorter University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate, baccalaureate and master’s degrees.

OUR MISSION The Mission of Shorter University is to provide quality higher education, enabling and encouraging student commitment to active, life-long learning; personal spiritual values; responsible citizenship; and community and societal leadership in a global context.

The University seeks to accomplish this Mission through quality undergraduate liberal arts programs, specialized professional programs, and select graduate programs.

Geographically distant locations and online classes provide educational opportunities to individuals who are unable to attend classes in a traditional setting. The University affirms a commitment to the Christian faith and strives to integrate Christian values within a nurturing community in its whole process of education.
The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in Early Childhood Education program is designed to provide talented and committed college graduates with a challenging program of study while preparing them for careers as Pre-Kindergarten through grade 5 (P-5) teachers. The degree combines graduate level work with field experience to produce exceptionally well-qualified candidates for the teaching profession. Graduates will enter the teaching profession with highly-developed skills in both educational theory and practice.

The curriculum for Shorter University’s MAT in Early Childhood Education is based on the Teacher Preparation Program Conceptual Framework and on the Goals and Objectives of the Early Childhood Advanced Programs. The program requirements are continually updated to reflect the current requirements for teacher certification in the State of Georgia.

Coursework for the MAT in Early Childhood Education is taught in an exclusively online format, except that students are required to visit the Shorter University campus in Rome, Georgia, for a graduate education orientation and a seminar prior to student teaching.

The MAT in Early Childhood Education is a 45 semester hour program. Students will also spend 75 days student teaching in a P-5 classroom setting.

COURSES IN TEACHING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Our online Master of Arts in Teaching in Early Childhood Education courses are comprised of 45 credit hours. Each online course lasts for eight weeks and there are six terms each year.

Students will take the following courses:

- Introduction to Graduate Education 1 Credit Hour*
- The 21st-Century Elementary School 3 Credit Hours
- Child Development and Learning 3 Credit Hours
- Teaching Exceptional Learners 3 Credit Hours
- Planning and Organizing Instruction 3 Credit Hours
- Initial Field Experience 1 Credit Hour
- Managing the Classroom 3 Credit Hours
- Assessing Teaching and Learning 3 Credit Hours
- The Arts in the Elementary Classroom 3 Credit Hours
- Reading and Language Arts 3 Credit Hours
- Children’s Literature 3 Credit Hours
- Teaching Mathematics in ECE 3 Credit Hours
- Teaching Science Through Inquiry 3 Credit Hours
- Social Studies in a Global Context 3 Credit Hours
- Student Teaching Seminar 1 Credit Hour*
- Student Teaching 6 Credit Hours

*Each of these courses requires the student to visit the Shorter University campus in Rome, Georgia, for several days.
Through online learning, obtaining a quality and highly respected degree from Shorter University is easier than ever. Students who cannot meet regularly during the school week because of employment, family matters, and other commitments now have a solution. Online classes are administered in an asynchronous format – students log into the course, retrieve their assignments, submit work, and take quizzes when their schedules permit.

CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

CAREERS AS A TEACHER

Early Childhood Teachers help young students develop the skills and knowledge to help shape their lives and future. Most elementary school teachers educate students on various subjects and may use fun tools to teach basic skills. Teachers also plan and execute lessons while teaching basic behavioral skills and discipline.

Despite the rewards of a teaching career, America faces a shortage of teachers. Demand for teachers in Georgia is expected to increase significantly. The Georgia Department of Labor has predicted a more than 23% increase in the K-12 teacher workforce between 2006 and 2016. Nationally, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment opportunities for teachers in Early Childhood are expected to grow by up to 16 percent from 2008 to 2018.

Salaries for Kindergarten and Elementary School teachers in Georgia.
(Source: Georgia Department of Labor, 2009) $37,000 to $59,000
To be accepted into Shorter’s MAT in Early Childhood Education, applicants must:

- Complete an application
- Have earned a bachelor’s degree from a regionally-accredited college or university with an undergraduate grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 grading scale
- Have a total adjusted GPA of 2.75 or higher on all teaching field course work.
- Submit passing scores on the GACE Basic Skills Assessment
- Submit a Writing Sample
- Submit two (2) recommendations from individuals who can attest to the candidate’s qualifications
- Accept the Code of Ethics for Educators by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission
- Provide proof of liability insurance through SGAE-SPAGE.
- Provide documentation of an acceptable criminal background check.
- Submit a personal statement of purpose, not to exceed 200 words, that identifies the applicant’s reasons for pursuing graduate study and how admission to the program relates to the applicant’s professional aspirations.
- Be accepted for admission to the program by the Education Graduate Committee.
- Students will also need to purchase a Flip video camera capable of recording at least 60 minutes of video.
APPLYING

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Complete the online application here.
2. Submit the $25 application fee
3. Submit all forms and transcripts from EACH institution previously attended
4. Submit GACE scores
5. Submit writing sample
6. Submit a personal statement of purpose
7. Submit proof of liability insurance
8. Submit criminal background check documentation
9. Two recommendation letters

*Once all of the necessary documentation has been received and reviewed, an admission decision will be made, and students will be contacted via e-mail.

For more information, please visit our Online Campus at http://online.shorter.edu/admissions or contact:

Kevin Aronhalt
Online Enrollment Counselor
Main: 706-233-7789
Cell: 706-676-4162
karohnalt@shorter.edu

Darleatha Ramirez
Online Enrollment Counselor
Main: 706-233-7622
Cell: 706-936-8654
dramirez@shorter.edu

WHY SHORTER UNIVERSITY?

• A well-established institution with a reputation for educational excellence.
• Superior academic programs and high-quality instruction.
• A caring Christian atmosphere.
• Small class sizes.
• A substantial level of individualized attention given to each student from their professors.
• A faculty in which two-thirds of the professors hold the highest degree available in their fields of expertise.
Shorter University understands the potential struggles associated with financing a college education, and it is our goal to work with students on any financial aid issues. To provide more flexibility, Shorter University offers three different payment options, which can be found on our Web site at http://online.shorter.edu/admissions/payment-options.

**TUITION & FEES**

- $350 per credit hour
- $25 Tech fee per course
- $25 Application fee
- $36 Taskstream fee
- $150 Graduation fee

For more information, please visit our Online Campus at http://online.shorter.edu or contact:

**Samantha Tew**
Student Account Coordinator
706-233-7211
stew@shorter.edu

**FINANCIAL AID**

We encourage all students to apply for financial aid as soon as possible by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

For more information, please visit our Online Campus at http://online.shorter.edu or contact:

**Krista Huckaby**
Financial Aid Advisor
706-233-7423
khuckaby@shorter.edu