

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND TEACHING
DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

The Department of Curriculum and Teaching is the largest department in the College of Education at Auburn University. Currently, 1000 undergraduate students and over 250 graduate students are enrolled in programs that prepare teachers and leaders in 11 areas of specialization. Each program emphasizes the analysis and refinement of curriculum theories and teaching strategies that are appropriate for that area of specialization. In order to satisfy state certification requirements, the Department and local school systems cooperate to provide appropriate laboratory experience at all levels of preparation. All faculty members have earned doctorates in their respective teaching fields. All of the Department's graduate programs are accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and approved by the Alabama State Board of Education.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

The Department offers programs of study that lead to Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degrees in the following areas of specialization:

- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Education
- Music Education
- Reading Education
- Secondary English Language Arts Education
- Secondary Mathematics Education
- Secondary Science Education
- Secondary Social Science Education

The Department offers a program of study that leads to a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree in Career and Technical Education (with areas of specialization in Agriscience Education and Business Education).

ADMISSION

Admission to graduate programs in the Department of Curriculum and Teaching is competitive in respect to past achievement, scholarship potential, and professionalism. *The Department makes admissions decisions based on the compatibility of the applicant's goals with the departmental resources, the availability of spaces for new students, and a holistic evaluation of the applicant's potential for success in the program.* To be considered for full admission to graduate programs in the Department, students must have

- **A bachelor's or a master's degree from an accredited college or university and competitive graduate and undergraduate grade point**

averages, both cumulative and in the area of specialization. Typically, students admitted to doctoral programs in the Department have graduate grade point averages exceeding 3.0 and excellent grades in their respective areas of specialization.

- **Competitive Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores for Verbal and Quantitative tests.**

Typically, students admitted to doctoral programs in the Department have GRE Verbal Subtest scores above 450, Quantitative Subtest scores above 450, and Combined Verbal and Quantitative Subtest scores above 1000. Scores more than five years old cannot be used unless the applicant has completed a graduate program at an accredited institution since taking the test and can provide official copies of the scores. In addition to competitive GRE scores, international applicants must submit scores of at least 550 on the TOEFL paper version (pBT), 213 on the computer version (cBT), and 79 on the internet version (iBT) with scores of at least 16 on the listening, reading, speaking, and writing components of the iBT.

- **At least three letters of recommendation that address professional and academic qualifications.**

Ask references to send their letters to Dr. Andrew M. Weaver, Head, Department of Curriculum and Teaching, 5040 Haley Center, Auburn University, AL 36849.

- **A brief current résumé and statement of purpose (maximum, three pages) discussing (a) reasons for wishing to pursue the doctoral degree and (b) current professional or research interests.**

Send these documents to Dr. Andrew M. Weaver, Head, Department of Curriculum and Teaching, 5040 Haley Center, Auburn University, AL 36849.

- **Approval by the Department's Graduate Studies Committee, Department Head, and faculty members in the applicant's area of specialization, which may require additional evidence to support the application.**

At least three years of successful teaching experience in grades K-12 is desirable for applicants for doctoral programs.

The department will not admit applicants for doctoral programs on a provisional basis. The admissions committee will consider applicants' admission packets only when all of the above information, including GRE scores, is available to them. However, students wishing to take post-

master's degree course work on a probationary basis should consult with the appropriate program coordinator to see if temporary admission as a non-degree student or as a specialist's degree student is advisable.

Inquiries regarding exceptions to these admissions standards should be addressed to the Department Head or to the Graduate Program Officer.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

All graduate applications must be completed by April 1 for Summer Semester admission, July 1 for Fall Semester admission, and November 1 for Spring Semester admission. Applications not complete by the deadline dates will be considered for the next available admission date.

GRADUATE RECORD EXAMINATIONS

All students wishing admission to graduate programs at Auburn University must submit recent scores for the General Test portion of the Graduate Record Examination. Computer versions of the test are administered several times monthly at more than 200 sites in the United States, including Prometric Testing Centers in Montgomery and Birmingham, AL. Prospective students near Auburn can pick up a copy of the current *GRE Information and Registration Bulletin* at Testing Services, 315 Martin Hall (telephone 334-844-5972). Additional information about the GRE may be found at www.gre.org

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

Doctoral students should consult with their major professors regarding residency requirements. The doctoral student and the major professor design the student's residency so that the doctoral student will:

- Be directly engaged in research with the major professor.
- Have access to the research tools needed for the research program.
- Be immersed in the culture or atmosphere of graduate education.
- Be engaged in the professional activities of the discipline.
- Have time to concentrate and complete the research activity in a reasonable period of time.

DOCTORAL COMMITTEES

Upon admission, every doctoral student is assigned an adviser, who helps the student select an advisory committee. Advisory committees consist of at least three qualified faculty members, including the adviser. The advisory committee must approve the student's plan of study and conducts the student's general examination.

PLANS OF STUDY

Doctor of Philosophy programs require at least 80 semester hours beyond the bachelor's degree, generally including at least 30 hours in the teaching field (e.g., Elementary Education, History, English, Music), 18 hours of research course work, and 10 hours of research and dissertation. Additional course work in pedagogy; evaluation; human behavior, development, and learning; social action or political perspectives; and technology applications vary by areas of specialization.

The Doctor of Education program in Career and Technical Education requires at least 60 semester hours, distributed much as they are in Ph.D. programs.

Although students' doctoral committees are authorized to accept credit for appropriate graduate courses completed at other accredited institutions, at least 18 hours, in addition to the 10 hours of dissertation research, must be earned at Auburn University, Auburn campus.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Before the degree is conferred, each student must develop at least one scholarly manuscript and submit it to the editor of a refereed professional journal. In addition, each student must contract with his or her doctoral committee to complete at least three professional experiences related to work in higher education, for example, teaching in undergraduate professional courses, supervising interns, making scholarly presentations at conferences, presenting in-service sessions to teachers, conducting independent or joint research, or developing and submitting a grant proposal. Doctoral committees are authorized to credit students with appropriate documented professional experiences completed before admission to the doctoral program.

EXAMINATIONS

A general examination is required of all doctoral students. Usually taken after course work has been completed, the general examination consists of a written examination followed by an oral examination. Upon successful completion of the general examination, the student becomes a candidate for the degree and has four calendar years to complete the dissertation and to defend it successfully at the final examination.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Current tuition and fees are listed on the University's web page. Out-of-state residents who receive graduate assistantships pay in-state tuition. Students appointed to graduate teaching assistantships pay no tuition. The registration fee is the responsibility of the student.

A limited number of graduate teaching assistantships and graduate research assistantships are available in the Department and in the College of Education. Applications may be secured from the department head. Additional information regarding grants and loans is available from Student Financial Services, 203 Martin Hall, Auburn University, AL 36849-5144 (telephone 334-844-4723).

WHAT OTHERS SAY

College guides frequently cite Auburn for successfully combining high academic standards and low cost. During recent years, Auburn University has been commended by

Money and *Fortune* magazines, *Guide to the 101 Best Values in America's Colleges and Universities*, *College Cost Planner*, *Best Buys in College of Education*, and others.

INTERNET CONNECTIONS

To obtain information about the Department's graduate program, please review the following Web sites:

www.auburn.edu

From Auburn University's home page, you can access general information about the university. You can access the current University Bulletin from this site.

www.grad.auburn.edu

The Graduate School's page contains an introduction to the Graduate School and provides several methods to access the University Bulletin, to request additional information, and to obtain information about specific departments. Prospective students can complete an electronic application at this site.

education.auburn.edu/academics/depts/ct

The Department's site contains information about its programs; application requirements and procedures; faculty and their teaching, research, and outreach interests; and contact information regarding faculty and staff.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, contact one of the faculty members listed below or address inquiries to the Department of Curriculum and Teaching, 5040 Haley Center, Auburn University, AL 36849-5212. Faculty may be reached by telephone at 334-844-4434 or by FAX at 334-844-6789.

For General Information about Graduate Studies

- Department Head - Dr. Andrew M. Weaver (weaveam@auburn.edu)
- Graduate Program Officer - Dr. Kimberly C. Walls (currppo@auburn.edu)

For Information about an Area of Specialization

- Career and Technical Education - Dr. Bonnie J. White (whitebj@auburn.edu)
- Early Childhood Education - Dr. Steven B. Silvern (silvesb@auburn.edu)
- Elementary Education - Dr. Andrew M. Weaver (weaveam@auburn.edu)
- English Language Arts Education - Dr. Barbara H. Ash (ashbarb@auburn.edu)
- Mathematics Education - Dr. Marilyn Strutchens (strutme@auburn.edu)
- Music Education - Dr. Kimberly C. Walls (wallski@auburn.edu)
- Reading Education - Dr. Edna G. Brabham (brabhed@auburn.edu)
- Science Education - Dr. Charles Eick (eickcha@auburn.edu)
- Social Science Education - Dr. John W. Saye, Jr. (sayejoh@auburn.edu)

Address general inquiries about admissions to the Graduate School, Hargis Hall, Auburn University, AL 36849-5122 (telephone 334-844-4700 or e-mail gradadm@auburn.edu).

Auburn University is an equal opportunity educational institution/employer.

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Web Page:

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