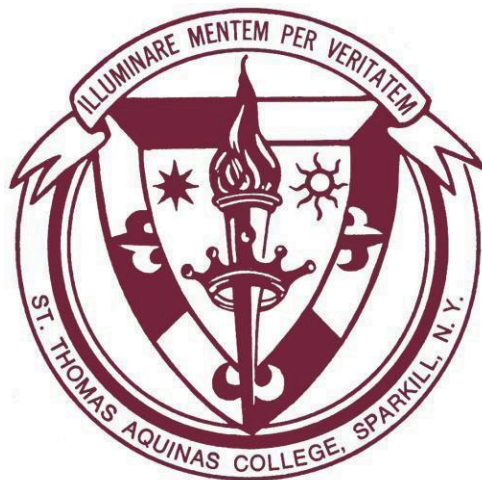




2025-2026 GRADUATE CATALOG



THIS CATALOG PROVIDES A GENERAL LISTING OF INFORMATION ON THE COLLEGE.

PLEASE VISIT OUR [WEBSITE](#) FOR MORE DETAILS.

**PLEASE VISIT OUR [CONSUMER INFORMATION WEBPAGE](#) FOR PERTINENT
INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES.**

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History of the College

St. Thomas Aquinas College is an independent College of liberal arts and sciences located in Sparkill, New York. The College is empowered by the State of New York to grant the Master of Science in Education, Master of Science in Teaching, Master of Business Administration, Master of Public Administration in Criminal Justice, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Science in Education, Associate in Arts, and Associate in Science degrees.

The College opened in 1952 and currently offers more than 100 academic majors, minors, and specializations at the undergraduate level and eleven graduate programs in business, education, and criminal justice. In addition to its own graduate programs, the College enjoys articulation agreements with many colleges and universities, making it possible for graduates to pursue advanced degrees in academic areas not currently being offered by the College itself.

The College enrolls students each year at all levels of study, without regard to race, sex, color, age, national origin, religious affiliation, or physical limitations. The majority of undergraduate students are full-time, and freshmen typically enroll after high school, with 60% choosing to reside on campus. Graduate students are most often working professionals in the areas of business, criminal justice, and education and thus are part-time students. The College's 14,000 alumni reside primarily in the Middle Atlantic States, although alumni do live, work, and study across the country and the globe.

The Mission of St. Thomas Aquinas College flows from its founders, the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill, and reflects core Dominican and Roman Catholic values. The principle of "enlightening the mind through truth" serves as a philosophical underpinning to a college education committed to rigorous scholarly work and the preparation of students as articulate and responsible leaders in a global society. St. Thomas Aquinas College creates a welcoming environment to enhance a living-learning experience that fosters intellectual, moral, social, and spiritual growth.

Mission Statement

St. Thomas Aquinas College seeks to challenge, guide, and energize each student to realize and create their own path to success and commit themselves to making a profound difference in the world.

Vision Statement

St. Thomas Aquinas College endeavors to be a vibrant, inclusive learning community that is the top choice for students who seek a leading-edge, transformative education that is rooted in the liberal arts, and prepares them for success in a changing world.

Values and Commitments

Commitment to Access and Affordability

Access to higher education has been a core principle of the College since its founding. We are committed to providing access to all students, especially those from diverse learning backgrounds and those who have been historically underrepresented due to social and economic

inequities—for example, first-generation students and students of color. Since access is often about financial limitations, our commitment to education as a practice of social justice is to provide a quality education that is affordable by offering financial support to those students in need.

However, our commitment to access does not end once students are here. Our low student- to-faculty ratio allows students to work directly with highly credentialed faculty who are actively engaged in research and scholarship but are committed first and foremost to teaching and mentoring. Through them, students have access to a rigorous, transformative curriculum. To help realize that path, students can access a range of outstanding internships, community service opportunities, research projects, clubs, and championship athletics.

Commitment to a Diverse Learning Community

We are committed to academic excellence. This means we are a responsive community, one that listens to our diverse and ever-changing student body. It means that diversity is reflected in the range of courses we offer, in the backgrounds and scholarly interests of our faculty, in the services we provide to support students, and in the identities and personal and academic pursuits of our students. It means we strive to provide opportunities for rich inquiry and encourage intellectual risk-taking. It means we understand and value the importance of educating not only informed but also compassionate citizens who, because they have been exposed to diverse experiences and voices, are prepared to participate in local and global conversations.

Commitment to Lifelong Learning

We are committed to learning as a lifelong practice. As soon as students enroll, they are supported in their academic, personal, and professional pursuits. And our relationships with students and the opportunities for learning and connecting don't end at graduation; we maintain connections with our alumni, supporting them as they venture into the world to pursue their dreams. Many students return to STAC for graduate school, and to participate in forums and panels, travel with other alumni, collaborate with professors on research, and even mentor and teach the next generation of Spartans. After all: Once a Spartan, always a Spartan.

Commitment to Nurturing the Whole Self

We are committed to providing opportunities to develop the whole self because we understand that a meaningful college experience provides more than just intellectual growth. Learning is not limited to the classroom. Opportunities are everywhere to cultivate curiosity and engage in critical and creative self-exploration: from First Year Seminar to the Career Center; from Lougheed Library and Bloomberg Professional Lab to the Spartan Athletic Complex; from the Center for Academic Excellence to the Center for Social Justice; from on-campus jobs to off-campus internships and other experiential learning opportunities; from Sullivan Theatre to the residence halls. Every corner and office of the campus actively leads to self-improvement.

And while we are proud that STAC feels like home to our residential and commuter students alike, we want them to deepen their learning by exploring the vibrant areas close to campus. Thirty minutes north of campus is Harriman State Park; thirty minutes south is New York City. Students can access everything from jobs, internships, and volunteer opportunities to museums, galleries, concert venues, restaurants, and parks and recreation sites. We strive to be Spartans on the field, in the

classroom, and across our communities.

Non-Discrimination Policy

The College does not discriminate against students, faculty, staff, and other beneficiaries on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, genetic predisposition, carrier status, veteran status, or religious affiliation in admission to, or in the provision of its programs and services. The Section 504 Coordinator, the Title IX Coordinator, and the Age Act Coordinator is the Director of Human Resources, Borelli Hall 206E, ext. 4044.

St. Thomas Aquinas College provides reasonable accommodations that ensure equal access to the College's programs, services, and activities without charge to faculty, staff and students in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. These include:

- Reasonable accommodations as required by Section 504 and ADA
- Special dietary accommodations with Campus Dining Services
- Accessible on-campus housing
- Consultation for assistance in developing self-advocacy and networking skills

The Office of Disability Services recognizes people with disabilities as unique individuals and provides opportunities for self-advocacy, academic and personal growth. Reasonable accommodations are granted on a case-by-case basis to students and employees who disclose a disability and register with the Office of Disability Services. Reasonable accommodations allow individuals with disabilities to enjoy equal access to fully participate in academic, employment and campus life. To find out more about reasonable accommodations, you are invited to contact the Office of Disability Services, Spellman Hall Room 109, (845) 398-4087.

INVENTORY OF PROGRAMS				
REGISTERED BY THE NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT				
Program Title	Program Code	HEGIS No.	Award	CIPC Code
Accounting/MBA, CPA License Qualifying	22890	0502/0506	BS/M.B.A.	52.0301
Adolescence & Students w/ Disabilities Gen 7-12	44665	0803	M.S.T.	13.1205
Adolescence Ed: Mathematics/Students w/Disabilities 7-12	36393	0808.00	M.S.Ed.	13.1311
Adolescence Ed: Social Studies/SWD Gen 7-12	36394	0808.00	M.S.Ed.	13.1318
Adolescence Education & Students with Disabilities All Grades	26057	0803	M.S.T.	13.1205
Adolescent Ed: Spanish/Students w/Disabilities 7-12	36392	0808.00	M.S. Ed.	13.1019
Art Ed .(K- 12) & Students with Disabilities (1-6)	38130	0831	M.S.T.	50.0799
Art Ed .(K- 12) & Students with Disabilities Gen(7-12)	44650	0831	M.S.T.	50.0799
Art Education	36650	0831	M.S.T.	13.1302
Art Education (K-12) and Students with Disabilities All Grades	38131	0831	M.S.T.	50.0799
Artificial Intelligence	44227	0506	Adv. Cert.	11.0102
Autism Spectrum Disorder	35936	0808	Adv. Cert.	13.1013
Business Admin Non-Business Track	39778	0506	M.B.A.	52.0201
Business Administration	34548	0506	Adv. Cert.	52.0201
Business Administration-General	22890	0506	M.B.A.	52.0301
Business Administration/Management	19164	0506	M.B.A.	52.0201
Business Analytics	44230	0506	Adv. Cert.	30.7102
Childhood Education 1-6 and Student with Disabilities All Grades	26058	0808	M.S.T.	13.1017
Childhood Education and Spec. Ed (All Grades	36391	0808.00	M.S. Ed.	13.1001
Childhood Education w/ Middle Childhood	26059	0802	M.S.T.	13.1202
Childhood Education/Spec Ed. 1-6	43645	0808.00	M.S. Ed.	13.1001
Criminal Justice Administration	43984	2102	M.P.A.	21.0501
Cybersecurity	44229	0506	Adv. Cert.	11.1003
Exercise Science	44147	1299.30	M.S.	31.0505
Exercise Science	44148	1299.30	Adv. Cert.	31.0505
Finance	22626	0504	Adv. Cert.	52.0801
Healthcare Management and Informatics	42247	0506	Adv. Cert.	51.0701
Human Resource Management	42867	0506	Adv. Cert.	52.1099
Literacy 5-12	35686	0830	Adv. Cert.	13.1315
Literacy All Grades	43487	0830	M.S.Ed.	13.1315
Literacy All Grades	43488	0830	Adv. Cert.	13.1315
Literacy Birth-6	35687	0830	Adv. Cert.	13.1315
Management	22627	0506.00	Adv. Cert.	52.0201

Marketing	22625	0509	Adv. Cert.	52.1801
Public Administration	38859	2102	M.P.A.	44.0401
Special Education (All Grades)	44298	0808	Adv. Cert.	13.1001
Special Education: Childhood Edu w/Middle Childhood	44757	0808.00	M.S.T.	13.1017
Students with Disabilities All Grades	44305	0808	M.S.Ed.	13.1001
Teaching English to Speakers of Other	42737	1508	M.S.Ed.	13.1401
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)	42738	1508	Adv. Cert.	13.1401
Teaching Literacy (Birth-6)	27344	0830.00	M.S.Ed.	13.1315
Teaching Literacy (Gr. 5-12)	27346	0830.00	M.S. Ed.	13.1315
Teaching Student w/Disabilities (Gr. 7-12)	35461	0808	Adv. Cert.	13.1001
Teaching SWD Adolescence w/ Special Education in Autism	26920	0808	M.S.Ed.	13.1001
Teaching SWD in Childhood w/ SPEC in Autism 1-6	26921	0808.00	M.S.Ed.	13.1001
Teaching SWD in Early Childhood and Childhood	35298	0808	Adv. Cert.	13.1001
TESOL, All Grades	43328	1508	M.S.T.	13.1401

GRADUATE ADMISSION INFORMATION

Admissions into the Graduate School of Education

Matriculated students in the Graduate School of Education are those who have been accepted as candidates for the MST or MEd. and who have successfully completed 9 credits of graduate study at St. Thomas Aquinas College. Specific admission requirements are outlined below:

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION* AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN AUTISM

1. A baccalaureate degree from an accredited undergraduate institution. The School of Education reserves the right to require applicants to complete prerequisites prior to acceptance according to program and/or NYS requirements.
2. A valid teaching certificate.
3. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale.
4. Evidence of potential to complete a graduate degree in education, to be provided through letters of professional references and a statement of professional goals.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN TEACHING

1. A baccalaureate degree from an accredited undergraduate institution. The School of Education reserves the right to require applicants to complete prerequisites prior to acceptance according to program and/or NYS requirements.
2. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale.
3. Evidence of potential to complete a graduate degree in education, to be provided through letters of professional references and a statement of professional goals.
4. An interview with the Director of Graduate Education or MST Coordinator.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

1. A Master's Degree in Education.
2. A valid teaching certificate.

ADDITIONAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING:

1. A completed application form and a non-refundable application fee.
2. Official copies of transcripts from all institutions of higher education attended. Applicants for the Post- Master's Certificate program need only submit an official copy of a transcript from the institution that granted the Master's degree.
3. Applicants to the Master of Science in Teaching and Master of Science in Education programs need to provide two letters of recommendation from employers or college professors.

OTHER INFORMATION

- Documents submitted in support of an application become part of the permanent records of the Graduate School of Education and cannot be released for any other use.
- Once all materials have been received and evaluated, decisions regarding acceptance are made; approval to register is generally given to those who meet the requirements, and a faculty advisor is identified.
- Students are encouraged to meet with their advisor regularly to ensure timely completion of all requirements.
- Admission to study does not imply candidacy for a degree. Final matriculated status in the

MSEd. and MST programs is granted upon completion of 9 credits and maintenance of a 3.0 GPA. Candidates maintain matriculated status by completing at least six credits during the fall and spring semesters.

- Students who wish to take a leave from the program must apply for an official leave of absence and specify the expected semester of return.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-DEGREE STUDENTS

Non-degree graduate students are those who wish to complete coursework for professional or personal enrichment or to transfer credit to another institution. Generally, six credits may be taken as a non-degree student. Persons wishing to take six additional credits must submit the following:

1. A completed application form and fee.
2. Official transcripts from the institution that awarded the baccalaureate degree.

Admissions into the Graduate School of Business

Applicants must submit a completed application form and a non-refundable application fee. The following criteria are used in evaluating applications:

1. A Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a minimum 2.8 undergraduate GPA, based on a 4.0 overall grade point average. Transcripts of academic records from all undergraduate and graduate schools attended must be submitted. A student whose undergraduate GPA is less than a 2.8 may, in some circumstances, be admitted under a provisional admission status. (See below.)
2. Three letters of recommendation from employers or college professors.
3. Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) scores. (Use STAC Code # 39Z-05-10.)
Waivers of the GMAT examination are available to St. Thomas Aquinas College graduates who meet all other criteria for admission and may be available to other applicants with a minimum of five (5) years full-time business experience at increasing levels of managerial responsibility. Waivers are also available for applicants whose undergraduate degrees are from colleges with whom STAC has articulation agreements and who meet all other criteria for admission.

Students whose native language is not English must also submit their official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) taken within the last four months. Evidence of a TOEFL score above 530 is required. The TOEFL is not required for students who have a New York State Regents Diploma.

ADMISSIONS DECISIONS

Candidates for admission should submit their completed application and supporting credentials at least one month prior to the term in which they plan to enroll. An interview with a member of the Admissions Office may be arranged after all materials have been received and evaluated. Approval to register is generally given to those who meet requirements at this time. Notification of acceptance and assignment of a faculty advisor is generally sent within two weeks of this interview. Applicants meeting the admissions standards will be offered admission and must earn a 3.0 overall grade point average to maintain matriculated status.

PROVISIONAL STATUS

Applicants for admission to the MBA Program who show promise for advanced study but do not meet the requirements of an overall grade point average of 2.8 based on a 4.0 scale, and/or do not meet the GMAT requirements, or have not yet taken the GMAT, may be admitted on a provisional basis.

Provisional MBA students are required to achieve a 3.0 overall grade point average during an initial twelve-credit probationary period. Upon completion of this probationary period, a student's academic performance will be reviewed to determine their enrollment status. Students who have not earned a 3.0 overall GPA during the probationary period will be dismissed from the program.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

St. Thomas Aquinas College also offers Post-Baccalaureate Certificates in Artificial Intelligence, Business Analytics, Cybersecurity, Finance, Healthcare Management & Informatics, Human Resource Management, and Marketing. Advanced Certificates are designed to provide discipline specific graduate courses for individuals in the workforce who desire or need graduate level work from our MBA program in order to enhance their current skills and career advancement goals. Students are required to maintain a 3.0 grade point average. Any student falling below this criterion will be placed on Academic Probation. Admission requirements are the same as our MBA program, excluding the GMAT.

The Advanced Certificates requires five (5) upper-level courses in the specific concentration as identified in the catalog. To take upper-level courses the student must meet any course prerequisites.

One upper-level course may be taken outside the concentration and one course must have a global emphasis.

NON-MATRICULATED/NON-DEGREE APPLICANTS

An applicant may be admitted to the MBA Program as a non-matriculated student if he or she has received a Bachelor's degree from an accredited undergraduate institution. Non-matriculated students usually wish to complete specific graduate courses rather than to pursue a degree program and are limited to twelve 12 credits.

Non-degree applicants must submit the completed application form, a \$30 application fee and an official transcript showing completion of an undergraduate degree. A request for a change to matriculated status may be made after obtaining departmental approval.

CHANGE OF STATUS

A student who wishes to change his/her status must complete all admission requirements for the desired classification.

Admissions into the Graduate School of Arts and Social Sciences

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit a completed application form and a non-refundable application fee. The following criteria are used in evaluating applications:

1. A Baccalaureate degree from an accredited undergraduate institution.
2. A cumulative grade point average of 2.8 or above on a 4 point scale. Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate schools attended must be submitted. An applicant whose undergraduate GPA is less than a 2.8 may, under some circumstances, be admitted under a provisional acceptance status (see below).
3. Three letters of recommendation from employers and college professors. At least one must be from a college professor; unless the applicant graduated from college more than 10 years ago. In this case, a third employer letter may be submitted in lieu of a letter

from a professor.

4. Scores from the Graduate Record Exam (GRE). General scores only for applicants whose GPA is less than 2.8. (Use STAC code 2807).
5. A brief essay stating why they are applying for graduate study in the MPA-CJ program.

Students whose native language is not English must also submit their official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) taken within the last four months. Evidence of a TOEFL score above 530 is required. The TOEFL is not required for students who have a New York State Regents diploma.

ADMISSIONS DECISIONS

Candidates for admission should submit their completed application and supporting credentials at least one month prior to the quarter in which they plan to enroll. Approval to register is generally given to those who meet the requirements at this time. Notification of acceptance and assignment of a faculty advisor is generally sent within two weeks of receipt of a completed application by the College. Applicants meeting the admissions standards will be offered admission and must earn a 3.0 overall grade point average to maintain matriculated status.

Provisional Status

Applicants for admission to the MPA program who show promise for advanced study but who do not meet the overall grade point average of 2.8 based on a 4.0 scale and/or do not meet the GRE requirements, or who have not yet taken the GRE, may be admitted on a provisional basis.

Provisional MPA students are required to achieve a 3.0 overall grade point average during an initial twelve- credit probationary period. Upon completion of this probationary period, a student's academic performance will be reviewed to determine their enrollment status. Students who have not earned a 3.0 overall GPA during the probationary period will be dismissed from the program.

GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION FOR ALL GRADUATE PROGRAMS

All graduate students are ultimately responsible for being knowledgeable about the information contained in this Catalog.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

All graduate students are to obtain an Academic Calendar containing current academic and program dates. Calendars are available in the graduate program offices.

ADVISEMENT

All graduate students are assigned a faculty advisor and are encouraged to consult with that advisor regularly.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility in an academic community. An academic community of integrity advances the quest for truth and knowledge by requiring intellectual and personal honesty in learning, teaching, research and service. Honesty begins with oneself and extends to others. Such a community also fosters a climate of mutual trust, encourages the free exchange of ideas, and enables all to reach their highest potential.

An academic community of integrity establishes clear standards, practices and procedures and expects fairness in the interactions of students, faculty and administrators. We recognize the participatory nature of the learning process, and we honor and respect a wide range of opinions and ideas. We all must show respect for the work of others by acknowledging their intellectual debts

through proper identification of sources. An academic community of integrity upholds personal accountability and shared responsibility.

Academic integrity is essential to St. Thomas Aquinas College's mission to educate in an atmosphere of mutual understanding, concern, cooperation and respect. All members of the College community are expected to possess and embrace academic integrity. Academic dishonesty is any behavior which violates these principles.

ACADEMIC PROBATION/DISMISSAL

All graduate students must maintain a 3.0 Grade Point Average. A student whose session GPA is less than 3.0, or whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0, will be placed on Academic Probation. The Director of the relevant graduate program will evaluate all students on probation at the end of each graduate session and will make appropriate recommendations for their status in the program. These recommendations may include continuing probation, academic leave, or dismissal from the program. The appropriate School Dean will review such recommendations and recommend possible action to the Provost of the College.

CHANGE OF PROGRAM

MST and MEd. candidates desiring to transfer from one program to another must file a notification to this effect in the Graduate Education Office and Registrar's Office.

COURSE DESIGNATIONS

Graduate Education courses are as follows: MS. courses are numbered 2000-2999 and above. MS Ed. courses are 3000 and above.

COURSE LOAD

MST candidates are typically full-time students carrying nine credits each semester. Full-time MS Ed. candidates shall carry a minimum of nine credits each semester. Those who are employed are considered part-time students and will carry a maximum of six (6) credits each semester. Part-time students requesting to take more than six (6) credits in a semester must receive permission from the Director of Graduate Education.

A full-time MBA candidate shall carry at least 6 credits each quarter. Those who carry 3 credits are considered part-time.

A full-time MPA-CJ candidate shall carry at least 6 credits each quarter. Those who carry 3 credits are considered part-time.

DEGREE COMPLETION

All courses are cycled so that students may complete degree requirements within a reasonable time, as full-time or part-time students.

- MST candidates typically complete the program in 16 months.
- MEd. candidates maintaining full-time status generally will complete degree requirements in one academic year and two summers.
- MBA students registered for 3 courses per quarter and having taken one MBA course as an undergraduate should be able to complete all degree requirements in one calendar year. Typically, students registered for 2 courses per quarter can complete the program in 6-7 quarters. Students are expected to complete the degree within five years.
- MPA students registered for 3 courses per quarter and having the appropriate undergraduate waivers and/or credits granted should be able to complete all degree requirements (with the exception of a capstone seminar and capstone project) in one calendar year. Typically, students registered for 2 courses per quarter can complete the

program in 5-6 quarters. Students are expected to complete the degree within five years.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING

Evaluation of learning and performance may take various forms according to the nature of the course. Methods and criteria are identified on course syllabi distributed during the first week of each semester.

- MEd., MST, and MBA programs all require practica and/or capstone course(s).
- The MPA program requires both a capstone seminar course and the completion of an independent capstone thesis project, under faculty advisement.
- Comprehensive assessment is required of all candidates in the MEd. programs.
- Post-Master's professional certificate programs in Literacy or Special Education require a supervised practicum.

GRADING

Candidates for Post-Master's Certificate, MST, MEd., MBA, or MPA must maintain a B (3.0) average. Failure to do so will result in Academic Probation/Dismissal. Dismissal will follow if a student fails to attain a grade of B in each of the next two courses.

Student academic standing is indicated by the grade point average as noted:

A	96-100	4.00
A-	90-95	3.75
B+	86-89	3.50
B	80-85	3.00
C+	76-79	2.50
C	70-75	2.00
F	Failure	
I	Incomplete	
W	Withdrawal	
FX	Failure	

Failure due to ceasing to attend class at or before the midpoint of the course. In the case of students enrolled in Online courses, an FX grade may be awarded to students who have ceased participation in the course.

In order to preserve the integrity of scholarship, changes in grades (other than Incomplete grades) will not be permitted.

The Incomplete (I) indicates that students have met all requirements and have attended class regularly, but must postpone the completion of final assignments for a serious reason that is satisfactory to the Professor. The student and the Professor must agree on a date by which the work is to be completed, which is to be not later than three weeks prior to the end of the next semester. Incomplete grades which are not changed by this time automatically revert to F. Students are not permitted to take a second incomplete where the first one has reverted to F.

MST and MEd. students who receive a grade of F, or when an Incomplete reverts to an F, must repeat the course the first time it is offered. Registration is restricted to 6 credits during the interim. Students should meet with the Dean to work out a mutually satisfactory plan to eliminate the F and move toward the completion of their degree.

MBA and MPA-CJ students who receive an F, or when an Incomplete reverts to an F, must repeat the course the first time it is offered. Students may only repeat a failed course once. Please see the policy on probationary status.

GRADUATION

MST, MEd., Post Master's Certificate, MBA, and MPA candidates must file an application and pay the appropriate fee. Applications are available in the respective offices of their School. All degrees and certificates are conferred at the annual Commencement held in May. Candidates for MEd. in Reading or Special Education and MBA candidates who have completed all but 6 credits of their graduate programs and who register to take the remaining 6 credits during the immediate summer session may participate in the May commencement ceremonies. MPA candidates who expect to complete their capstone seminar and project (assuming advisors are available) during the immediate summer session, and who have completed all other degree requirements, may participate in the May commencement ceremonies. Participating in commencement ceremonies does not eliminate any requirements of the graduate programs.

MST and MEd. candidates who have completed a minimum of 36 credits according to the registered degree curriculum and who have maintained a GPA. of 3.0, are eligible for graduation. MBA and MPA candidates who have completed their programs according to the approved curriculum and who have maintained a GPA of 3.0 are eligible for graduation. MPA candidates also need to be within two months of completing their thesis (approval must be obtained from the Program Director). MBA and MPA candidates must file an application and pay the appropriate fee by the dates listed below:

- November 15th for a January graduation
- February 15th for a May graduation
- March 15th for an August graduation

HONORS AT GRADUATION

Honors at graduation are awarded to students whose cumulative quality point index meets the following criteria:

MEd. and MST with Distinction	3.80
MBA with Distinction	3.85
MPA with Distinction	3.85

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

MST and MEd. candidates who are unable to register for courses due to a serious illness, personal/professional reasons, extraordinary job requirements, or military service may, upon formal request, be granted a one-year leave of absence. In such instances, all degree requirements must be completed within six years of initial admission. Leaves sanctioned by the College do not change the expiration date of provisional/initial teacher certificates.

MBA or MPA students may apply to the Program Director for a leave of absence. If a leave is granted, the 5-year degree completion time is automatically extended.

LOUGHEED LIBRARY

The Lougheed Library is located on two levels in Spellman Hall. In addition to its tangible collections of books, videos, and print periodicals, the library offers a variety of other resources and services for the college community. Reference librarians are available to assist students, one-on-one, with research in person, by phone, or by email. Faculty may book Information Literacy classes with a librarian for students to learn to find, evaluate, and ethically use reliable and relevant information for their academic work. Interlibrary loan services make it possible for students, faculty, and staff to borrow materials from libraries around the country and the world.

The library webpage affords all college members 24/7 access to the library catalog, numerous databases containing thousands of full-text journals, and a variety of other knowledge resources for all disciplines. Database user guides are found in the library and on the library webpage.

The library facility, which is open year-round, offers public computers. Groups of students may study or work in enclosed study rooms. Numerous study tables for 4-6 people are available on both library levels. Multiple individual study carrels are located on the lower level for those who wish to work independently in a quiet atmosphere.

PLACEMENT SERVICES

Assistance in preparing resumes and accumulating pertinent materials to create an effective placement file is available through the Office of Career Services in the Romano Student Center. Available positions are communicated regularly to interested students. Evening hours are scheduled periodically. Students are encouraged to register with this office.

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCE CENTER

The Professional Resource Center (PRC) is located in the lower level of Borelli Hall. Its holdings include selected classroom texts and manipulative materials, state syllabi, multimedia technology and software, reading materials, programmed texts, video equipment, and an extensive test collection. Materials may be borrowed for a limited time by those who present a STAC student ID.

READMISSION

- MST and MEd. candidates who have not registered for courses for a period of one year and have not requested a leave of absence, must reapply for admission.
- MBA candidates who have not registered for courses for a period of one year and have not requested a leave of absence must contact the MBA Director for readmission.
- MPA candidates who have not registered for courses for a period of one year and who have not requested a leave of absence must contact the MPA Director for readmission.

REGISTRATION

Registration information and course offerings are available on the Registrar's webpage. Students must consult with their Academic Advisor prior to selecting courses. Tuition is payable on the day of registration for all MEd., MST, M.B.A., and M.P.A. candidates.

SCHEDULES

MST and MEd. courses scheduled during the fall and spring semesters that are in person meet once a week in the late afternoon and evening. Pre-summer May-June courses meet twice a week; Summer and Winter course schedules vary. Online courses are offered each semester as well.

MBA courses are scheduled during the Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer quarters. On campus

classes typically meet Friday evenings and Saturday and Sunday mornings. Online classes start the first Friday of the quarter and end the last Sunday of the quarter. Entering undergraduate freshmen who take 9-12 MBA credits in their senior year can complete both the baccalaureate and Master's degree programs in five years.

MPA courses are scheduled during the Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer quarters. On-campus classes typically meet during the evening on weekdays, Friday evenings, and Saturday and Sunday mornings. Selected courses are also offered on-line and as in a hybrid format. Students receiving maximum credit for waivers and/or transfer credits may complete the program (with the exception of the capstone seminar and capstone project in one calendar year.

STUDENT RECORDS POLICY

In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, no one outside St. Thomas Aquinas College shall have access to, nor will the College disclose any information (other than "Directory Information") from students' records without the written consent of students, except to appropriate personnel within the College, to officials of other institutions to which students apply, to persons or organizations providing students with financial aid, to accrediting agencies involved in their accreditation process, to persons in compliance with a judicial order, to parents of dependent students, and to persons in an emergency to protect the health or safety of students or other persons. Standard "Directory Information" is not protected under the provisions of the Privacy Act. The College, however, will honor student requests (in writing to withhold any or all of the "Directory Information," which includes such things as, name, address, email address, honors achieved in the curricular life of the college, individually identifiable photograph, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended. For further clarification students should consult the Registrar.

TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Graduate Education Students who have met the academic and professional standards of the School of Education will receive an Institutional recommendation for certification at the discretion of the Dean. Assistance is available in the PRC for students wishing to apply for teacher certification in New York State. The School of Education submits recommendations for teacher certification for the candidates once they have completed the program and their degree is posted.

TEACHER CERTIFICATION EXAMS FOR NEW YORK STATE (NYSTCE)

Registration information for NYSTCE is available in the Professional Resource Center. The MST candidates are required to complete the NYS required seminars in the Identification and Reporting of Child Abuse and on Violence Prevention during the student teaching semester experience. Candidates are required to complete the CST and EAS test prior to student teaching. Candidates in the MEd. programs will complete the CST prior to the practicum.

TRANSCRIPTS

An official transcript is one bearing the seal of the College. Official transcripts of academic records are not given to students or graduates but are mailed directly to a college, professional or graduate school, government agency or business concern as designated. An unofficial transcript is one given to the person whose credits are listed thereon and marked "Student Copy." The College accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the unofficial transcript after it has been issued. Upon graduation, each student is entitled to one unofficial transcript. There is a fee of \$5.00 for each additional transcript requested whether official or unofficial.

TRANSFER CREDIT

MSEd., MBA, and MPA candidates may transfer credits for appropriate coursework completed at another accredited institution.

A maximum of six (6 semester hours which meet the College degree requirements, standards (minimum grade of B, and time (within 5 years may be transferred into the MSEd. program. Requests for transfer of credit must be accompanied by catalog course description and be submitted during the first semester of study. After admission, the student must petition the Dean and receive approval before enrolling in courses at another institution.

A maximum of 6 semester hours which meet degree requirements may be transferred into the MBA program, and a maximum of 3 semester hours which meet the degree requirements may be transferred into the MPA program. Decisions regarding waivers and transfer credits are based on the following: credit comparability to the College course, the grade received (B or better), semester lengths, and number of credits. Course work must have been completed within the last seven years.

WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSES

Students who wish to withdraw from a course must consult with the Professor and complete the appropriate form in the Registrar's Office by the appointed date. An MST or MSEd. candidate must withdraw before the seventh session during the fall and spring semesters or before the fifth session during the summer. An MBA or MPA-CJ candidate must withdraw before the third meeting of that session.

Failure to observe the academic regulations, such as those related to withdrawals or incompletes, will not be deemed sufficient reason to alter student records.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION**GRADUATE TUITION AND FEES 2025-26**

Tuition per credit: \$1275.00

Application fee: \$30.00

Technology Fee: MSEd. \$90.00 MBA and MPA \$45.00

Graduation fee: \$225.00

Placement credentials (each credential file after first): \$2.00

Transcript (after the first): \$5.00 State Certification fee (rate set by NYS Ed department)

Student Teaching fee: \$75.00

Audit fee (per course): \$1165.00

Proficiency Exam fee (MBA candidates): \$50.00

Late Registration Fee: \$30.00

PAYMENT OF TUITION AND FEES

Payment in full is due at registration. Checks should be made payable to St. Thomas Aquinas College. A tuition payment plan is available through Nelnet formerly TMS at 1-800-722-4867 (www.mycollegepaymentplan.com/stac). Information and forms on this plan are available at the Office of Student Financial Services in Spellman Hall.

REFUND OF TUITION AND FEES

No refund is made except in the case of withdrawal because of prolonged illness or other legitimate

reasons beyond the student's control. The date on which the Registrar is informed in writing will be considered as the date of withdrawal.

Tuition for the **Graduate School of Education** programs will be refunded according to the following rates. No deductions are made for delay in returning at the beginning of each semester or for absences during the year. All fees are non-refundable.

Within the first two weeks	75%	Within the third week	50%
Within the fourth week	25%	After four weeks	no refund

Tuition for the **MBA and MPA** programs will be refunded according to the following rates: No deductions are made for delay in returning at the beginning of each semester or for absences during the year. All fees are non-refundable.

Within the first 8 days	75%	Within the first 13 days	50%
Within the first 17 days	25%	After 17 days	no refund

FINANCIAL AID & FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

St. Thomas Aquinas College's Financial Aid Program provides assistance in the form of loans, grants and part-time employment for students who demonstrate academic potential, but whose resources are insufficient to meet the costs of higher education. The Office of Student Financial Services will review all applications and award assistance in the form(s) and in the amount(s) it deems most appropriate to the needs of the student in the light of his/her scholastic attainment and financial need. Since aid is distributed on the basis of need as established by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and depends upon federal and state appropriations, all students will need to complete this form as soon as possible. No offer of financial aid will be made to a student until he/she has been accepted for admission to STAC.

Students must indicate in the appropriate space on the form that you want the information forwarded to St. Thomas Aquinas College, 125 Route 340, Sparkill, NY 10976. All students who receive any financial aid assistance must file a FAFSA form in the Spring semester (as close to January 1 as possible) to be considered for aid the following academic year. Since financial need is considered when the amount of a student's award is determined, it is the responsibility of the applicant to report promptly to the Office of Student Financial Services any financial aid made available to him/her from sources other than the College.

This includes scholarships, state incentives, and veteran's benefits. Financial aid packages awarded are reviewed and may require adjustments. This is required by the laws governing federally funded programs. Packages are awarded for an academic year with half applied to costs each semester.

FEDERAL STAFFORD STUDENT LOAN (SSL) PROGRAM

The student should obtain a loan application from a participating lending institution (bank, credit union, etc.) in his/her area of permanent residence. The completed application is presented to the financial aid officer at the post secondary institution being attended. The application is then routed to the lending institution and the Higher Education Services Corporation. To be eligible for a guaranteed loan a student must be: (1) a U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien; (2) enrolled in or admitted as a matriculated, at least half-time, student at an approved college, university, or other post secondary institution in any of the United States or in a foreign country.

FINANCIAL AID/SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students receiving financial aid are meeting satisfactory academic progress standards. In an effort to comply with federal regulations, St Thomas Aquinas College has developed the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy for students to maintain or re-establish eligibility to receive Title IV funds.

Policy

In accordance with Federal regulations on Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), St Thomas Aquinas College has established Financial Aid SAP requirements that all students must meet in order to remain eligible for Federal Title IV student aid. Title IV Student Aid Programs include but are not limited to: Pell Grant, SEOG, TEACH grant, Federal Work-Study, Federal Perkins Loan, and all Federal Direct student loans including the Federal Direct Parent Loan.

SAP is divided into three major components:

- Qualitative (GPA based)
- Pace (Cumulative Completion Rate – credit hours earned divided by credit hours attempted)
- Maximum Timeframe (complete an educational program within a timeframe no longer than 150% or published length of the educational program) measurements.

Students who are not making academic progress will not be eligible for financial aid at St Thomas Aquinas College until academic progress is met or the student submits an appeal for financial aid and the College approves the appeal.

The Office of Student Financial Services will review the satisfactory academic progress of enrolled financial aid recipients each semester. Each such review includes the Qualitative (GPA), Quantitative (Pace of Completion), and Maximum Timeframe (150%) measurements discussed below.

Qualitative Measure (GPA)

- The quality of a student's progress is measured by grade point average (cumulative GPA).
- It is imperative that students continue to make satisfactory academic progress toward graduation and the attainment of their graduate degree.
- All graduate school students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Pace

- All graduate students must progress at a pace that allows the student to complete their program within the maximum allotted time frame.
- Pace refers to the length it takes to complete a program of study.

Maximum Number of Attempted Credits

The pace is calculated by dividing the number of successfully completed credits by the number of attempted credits. Students must successfully complete 67% of all credits attempted during the academic year *and* 67% of all credits attempted cumulatively during their undergraduate career, including accepted transfer credits. **Students must pass at least 67% of all attempted credit hours with a grade of D- or better or Pass (P). For the purposes of financial aid, non-passing grades are: F (failing), I (Incomplete), or W (withdraw).**

Repeated courses *will* count toward total hours attempted for the Cumulative Completion Rate

(but only one passing grade will be considered as a completed course). The newest grade *will* be included in the GPA calculation and the older grade will be excluded. Federal student aid is available for only one retake of a passed course.

Calculating Your Pace of Progression

To determine if you have maintained a satisfactory pace of progression toward your degree, you will need to know how many credits you have attempted and completed both during the academic term and during your undergraduate career.

Divide the number of credits successfully completed by the number of credits attempted to calculate your percentage. For example, 18 credits successfully completed divided by 24 credits attempted would be $18/24 = 0.75$ or **75%**. This exceeds the 67% minimum and meets the satisfactory pace requirement.

If you have earned less than 67% of the credit hours you have attempted, you need to improve your ratio of earned credits to attempted credits. Your pace will be reviewed each semester as well as assessed cumulatively.

Maximum Time Frames

A student must consistently take and successfully complete courses that count toward his/her degree, and the degree must be earned within 150% of the published length of the program.

The published length for an undergraduate degree at St Thomas Aquinas College is 120 credits. No student may exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan therefore students are only eligible to receive financial aid for up to 180 attempted credits, including accepted transfer credits.

Specific Graduate Program Credit Requirements

The Office of Student Financial Services will review the satisfactory academic progress of enrolled financial aid recipients each semester. Each such review includes the Qualitative (GPA), Quantitative (Pace of Completion), and Maximum Timeframe (150%) measurements discussed below.

Please note the required number of program credits for students in the following graduate programs:

- MSEd. – 30-36 credits
- MST – 36-45 credits, dual certification requires additional credits
- MBA – 39 credits
- MPA – 34 credits

Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) - Qualitative Component

- A student must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0

Pace Rate for Attempted Credit - Quantitative Component

- A student must complete at least two-thirds (66.67%) of all cumulative attempted credit hours.
- The following designations are considered to be attempted credit hours but are not considered to be successfully completed: F (failing), I (Incomplete), or W (withdraw).
- Transfer credit hours posted to the official transcript record are counted as attempted and earned credit hours.

Graduate School Maximum Time Frame: Degree Completion within 150% of the Average Program Length: Quantitative Component

- Students must complete their master's degree or certificate within 150 percent of the normal time required to complete a master's degree.
- For example, for a degree that requires 39 earned credit hours, students must be able to graduate within 45 credit attempts to remain eligible for federal aid.

Financial Aid Warning

Failure to meet the minimum satisfactory progress requirements will result in a status of federal financial aid warning. If a student is in satisfactory status and fails to meet the minimum quantitative or qualitative requirement, he/she will be automatically placed on financial aid warning status for one semester.

Notification will be sent to the student that he/she is not meeting satisfactory academic progress requirements and he/she is at risk of future suspension of aid.

All federal aid will remain for the next semester while in a warning status. This is a one-time warning period for any student not meeting quantitative or qualitative SAP measures for the first time. These students will be reviewed at the end of the following enrolled semester to determine if they meet the minimum requirements (quantitative, qualitative) and will either be placed in a suspended status or reinstated to satisfactory.

Any student not meeting SAP requirements with regard to maximum timeframe will automatically be placed on Financial Aid Suspension.

Financial Aid Suspension

Students in a warning status who fail to meet the minimum satisfactory academic progress requirements or students who are not meeting SAP requirements with regard to maximum timeframe will be placed on federal Financial Aid Suspension. Satisfactory academic progress requirements are reviewed at the completion of the warning semester to determine if the student meets the minimum (quantitative, qualitative) requirements.

Those who do not will be placed on Financial Aid Suspension and will be ineligible to receive federal financial aid.

Students will be notified of Financial Aid Suspension in writing. If a student is placed on Financial Aid Suspension, all federal and state aid will be withdrawn for future semesters. Students on Financial Aid Suspension have the option to reinstate aid as described below.

Reinstatement

Financial Aid may be reinstated when one of the following conditions has been met:

- The student completes courses without federal aid in one or more terms (semesters) at St Thomas Aquinas College until the cumulative GPA and Cumulative Completion Rate meet the required standard (while meeting maximum time frame conditions).
- The student files an appeal and the Financial Aid Appeal Review Committee approves the appeal. (See appeal procedures below).

Appeal Procedures

Students who are suspended from federal financial aid may make a written appeal for reinstatement of eligibility if extenuating circumstances have contributed to their inability to meet the requirements for satisfactory academic progress, and the students' circumstances have changed such that they are likely to be able to meet those requirements at the next evaluation or

through an appropriate academic plan. Extenuating circumstances may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Death of an immediate family member
- Severe injury or illness of the student or an immediate family member
- Emergency situations such as fire or flood
- Legal separation from spouse or divorce
- Military reassignment or required job transfers or shift changes.

Note: Lack of awareness of withdrawal policies or requirements for satisfactory academic progress, or unpreparedness for college coursework will not be accepted as reasons for the purpose of an appeal.

To Complete the Appeal Process:

1. Complete the [SAP Appeal Waiver form](#), will be sent via stac.edu email.
2. Complete a personal statement explaining the circumstances that prevented academic progress toward a degree/certificate and a plan to ensure future academic success.
3. Include any supporting documentation (Examples: letters from professors, a doctor's statement, copy of hospital/urgent care/physician's bill, obituary, funeral notice or death certificate, etc.).
4. The appeal also requires that you meet with your dean or academic advisor to construct an academic plan. The academic plan will ensure that you are able to meet SAP standards by a specified time if you follow the plan. The dean will coordinate with the Office of Student Financial Services to align the recovery plan with the student's plan to return to good standing for satisfactory academic progress.

To expedite your appeal, submit all documents together and be as detailed as possible in your personal statement.

Deadlines to Appeal

- **October 1** to receive aid in the **fall**
- **March 1** to receive aid in the **spring**
- **July 1** to receive aid in the **summer**

Appeal Decision

Each appeal will be reviewed by a committee. If the appeal is approved, the student will be placed on probation and will be eligible to receive financial aid as long as the conditions of the academic plan continue to be met.

Financial Aid Appealed Probation

Financial aid appealed probation is a status assigned to students whose written appeal and academic plan has been reviewed by the Appeal Committee and the decision was made to reinstate aid.

Students will be required to meet the individual academic plan while in appealed probation status. You will continue to receive aid for as long as you continue to meet the terms of the academic plan. The academic plan will be reviewed at the end of each semester until you fulfill the requirements of the plan.

If it is determined that mathematically you cannot regain compliance with SAP requirements, you will **no longer be eligible** for financial aid unless you later come back into standard.

What happens when the appealed probation period is complete?

A student may regain or lose federal eligibility following the appealed probation semester. The status for the semester following the appealed probation semester will fall into one of the categories below:

- Stay in an appealed probation status.
In order to remain in appealed probation status, a student must meet minimum satisfactory academic progress requirements for the term (semester) based on his or her academic plan requirements. The student will continue to have an individual academic plan for regaining Satisfactory Academic Progress.
- Move back to a suspension status.
If a student does not meet either the required pace of completion or GPA for the semester or the requirements of his/her academic plan:

§ The student's status will return to suspension and federal aid will be canceled for future semesters.

Move to a satisfactory status. If a student meets the overall GPA and Cumulative Completion Rate (while meeting maximum time frame conditions) for satisfactory academic progress, aid will be reinstated.

FEDERAL RETURN OF TITLE IV FUNDS POLICY

Purpose

Federal regulations require the Office of Student Financial Services to apply a formula established by the U.S. Department of Education, titled R2T4, to determine the amount of federal financial aid a student has earned for students who have officially or unofficially withdrawn.

Official withdrawals are filed with the Registrar's Office, and students are expected to complete a withdrawal survey.

Unofficial withdrawals occur when students stop attending all classes at any point after the first week of classes.

How a Withdrawal Affects Financial Aid

Federal Student Aid (FSA), also known as Title IV funding, is awarded under the assumption that a student will complete course(s) for the entire semester and/or payment period for which the funds were awarded. When a student ceases attendance, officially and/or unofficially, in a course, regardless of the reason, the student may no longer be eligible for the full amount of Title IV funds originally awarded.

The return of funds to the federal government is based on the premise that financial aid is earned in proportion to the length of time during which the student attended. For example, a student who withdraws in the second week of the semester has earned less of his/her financial aid than a student who withdraws in the fifth week.

Once the 60% point in the semester/payment period is reached, a student is considered to have earned all of the financial aid originally awarded and will not be required to return any funds.

Calculating Title IV Funding

If a student officially or unofficially withdraws from St. Thomas Aquinas College, federal regulations require St. Thomas Aquinas College to calculate the amount of Federal Title IV funds

earned during the term from which the student withdrew.

The percentage earned is equal to the number of calendar days completed up to the withdrawal (official or unofficial) date divided by the total number of calendar days in the semester/payment period. Official breaks of 5 days or longer, such as Spring Break, are not included in the count of total days in the payment period.

Earned Percent = Number of Days Completed ÷ Total Days in Payment Period

Unearned Percent = 100% - Earned Percent

As a result of a withdrawal, students who received federal funds will be required to repay unearned aid. For more information on calculating earned and unearned Title IV Aid, please refer to the link below for access to the federal worksheet: [Federal Aid Clock Hour Worksheet](#)

Determination of Withdrawal Date

The return of TIV funds process begins when the student:

1. *Officially withdraws from the college through the following process.* A student who leaves the College during any semester or special session must complete a withdrawal form, available from the Office of the Registrar. Students who return after one full year must reapply for admission and for financial aid, and may be subject to current curriculum requirements. If you are unable to come to campus to withdraw, please complete the information in the link below:

If you are unable to come to campus to withdraw, please complete the information in the link below:

[Withdrawal/Leave of Absence](#)

or

2. *Unofficially withdraws from the College or stops attending courses.* Registered students who never attend any classes are called “no show students” and are handled separately. However, students who attend classes for a period of time early in the semester, then stop attending classes without notifying the College, will be considered to have unofficially withdrawn from the College for the purposes of financial aid reporting -- and for the purposes of reporting this status, the student’s withdrawal date will be the midpoint of the semester. Students will be assigned this status when they are reported by faculty as no longer attending classes at the time of mid-semester grades and given a grade of “FX.”

Note: Instructors are required to report as part of mid-semester grading whether or not a student is still in attendance in a course by the day mid-semester grades are due.

Order of Return to Federal Aid Programs

In accordance with federal regulations, unearned aid will be returned to the federal programs within 45 days of the student’s withdrawal in the following order:

- Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan
- Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan

Student notification of Repayment

While the school is responsible for returning unearned federal financial aid to the federal government, students are responsible for any loan obligations as well as any balances due to the College. A notification outlining the amount returned to the federal and institutional program(s) will be mailed to the student's address on file. St. Thomas Aquinas College will return funds on the student's behalf to the appropriate federal and institutional aid program(s) and subsequently will bill the student's account. Please note that the student is responsible for any outstanding balance resulting from a Return of Title IV calculation.

Post-Withdrawal Disbursements

A post-withdrawal disbursement will occur when the total amount of the Title IV assistance earned as of the withdrawal date is more than the amount that was disbursed to the student; this disbursement will consist of the difference between the two amounts.

Post-Withdrawal Disbursement of Federal Loan Funds

If a post-withdrawal disbursement includes federal loan funds, St. Thomas Aquinas College must obtain the student's permission before it can be disbursed. The borrower will be notified within 30 days of the date of determination of withdrawal of the opportunity to accept all or a part of the post-withdrawal disbursement. The student or parent has 14 days from the date of notification to respond. St. Thomas Aquinas College will disburse the loan funds within 180 days of the date of determination of the student's withdrawal date. Loan funds will be applied towards the outstanding semester charges on the student's account and may pay up to the amount of the allowable charges. Any remainder will be paid directly to the student or parent.

Consequences of Non-Repayment

Students who owe the US Department of Education for an overpayment (unearned due to not attending for more than 60% of the payment period) of Title IV funds are not eligible for any additional federal financial aid until the overpayment is paid in full or payment arrangements are made with the US Department of Education.

Students who owe the institution because of the return of Title IV funds calculation will not be eligible to register for subsequent semesters or receive academic transcripts until the balance is paid in full.

Additional Loan Information to Consider When Withdrawing

If the student is not enrolled at least half-time for more than 6 months, their loans will go into repayment. More specifically the student's six (6) month grace period begins the day their enrollment status drops below half-time. The student must complete Exit Loan Counseling at www.studentaid.gov and contact their servicer to make payment arrangements. Loans must be repaid by the loan borrower (student/parent) as outlined in the terms of the borrower's promissory note. The student should contact the servicer if they have questions regarding their grace period or repayment status.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION (VA) EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

For information about VA benefits, please contact the Veterans Benefits Coordinator in the Registrar's Office.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS IN THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Graduate Assistantships are available to full-time students accepted into the M.S.Ed. or M.S.T. programs. Graduate Assistants work approximately 15 hours per week from September through May, totaling 450 hours, and are placed in a campus office with a designated supervisor. Compensation includes 12 graduate credits tuition-free (students are responsible for college fees), a \$2,000 stipend, and a 50% discount on on-campus housing. Eligible students receive an application form link in their acceptance letter, with interviews held in late May. Selection is based

on academic performance, recommendations, experience or potential, and, when applicable, financial need. Assistantships are awarded annually across several offices, including the Center for Academic Excellence, Registrar's Office, School of Education, Student Engagement and Development, and Student Financial Services. Students who accept a graduate assistantship are not eligible for the alumni discount.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS IN THE MBA PROGRAM

To be eligible for an assistantship in the Graduate School of Business, students must be accepted as fully matriculated in the MBA program and apply to the MBA Office. A student receiving an assistantship for the academic year will take 12 credits tuition free, work an average of 15 hours per week, and be awarded a stipend of \$2,000. The decision to award the assistantships based upon the student's past academic performance, recommendations, professional experience or promise, and, where appropriate, need. Applications are available in the MBA Office. See calendar for due date. Once students accept a graduate assistantship, they are ineligible to receive an alumni discount.

THE STAC ALUMNI 25% DISCOUNT

STAC alumni are eligible for a 25% discount. The Alumni discount will be used to reduce the tuition cost of your graduate program only. No refunds are available for any unused funds. If STAC alumni are receiving a graduate assistantship, they are ineligible to receive the Alumni discount. If students are receiving a different type of discount or voucher, tuition cannot be double discounted.

THE ALUMNI 25% DISCOUNT AND RE-ADMITS

Students who are readmitted into a graduate program after less than 3 academic years will be eligible for the Alumni 25% discount for the remainder of their program. Students who are readmitted into a graduate program after more than 3 academic years will be eligible for a prorated discount for the remaining credits of their program.

THE STAC ALUMNI 7K FAMILY DISCOUNT

Immediate family members (including children, parents, grandparents, and siblings) of STAC alumni are eligible for up to \$7,000 in the Alumni 7K discount. The Alumni 7K discount will be used to reduce the total cost of your graduate program only. No refunds are available for any unused funds. If children of STAC alumni are receiving a graduate assistantship, they are ineligible to receive the Alumni 7K discount. If students are receiving a different type of discount or voucher, tuition cannot be double discounted and they may not exhaust the full \$7,000.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

In collaboration with the broader St. Thomas Aquinas College community and the professional community in schools surrounding our college, the Teacher Education program seeks to prepare educators who are able to meet the challenges of teaching in the twenty-first century. It is the vision of the Teacher Education program to prepare knowledgeable, caring educators who are dedicated to their students' intellectual growth and overall well-being.

MISSION OF THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

The mission of the St. Thomas Aquinas College School of Education is to prepare knowledgeable and caring educators who are passionate about teaching and learning. We strive to prepare our graduates to make informed decisions that will result in effective, inclusive learning opportunities for diverse learners; to prepare future educators to become effective communicators and collaborators who have a strong understanding of their disciplines and the assessment practices that drive their instruction; and to create reflective, life-long learners who will have a positive effect on student achievement and will become master teachers and instructional leaders.

To achieve our mission, the St. Thomas Aquinas College teacher education program creates a caring, challenging environment for learning that supports each candidate's development as an educator. In this learning environment, learning is a collaborative endeavor in which candidates speak and write about what they are learning, and question, analyze and discuss ideas with others who are at varying levels of expertise.

New York State requires that candidates for all teaching certificates successfully complete New York State Teacher Certification Examinations (NYSTCE). For *Initial Certification* candidates must pass the Educating All Students Test (EAS), and the Content Specialty Test (CST) for each certification area. Students seeking teacher certification in other states are required to pass examinations specified by the state. For *Additional Certification* candidates must pass the Content Specialty Test (CST) for each certification area.

College's Pass Rate for New York State Certification Examinations

Performance on NY Teacher Certification Exams	Program Year 2023-2024	Program Year 2022-2023	Program Year 2021-2022
STAC Summary Pass Rate	90%	90%	91%

Below are the curricular requirements for the following programs:

- Master of Science in Teaching: Childhood, Childhood and Special Education, Adolescence, Adolescence and Students with Disabilities, Art Education, Art Education and Students with Disabilities
- Master of Science in Education-Students With Disabilities(All Grades)
- Master of Science in Education-Students With Disabilities(All Grades) with a specialization in Autism
- Master of Science in Education-Literacy, All Grades
- Post-Master's professional certificates: Literacy, Special Education, TESOL

- Middle School Extension: Specialist, Content Areas
- Advanced Certificate in Autism

MST: CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, GRADES 1-6 (39 CREDITS)

Fall (9 credits)

GED 2101	Psychology of Learning/Models of Teaching
GED 2102	Reading and Language Development
GESP 2601	Exceptional Individuals

Winter Interim (3 credits)

GED 2103	Historical and Contemporary Issues in Education
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Spring (9 credits)

GED 2104	Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum
GED 2105	Social Studies: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive classrooms
GESP 2603	Assessment: Principles and Practices

Pre-summer (6 credits)

GED 2106	Mathematics: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms
GESP 2602	Classroom Organization and Management

Summer (3 credits)

GED 2107	Science: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms
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Fall (9 credits)

GED 2100*	Student Teaching (6 credits)
GED 2108	Action Research and Evaluation (3 credits)
GED 2109	Comprehensive: Action Research Project (0 credits)

*Candidates are required to complete 100 hours of field experiences in childhood education (grades 1-6), including 15 hours in childhood education for students with disabilities and New York State teacher certification exams prior to student teaching.

*Candidates are required to file an application for student teaching.

MST: CHILDHOOD AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES -ALL GRADES (45 CREDITS)*Fall (9 credits)*

- GED 2101 Psychology of Learning/Models of Teaching
- GED 2102 Reading and Language Development
- GESP 2601 Exceptional Individuals

Winter Interim (3 credits)

- GED 2103 Historical and Contemporary Issues in Education

Spring (9 credits)

- GED 2104 Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum
- GED 2105 Social Studies: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms
- GESP 2603 Assessment: Principles and Practices

Pre-summer (6 credits)

- GED 2106 Mathematics: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms
- GESP2501 Classroom Management and Behavior Supports

Summer (9 credits)

- GESP 2605 Autism and Low Incidence Disabilities
- GESP 2503 Teaching Strategies for Students with Disabilities
- GED 2107 Science: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms

Fall (9 credits)

- GESP 2600* Student Teaching (6 credits)
- GESP 2608 Action Research and Evaluation (3 credits)
- GESP 2609 Comprehensive: Action Research Project (0 credits)

*Candidates are required to (a) complete 150 hours of field experiences—100 hours in childhood (grades 1-6) and 50 hours in childhood education for students with disabilities (grades 1-6), and (b) New York State teacher certification exams prior to student teaching.

*Candidates are required to file an application for student teaching.

MST: ADOLESCENCE EDUCATION GRADES 7-12 (36 CREDITS)*Fall (9 credits)*

- GED 2101 Psychology of Learning/Models of Teaching
 GED 2401 Writing across the Curriculum: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms
 GESP 2601 Exceptional Individuals

Winter Interim (3 credits)

- GED 2103 Historical and Contemporary Issues in Education

Spring (9 credits)

- GED 2402 Reading Across the Curriculum: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms
 GESP 2603 Assessment: Principles and Practices

Teaching Strategies in Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms: Choose one – according to Certification

- GED 2404 English: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms
 GED 2405 Mathematics: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms
 GED 2406 Social Studies: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms
 GED 2407 Science: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms

Pre-summer (3 credits)

- GESP 2410 Classroom Organization and Management: Secondary Classrooms

Summer (3 credits)

- GED 2403 Teaching Adolescents: Issues in Learning

Fall (9 credits)

- GED 2400* Student Teaching (6 credits)
 GED 2408 Action Research and Evaluation (3 credits)
 GED 2409 Comprehensive: Action Research Project (0 credits)

*Candidates are required to complete 100 hours of field experiences in their area of certification (grades 7-12) including 15 hours in adolescence education for students with disabilities and New York State teacher certification exams prior to student teaching.

*Candidates are required to file an application.

**MST: ADOLESCENCE EDUCATION AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES -ALL GRADES)
(39 CREDITS)**

Fall (9 credits)

- GED 2101 Psychology of Learning/Models of Teaching
 GED 2401 Writing across the Curriculum: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms
 GESP 2601 Exceptional Individuals

Winter Interim (3 credits)

- GED 2103 Historical and Contemporary Issues in Education

Spring (9 credits)

- GED 2402 Reading Across the Curriculum: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms
 GESP 2603 Assessment: Principles and Practices

Teaching Strategies in Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms: Choose one – according to Certification

- GED 2404 English: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms
 GED 2405 Mathematics: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms
 GED 2406 Social Studies: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms
 GED 2407 Science: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms

Pre-summer (3 credits)

- GESP2501 Classroom Management and Behavior Supports

Summer (6 credits)

- GED 2403 Teaching Adolescents: Issues in Learning
 GESP 2503 Teaching Strategies for Students with Disabilities

Fall (9 credits)

- GED 2700* Student Teaching (6 credits)
 GED 2708 Action Research and Evaluation (3 credits)
 GED 2709 Comprehensive: Action Research Project (0 credits)

*Candidates are required to (a) complete 150 hours of field experiences—100 hours in childhood (grades 7-12) and 50 hours in childhood education for students with disabilities (grades 7-12), and (b) New York State teacher certification exams prior to student teaching.

*Candidates are required to file an application.

MST: ART EDUCATION, GRADES K-12 (34 CREDITS)*Fall (9 credits)*

- GED 2101 Psychology of Learning/Models of Teaching
 GED 2401 Writing across the Curriculum: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms
 GESP 2601 Exceptional Individuals

Winter Interim (3 credits)

- GED 2103 Historical and Contemporary Issues in Education

Spring (10 credits)

- GED 2334 Special Methods Teaching Art K-12 (4 credits)
 GED 2402 Reading Across the Curriculum: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms
 GESP 2603 Assessment: Principles and Practices

Pre-summer (3 credits)

- GESP 2602 Classroom Organization and Management

Summer (3 credits)

No courses required in this term

Fall (9 credits)

- GED 2200* Student Teaching (6 credits)
 GED 2208 Action Research and Evaluation (3 credits)
 GED 2209 Comprehensive: Action Research Project (0 credits)

*Candidates are required to complete 100 hours of field experiences in their area of certification (grades K-12) including 15 hours with students with disabilities and New York State teacher certification exams prior to student teaching.

*Candidates are required to file an application.

MST: ART EDUCATION (K-12) AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES -ALL GRADES (37 CREDITS)

Fall (9 credits)

GED 2101 Psychology of Learning/Models of Teaching
 GED 2102 Reading and Language Development
 GESP 2601 Exceptional Individuals

Winter Interim (3 credits)

GED 2103 Historical and Contemporary Issues in Education

Spring (10 credits)

GED 2334 Special Methods Teaching Art K-12 (4 Credits)
 GED 2104 Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum
 GESP 2603 Assessment: Principles and Practices

Pre-summer (3 credits)

GESP 2501 Classroom Management and Behavior Supports

Summer (3 credits)

GESP 2503 Teaching Strategies for Students with Disabilities

Fall (9 credits)

GED 2200* Student Teaching (6 credits)
 GED 2208 Action Research and Evaluation (3 credits)
 GED 2209 Comprehensive: Action Research Project (0 credits)

*Candidates are required to (a) complete 150 hours of field experiences—100 hours in certification area (grades K-12) and 50 hours in childhood education for students with disabilities (grades 1-6), and (b) New York State teacher certification exams prior to student teaching.

*Candidates are required to file an application.

MST: TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES–GRADES K-12 (36 CREDITS)

Note: For TESOL certification, candidates are required to have a minimum of 12 credits in a foreign language.

Fall (9 credits)

GED 2101	Psychology of Learning/Models of Teaching
GESP 2601	Exceptional Individuals
GED 4201	TESOL Foundations- Theory and Practice

Winter Interim (3 credits)

GED 2103	Historical and Contemporary Issues in Education
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Spring (6 credits)

GED 4302	Language Acquisition and Literacy Development, gr K-12
GESP 4301	Linguistics and Structure of English Language

Pre-summer (6 credits)

GESP 2602	Classroom Organization and Management
GED 4304	Content Area Instruction for ELLs

Summer (3 credits)

GED 4303	Language Evaluation and Assessment
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Fall (9 credits)

GED 6100*	Student Teaching (6 credits)
GED 6101	Action Research and Evaluation (3 credits)
GED 6104	Comprehensive: Action Research Project (0 credits)

*Candidates are required to complete 100 hours of field experiences in their area of certification (grades 7-12) including 15 hours in adolescence education for students with disabilities and New York State teacher certification exams prior to student teaching; and a college supervised student teaching or practicum experience of at least 70 school days, or its equivalent, with students learning English as a new language,

*Candidates are required to file an application.

MSED: STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES - ALL GRADES (36 CREDITS)

Level I: Core (12 credits)

GESP 5004	Mild/Moderate Disabilities
GESP 5005	Autism and Low Incidence Disabilities
GESP 5101	Cognition and Instruction
GESP 5102	Research Methods in Special Education

Level II: Specialization (15 credits)

GESP 5201	Assessing Students w/Mild Disabilities
GESP 5205	Developing Learning Environments
GESP 5315	Literacy: Reading and Writing Instruction
GESP 5316	Instructional Strategies
GESP 5309	Collaboration Skills for the Special Educator

Level III: Electives (6 credits)

Two courses in Literacy, Mathematics Education, Middle School Extension, Autism, or by advisement.

Level IV: Capstone Experiences (3 credits)

GESP 6104*	Practicum (3 credits)
GESP 7100*	Comprehensive Assessment (0 credits)

*Candidates are required to complete New York State teacher certification exams prior to the practicum.

*Candidates are required to file an application.

**MSED: STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WITH A SPECIALIZATION IN AUTISM - ALL GRADES
(36 CREDITS)**

Level I: Core (12 credits)

GESP 5004	Mild/Moderate Disabilities
GESP 5401	Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders
GESP 5101	Cognition and Instruction
GESP 5102	Research Methods in Special Education

Level II: Specialization (21 credits)

GESP 5201	Assessing Students with Mild Disabilities
GESP 5205	Developing Learning Environments
GESP 5315	Literacy: Reading and Writing Instruction
GESP 5309	Collaboration Skills for the Special Educator
GESP 5402	Applied Behavior Analysis
GESP 5403	Autism: Curriculum and Instruction
GESP 5404	Autism: Language and Social Communication

Level III: Electives

There are no electives in this program.

Level IV: Capstone Experiences (3 credits)

GESP 6104*	Special Education Practicum (3 credits)
GESP 7100*	Comprehensive Assessment (0 credits)

*Candidates are required to complete New York State teacher certification exams prior to the practicum.

*Candidates are required to file an application.

MSED: LITERACY, All Grades (36 credits)*Level I: Core (9 credits)*

GED 3100	Language Development: Birth through Adolescence
GED 3101	Cognition and Instruction
GED 3102	Research Methods in Literacy

Level II: Literacy Specialization (18 credits)

GED 3401	Diagnostic Assessment for Literacy Instruction and Intervention
GED 3402	Language Acquisition and Literacy Development for English Language Learners K-12
GED 3403	Literacy Strategies: From Foundational to Critical
GED 3404	Content Area Literacy
GED 3405	Teaching Writing and Multimodal Text Production
GED 3406	Diversity Themes in Literature

Level III: Electives (3 credits)

One course in Special Education, Middle School Extension, Autism, or TESOL, by advisement.

Level IV: Capstone Experiences (6 credits)

GED 6205*	Literacy Practicum: Supervised Clinical Experience
GED 6204*	Organizing and Supervising the Literacy Program
GED 7100	Comprehensive Assessment (0 credits)

*Candidates are required to complete New York State teacher certification exams prior to the practicum.

*Candidates are required to file an application.

MSED: TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES–GRADES K-12 (30 CREDITS)

Note: For TESOL certification, candidates are required to have a minimum of 12 credits in a foreign language.

Level I: Core (12 credits)

GED 4101 Cognition and Instruction

GED 4102 Research Methods in Education

GED 4201 TESOL Foundations- Theory and Practice

GED 4202 Language Diversity and Education

Level II: Specialization (12 credits)

GED 4301 Linguistics and Structure of English Language

GED 4302 Language Acquisition and Literacy Development, gr K-12

GED 4303 Language Evaluation and Assessment

GED 4304 Content Area Instruction for ELLs

Level III: Electives (3 credits)

By advisement --Select a course from MSED. program in Special Education/Literacy

*Level IV: Capstone Experiences (3 credits)**

GED 6102 Practicum

GED 6100 Comprehensive Assessment (0cr)

*Candidates are required to complete New York State teacher certification exams prior to the practicum.

*Candidates are required to file an application.

MIDDLE SCHOOL EXTENSION: SPECIALIST, CONTENT AREAS

GED 1501 Psychology of the Middle School Student

GED 1502 Middle School Curriculum and Instruction

POST MASTER'S PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES

After satisfactory completion of program requirements candidates will be recommended for certification according to the program completed. All candidates for a professional certificate will complete a minimum of 15 credits at St. Thomas Aquinas College.

SPECIAL EDUCATION (18 Credits)

Teaching Students with Disabilities -All Grades

GESP 5004 Mild/Moderate Disabilities

GESP 5005 Autism and Low Incidence Disabilities

GESP 5201 Assessing Students w/Mild Disabilities

GESP 5205 Developing Learning Environments

GESP 5316 Instructional Strategies

GESP 6104* Special Education Practicum

Teaching Students with Disabilities, Adolescence, grades 7-12

GESP 5004 Mild/Moderate Disabilities
 GESP 5005 Autism and Low Incidence Disabilities
 GESP 5201 Assessing Students w/Mild Disabilities
 GESP 5317 Instructional Strategies – Secondary classrooms
 GESP 5209 Developing Learning Environments–Secondary classrooms
 GESP 6106* Special Education Practicum

*Candidates are required to complete New York State teacher certification exams prior to the practicum.

LITERACY, All Grades(15 Credits)

GED 3100 Language Development: Birth through Adolescence
 GED 3401 Diagnostic Assessment for Literacy Instruction and Intervention
 GED 3404 Content Area Literacy
 GED 6204* Organizing and Supervising the Literacy Program
 GED 6205* Literacy Practicum: Supervised Clinical Experience

*Candidates are required to complete New York State teacher certification exams prior to the practicum.

ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN AUTISM (12 CREDITS)

GESP 5401 Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders
 GESP 5402 Applied Behavior Analysis
 GESP 5403 Autism: Curriculum and Instruction
 GESP 5404: Autism: Language and Social Communication

TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES–GRADES K-12 (18 CREDITS)

GED 4201 TESOL Foundations- Theory and Practice
 GED 4301 Linguistics and Structure of English Language
 GED 4302 Language Acquisition and Literacy Development, gr K-12
 GED 4303 Language Evaluation and Assessment
 GED 4304 Content Area Instruction for ELLs
 GED 6102 TESOL Practicum

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

GED 1501: Psychology of the Middle School Student

This course examines established theory, research findings and clinical data on the middle childhood stage of development and integrates these findings with practical application. The physical, cognitive, affective and social-moral development of children in this transition stage will be explored.

GED 1502: Middle School Curriculum and Instruction

This course examines curricula and instructional strategies for the middle school grades. Topics of study include interdisciplinary curriculum, personalized instructional strategies for diverse classrooms, learning communities, and instructional technologies. Field experience required. Prerequisite: 1501.

GED 2100: Student Teaching (6 credits)

College supervised participation in teaching that addresses the full range of developmental and educational needs in the candidate's area(s) of certification. Students teach for a full semester under the guidance of a mentor cooperating teacher in two placements, eight weeks per placement, five-days-a-week, all-day. Students will serve one placement in grades 1-3 and the other placement in grades 4-6. Students are expected to demonstrate competencies developed in all courses in their particular Master of Science (MST) teaching program.

GED 2101: Psychology of Learning/Models of Teaching

Students in this course will examine theories and research findings that explain how learning happens: how the brain develops, functions, and changes as a result of experience and maturation. These will be matched with suggested pedagogical practices or models of instruction that respond to what we know about learning. Through readings, discussions, trial performance and observation, students will explore these topics in order to better understand and make better choices about how to teach and how to assess learning.

GED 2102: Reading and Language Development

Fundamentals of language development with emphasis on the development of reading skills and strategies, including the uses of technology. Focus on the development of a comprehensive, balanced literacy program integrating reading, writing, listening, and speaking to enable students to meet Common Core standards adopted by New York State. Adaptation of instructional methods and materials to provide enrichment for students with special learning needs and students from linguistically and culturally diverse backgrounds. Prerequisite: GED 2101 Psychology of Learning/Models of Teaching.

GED 2103: Historical and Contemporary Issues in Education

This course will examine the major critical issues that confront education today and their historical roots. Among the issues to be studied are the following: the educational reform and restructuring movements of the 1980's and 1990's; local, state, and Federal roles in education; equality of educational opportunity for underserved populations; the political influence of teacher unions; technology in schools; multicultural and global education; and site-based management. Through analyses of contemporary issues, students will gain a broad knowledge of education, based on historical, social, legal, economic, and political foundations.

GED 2104: Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum

Teaching reading/writing connections across the curriculum in all content areas. Focus is on strategies for increasing comprehension in the content areas; expanding word identification, vocabulary; and spelling; locating and using a variety of informational sources, including technological sources; using multiple genres of expository texts; research and inquiry; responding to individual differences, including special needs learners and learners with linguistic and cultural differences. Prerequisite: GED 2102.

GED 2105: Social Studies: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms

This course is designed to equip the prospective elementary school teachers to teach social studies to children. The content of this methodology course will follow the curriculum standards that have been developed through the National Council for the Social Studies and New York State Standards. The implementation of these standards will build upon the theoretical and practical experiences that students have gained through their graduate coursework, research endeavors, and field experiences. Through the in-depth construction of a unit plan and an annotated bibliography, the students will become “experts” in their chosen area of curriculum research.

GED 2106: Mathematics: Teaching Strategies for the Inclusive Classroom

This course will prepare the prospective elementary teacher to teach mathematics through the use of the Common Core Content and Mathematical Practices Standards. Focus is on the psychology of learning mathematics, the role of language, use of manipulatives, curriculum materials, content-specific pedagogy and differentiated instruction. Field experiences required.

GED 2107: Science: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms

In general, every attempt will be made to connect the new concepts to the participant’s previous experience, thereby encouraging the construction of new or adapted sets of concepts and procedures that will form the framework for self-directed future learning and instructional decision making. This approach is designed to serve as a model for the teaching/learning assessment process. The model will be applied to the instructional planning process as well as to the dynamics of situation bound delivery of instruction in science and technology. This may be interpreted as our recognition that every teaching/learning situation is distinct and individual.

GED 2108: Action Research and Evaluation

Effective teachers have used the process of reflection to guide self evaluation and change to improve their ability to design learning environments that empower students. This course is taken simultaneously with student teaching in childhood education. Student teachers are encouraged to develop positive dispositions toward professional development so that they can become deep-rooted students of pedagogy and human learning. The culminating Action Research Project required for successful completion of the MST is embedded in the final product of this course.

GED 2109: Comprehensive: Action Research Project (0 credits)

(This will be completed during the Action Research and Evaluation course)

Action-research is a long-term project that incorporates self-evaluation, professional development, and educational change. Teachers will use a research paradigm to solve classroom-based problems and make decisions in childhood education.

GED 2200: Student Teaching

Candidates in the initial teacher education programs complete a 16 week supervised student teaching experience. Candidates are assigned two placements, each for eight weeks. Placements are at two developmental levels. One placement will be in an elementary classroom (K-6) and one

placement will be in a secondary education classroom (7-12). Students are expected to demonstrate competencies developed in all courses in their particular Master of Science (MST) teaching program.

GED 2208: Seminar on Reflective Teaching

Effective teachers have used the process of reflection to guide self-evaluation and to improve their ability to design learning environments that empower students. This course is taken simultaneously with student teaching. An action research project allows candidates to document their effect on student learning as they analyze and modify instructional decisions and learning activities.

GED 2209: Action Research & Evaluation

(This will be completed during the Action Research and Evaluation course)

Action-research is a long-term project that incorporates self-evaluation, professional development, and educational change. Teachers will use a research paradigm to solve classroom-based problems and make decisions in adolescent education.

GED 2334 Special Methods Teaching Art K-12

Candidates will learn methods of teaching art through active participation in visual arts activities in drawing, painting, sculptures, selective crafts, and digital media. Course experiences will prepare prospective teachers in developing a responsible pedagogical approach as well as developing curriculum. Adaptation of instructional methods and materials, and enrichment for students with special learning needs and students from diverse cultural and language backgrounds will also be included. Fieldwork required. Prerequisite: EDEL 240 or EDSC 218; admission to the teacher education program. Fee: \$75.00

GED 2400: Student Teaching (6 credits)

College supervised participation in teaching that addresses the full range of developmental and educational needs in the candidate's area(s) of certification. Students teach for a full semester under the guidance of a mentor cooperating teacher in two placements, eight weeks per placement, five-days-a-week, all-day. Students will serve one placement in grades 7-8 and the other placement in grades 9-12. Students are expected to demonstrate competencies developed in all courses in their particular Master of Science (MST) teaching program.

GED 2401: Writing Across the Curriculum: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms

Use of various types of writing in order to expand understanding and enhance inquiry in the content areas. Focus on the writing process, its implementation in content area instruction and the assessment of writing and evaluation of materials. Modifications to accommodate the learning needs of all students. Review of national and NYS Regents standards related to literacy skills for students in middle and secondary schools. Field experiences required.

GED 2402: Reading Across the Curriculum: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms

Focus is on strategies for increasing comprehension, expanding word identification, and vocabulary in the content areas. Use of varied informational sources, including technology. Modifications to accommodate the learning needs of all students. Field experiences required.

GED 2403: Teaching Adolescents: Issues in Learning

This course based upon established theories of development, research findings and clinical data, presents a balanced account of adolescence as a critical transition from childhood to adulthood, as a positive and significant period of human growth, and a vital period of personal development, biological, sexual, cognitive, psychosocial and cultural variables; professional and personal implications with respect to education, career, marriage, and other life components. Field experiences required.

GED 2404 English: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent

Classrooms Introduction to the national and NYS Regents standards for teaching and learning English Language Arts in the middle and secondary school. Organization of the curriculum, use of instructional methods and strategies and the development of learning environments to support student learning in the English language arts. Use of print and technology resources to support learning. Modifications to accommodate the learning needs of all students. Field experiences required. Prerequisite: GED 2101.

GED 2405: Mathematics: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent

Classrooms Developing instructional strategies that enable learners to achieve the benchmarks of these standards, curriculum-based assessment, integration with science and technology. Adaptation of instructional methods and materials, and enrichment for students with special learning needs and students from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Introduction to NCTM and NYS Regents standards for teaching and learning math in grades 7-12. Field experiences required. Prerequisite: GED 2101.

GED 2406: Social Studies: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms

This course provides candidates with the knowledge and skills to make decisions about curriculum, instruction, and assessment in the middle/secondary social studies classroom. The course focuses on active learning strategies that address students' diverse learning styles. National Council for Social Studies and New York State curriculum standards are explored as conceptual frameworks for curriculum and instruction in Social Studies. Candidates are expected to critically examine their assumptions about teaching and learning. Field experiences required. Prerequisite: GED 2101.

GED 2407: Science: Teaching Strategies for Inclusive Adolescent Classrooms

This course provides candidates with the knowledge and skills to make decisions about curriculum, instruction, and assessment in the middle/secondary science classroom. The course focuses on active learning strategies that address students' diverse learning styles. New York State Mathematics, Science and Technology Standards and Regents standards are explored as conceptual frameworks for curriculum and instruction in science. Emphasis will be on research based instructional methods and strategies that enable learners to achieve the benchmarks of these standards, curriculum-based assessment, and integration with other content areas. Adaptation of instructional methods and materials and enrichment for students with special learning needs and students from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Field experiences required. Prerequisite: GED 2101.

GED 2408: Action Research and Evaluation

Effective teachers have used the process of reflection to guide self evaluation and change to improve their ability to design learning environments that empower students. This course is taken simultaneously with student teaching in adolescent education. Student teachers are encouraged to develop positive dispositions toward professional development so that they can become deep- rooted students of pedagogy and human learning. The culminating Action Research Project required for successful completion of the MST is embedded in the final product of this course.

GED 2409: Comprehensive: Action Research Project (0 credit)

(This will be completed during the Action Research and Evaluation course)

Action-research is a long-term project that incorporates self-evaluation, professional development, and educational change. Teachers will use a research paradigm to solve classroom based problems and make decisions in adolescent education.

COURSES IN LITERACY**GED 3100: Language Development: Birth through Adolescence**

This course focuses on the development of language from birth through adolescence. Theories and strategies that support the development of foundational skills such as phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension will be presented as well as those theories and strategies that support the deepening of literacy knowledge as students mature as thoughtful readers, writers, and critical thinkers within specific content areas. Theories and concepts addressed: psycholinguistics, funds of knowledge, sociocultural learning theory, cultural and linguistic responsive theories, emergent literacy, behaviorism, developmental and cognitive views of language development and literacy learning. Topics relevant to today's classrooms such as the Science of Reading, Word Study, and Assessment will also be addressed. Emphasis is placed on understanding the theories as they relate to successful literacy classroom environments.

GED 3101: Cognition and Instruction

Study of the cognitive processes of perception, attention, memory, metacognition, and affective factors that influence student learning, e.g., self- efficacy and motivation. Application of principles of cognitive psychology to the acquisition of beginning reading skills, reading comprehension, studying, writing, mathematics, science, and problem solving. Current research related to cognitive processes and cognitive characteristics of diverse learners, including English language learners and students with disabilities. Implications for student learning and instruction across academic areas will be discussed.

GED 3102: Research Methods in Literacy/Education

This course offers an overview of quantitative and qualitative research methodologies in education and the behavioral sciences. It introduces teachers to historical, descriptive, experimental, single subject, and ethnographic research methods related to education. The course will present a framework for understanding and evaluating published research and for using educational research to help solve problems in professional practice. Recent contributions to educational issues and practice will be discussed such as the Science of Reading. Candidates will focus their research on topics related to literacy development and effective literacy instruction.

GED 3401: Diagnostic Assessment for Literacy Instruction and Intervention

This course will guide candidates through an examination of the multiple purposes and processes of assessment and evaluation in literacy instruction. Candidates will learn to determine appropriate uses of formal and informal assessment measures and individual literacy strengths and weaknesses. Candidates will learn how to identify and provide appropriate explicit and systematic instruction for students with reading difficulties including dyslexia. This requires an understanding of principles addressed in the Science of Reading. Candidates will have experience planning, implementing, and interpreting multiple assessment processes, including but not limited to observation, surveys, running records, rubrics, portfolios, performances, standardized tests, and reading conferences. A supervised field-based instructional report is required. Focus is on the most effective intervention methods for increasing skill development, motivation, engagement, and achievement for readers and writers who struggle, including studying and test-taking strategies.

GED 3402: Language Acquisition and Literacy Development for English Language Learners K-12

Study of approaches, methods, and techniques used in teaching English language and literacy development to native English speakers and students who are English language learners at the secondary level. The emphasis of the course includes curriculum development, instructional planning, and multiple research-validated instructional strategies for teaching students with the full range of abilities, and means for understanding the needs of students with disabilities.

GED 3403: Literacy Strategies: From Foundational to Critical

This course focuses on research-based strategies for assessing instructional effectiveness and teaching literacy at the early childhood, childhood, and adolescent levels. Focus is on development of individual literacy skills and strategies needed to be a successful reader, writer, and speaker within an engaging literacy learning environment and the teaching that supports such including evidenced-based practices supported by the Science of Reading. Topics include developing skills and strategies needed for high level literacy engagement as well as strategies to provide data identified support and guidance. Emphasis is on monitoring individual learning through teacher created and selected assessments, developing integrated learning environments that include strategies that promote ownership and self-regulated reading and writing, development of critical thinking skills, reading/writing connections, and integration of curriculum.

GED 3404: Content Area Literacy

This course focuses on the skills and strategies needed to read and write nonfiction and informational text at the early childhood, childhood, upper elementary, and adolescent levels. Topics include the following: understanding nonfiction text structure and organization, vocabulary development, comprehension strategies, using reference sources, supporting primary and secondary research skills, inquiry-based learning, document-based reading, genre and author studies, reading/writing connections, and incorporating technology as a tool for learning and presenting. Assessing student comprehension, language development, and vocabulary is an integral component of this class.

GED 3405: Teaching Writing and Multimodal Text Production

This course focuses on writing as a developmental process from early childhood to adolescence, and emphasizes the steps of the writing process—writing as thinking. Best practices for assessing writing are reviewed. Strategies for teaching English writing conventions, including word usage, sentence structure, grammar, and spelling are addressed. Reading/writing connections are addressed such as using authors as mentors, evaluating and analyzing genres, and self-evaluating writing. This course will have strong alignment with NYSED Next Generation ELA Standards.

GED 3406: Diversity Themes in Literature

Course participants will research the various manifestations of diversity and its related themes and explore how these are represented in literary works written for children and adolescents. They will create an instructional plan that incorporates these works and leads themselves and their students to develop cultural competence, cultural sensitivity, and cultural awareness. They will reflect on their own disposition toward diversity. Topics include culture and ethnicity, ethnocentrism, ethnorelativism, multicultural perspective, cultural competence, and culturally responsive teaching.

GED 6204: Organizing and Supervising the Literacy Program

In this capstone course, candidates will focus on the role of the literacy specialist as a school leader and staff developer. Emphasis will be on developing knowledge, understanding, and performance skills to organize and supervise effective schoolwide literacy programs. Topics of current interest such as the Science of Reading, Culturally/Linguistically Responsive Teaching, and Social/Emotional wellness will be addressed as they impact learning and therefore, school curriculum. Candidates will need to evaluate programs; develop literacy curriculum; plan and implement professional development; prepare to supervise teachers and support staff; and develop the skills and orientations necessary to build positive school/home/community relations. Candidates will explore the theoretical and practical aspects of organizing, administering, and leading literacy programs in schools. By using data, student work samples, research, professional resources, and each other, candidates will refine their beliefs on effective and principled literacy teaching and learning so that upon completion, they are prepared to work as a curricular leader in schools.

GED 6205: Literacy Practicum: Supervised Clinical Experience

This course provides a supervised clinical experience in which candidates work with students at the early childhood, childhood, upper elementary, and middle school/high school levels who are experiencing reading and writing difficulties. Candidates are supervised through the designing, implementing, and evaluating of an effective program of literacy instruction for those students. Candidates will authentically assess students, plan a comprehensive intervention program based on researched best practices such as those put forth by the Science of Reading, implement the program under the supervision of a full-time faculty member with a terminal degree in literacy, and participate in a professional seminar to examine critical issues. Candidates will take on the role of literacy coach as they observe, model, and provide feedback to colleagues and as they develop and participate in collegial online discussion groups. Candidates will also prepare reports for parents/guardians and meet with them to provide feedback and strategic support at home.

The course requires a minimum of 50 hours but allows for up to 60 hours of college-supervised experience.

GED 7100: Comprehensive Assessment (0 credit)

A summative portfolio evaluation through which degree candidates demonstrate mastery of the outcomes of the degree program. Prerequisites: all 3000 level coursework, approval of the Director of Graduate Education.

COURSES IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

GESP 2410: Classroom Organization and Management (Secondary)

Design of a positive classroom climate that facilitates learning for all students. Study of specific approaches to classroom management. Analysis of behavior from different theoretical perspectives and application of research validated strategies to decrease disruptive behaviors and establish positive behaviors. Ethical concerns and IDEA regulations related to behavior management. State mandated training in violence prevention. Field experiences required.

GESP 2600: Student Teaching (6 credits)

College supervised participation in teaching that addresses the full range of developmental and educational needs in the candidate's area(s) of certification. Students teach for a full semester under the guidance of a mentor cooperating teacher in two placements (general education and special education), eight weeks per placement, five-days-a-week, all-day. Students will serve one placement in grades 1-3 and the other placement in grades 4-6. Students are expected to demonstrate competencies developed in all courses in their particular Master of Science (MST) teaching program.

GESP 2601: Exceptional Individuals

Historical foundations and major legislation that underlie special education practice with a focus on the IEP process and current issues. Characteristics of children with special needs (i.e., disabilities, giftedness) in each of the following areas of development: biological, cognitive, language, perceptual, and social-emotional and the implications of those characteristics for educational intervention. Fieldwork required.

GESP 2602: Classroom Organization and Management (Elementary)

Design of a positive classroom climate that facilitates learning for all students. Study of specific approaches to classroom management. Analysis of behavior from different theoretical perspectives and application of research validated strategies to decrease disruptive behaviors and establish positive behaviors. Ethical concerns and IDEA regulations related to behavior management. State mandated training in violence prevention. Fieldwork required.

GESP 2603: Assessment: Principles & Practices

Examination of formal and informal assessment procedures to fulfill the assessment requirements under IDEA. Interpretation and use of standardized and informal procedures to inform educational decisions. Reporting assessment results to students, parents, and professionals. Ethical concerns related to assessment.

Fieldwork required. Prerequisite GED 2601 Exceptional Children.

GESP 2605: Autism and Low-Incidence Disabilities

Characteristics of individuals with autism spectrum disorders and other low-incidence disabilities in the following areas of development: biological, cognitive, language, perceptual, and socio-emotional. Examination of assessment, identification, and placement procedures, curriculum and instructional approaches, specialized techniques, and assistive devices with an emphasis on teaching functional skills and adaptive behavior to students who require moderate to intensive levels of support. Fieldwork Required.

GESP 2606: Teaching Methods: Mild/Moderate Disabilities

Research-based practices for effective instruction to develop students' cognitive and academic skills. Examination of strategies for assessing students' academic skills and monitoring progress, remedial strategies for teaching reading, writing, math skills, and learning skills, and procedures for consultation and collaboration with parents and professionals. Prerequisites: GESP 2603.

GESP 2608: Action Research and Evaluation

Effective teachers have used the process of reflection to guide self-evaluation and change to improve their ability to design learning environments that empower students in childhood and special education. This course is taken simultaneously with student teaching. Student teachers are encouraged to develop positive dispositions toward professional development so that they can become deep-rooted students of pedagogy and human learning. The culminating Action Research Project required for successful completion of the MST is embedded in the final product of this course.

GESP 2609: Comprehensive: Action Research Project (0 credit)

(This will be completed during the Action Research and Evaluation course)

Action-research is a long-term project that incorporates self-evaluation, professional development, and educational change. Teachers will use a research paradigm to solve classroom based problems and make decisions in childhood and special education.

GESP 2700: Student Teaching

College supervised participation in teaching that addresses the full range of developmental and educational needs in the candidate's area(s) of certification. Students teach for a full semester under the guidance of a mentor cooperating teacher in two placements (general education and special education), eight weeks per placement, five-days-a-week, all-day. Students will serve one placement in grades 7-8 and the other placement in grades 9-12. Students are expected to demonstrate competencies developed in all courses in their particular Master of Science (MST) teaching program.

GESP 2708: Action Research and Evaluation

Effective teachers have used the process of reflection to guide self-evaluation and change to improve their ability to design learning environments that empower students in childhood and special education. This course is taken simultaneously with student teaching. Student teachers are encouraged to develop positive dispositions toward professional development so that they can become deep-rooted students of pedagogy and human learning. The culminating Action Research Project required for successful completion of the MST is embedded in the final product of

this course.

GESP 2709: Comprehensive: Action Research Project (0 credit)

(This will be completed during the Action Research and Evaluation course)

Action-research is a long-term project that incorporates self-evaluation, professional development, and educational change. Teachers will use a research paradigm to solve classroom-based problems and make decisions in childhood and special education.

GESP 5004: Mild/Moderate Disabilities

Historical, social, and legal foundations of special education. Characteristics of culturally and linguistically diverse students with mild/moderate disabilities in the following areas of development: biological, cognitive, language, perceptual, and social-emotional. Study of theories that inform effective instructional practice. Culturally inclusive research-based practices in assessment, identification, placement, curriculum, and instructional models/approaches. Collaboration for effective instruction in generalized and inclusive learning environments. Fieldwork required.

GESP 5005: Autism and Low-Incidence Disabilities

Characteristics of culturally and linguistically diverse students with autism and low-incidence disabilities in the following areas of development: biological, cognitive, language, perceptual, and socio-emotional. Culturally inclusive research-based practices in assessment, identification, placement, curriculum, and instructional models/approaches. Strength-based and support-based models which address lifelong needs. Specialized techniques and assistive devices promote the educational progress and inclusion of students with autism and low-incidence disabilities. Fieldwork required.

GESP 5101: Cognition and Instruction

Study of cognitive processes of perception, attention, memory, meta-cognition, and motivation in general education students and for students with mild disabilities. Application of cognitive principles to the acquisition of beginning reading skills, reading comprehension, studying, writing, mathematics, science, and problem solving. Current research related to cognitive processes and implications for instructions.

GESP 5102: Research Methods in Special Education

This course is designed to prepare teachers for their role as educated consumers of research and as researchers. The course will focus on a study of historical, descriptive, and experimental research methodology related to education. Single subject research designs and qualitative research methods frequently used in special education will also be studied. Recent contributions to educational practice will be discussed. Additionally, the course will present a framework for analyzing, evaluating, and critiquing research.

GESP 5201: Assessing Students with Mild Disabilities

Examination of culturally responsive formal and informal assessment procedures, including computer-based assessments, to fulfill the evaluation requirements under the IDEA. Collaboration with families and professionals in assessment procedures. Interpretation and use of standardized tests, criterion-based tests, and progress monitoring to plan and guide educational interventions and monitor student progress. Development of skills needed to report assessment results to students, parents, and professionals. Ethical concerns related to assessment. Fieldwork required. Prerequisite: GESP 5004.

GESP 5205: Developing Learning Environments (All Grades)

Design consistent, organized, and inclusive learning environments that facilitate learning for all students. Examine theoretical perspectives on behavior. Application of research-validated strategies to promote social behaviors across multiple settings. Ethical and legal concerns about behavior management, including IDEA regulations related to interim placements, functional behavior assessment, and behavior management. Culturally relevant research-validated practices in the prevention and management of challenging behaviors. Fieldwork required. Prerequisite: GESP 5004.

GESP 5309: Collaboration Skills for the Special Educator

Study of the special educator's role and interpersonal relationships with students, parents, professionals, and paraprofessionals in the inclusion of students with disabilities. Examination of collaboration, consultation, and teamwork in the context of these relationships. Research based strategies/models to develop collaborative skills. Community service agencies for students with disabilities. Prerequisite: GESP 5004.

GESP 5315 Literacy: Reading and Writing Instruction (All Grades)

Study of literacy development from early childhood to adulthood. Characteristics of native English speakers and English language learners. Variation in word recognition, decoding, fluency, vocabulary learning, reading comprehension, and written expression in students with disabilities. Curriculum development, assessment, and lesson design in reading and writing, including the Science of Reading. Use of instructional technology for access and cooperative learning. Fieldwork required. Prerequisites: GESP 5004, GESP 5101.

GESP 5316 Instructional Strategies (All Grades)

Culturally sustaining research validated instructional approaches for students with disabilities in generalized and inclusive settings. Examination of principles of curriculum design, Universal Design for Learning, differentiated instruction, cognitive learning strategies, and study skills. Effective practices for teaching in the content areas (mathematics, science, social studies, modern languages), including literacy skills and instructional technology. Strategies for assessing a student's academic skills and monitoring progress. Prerequisites: GESP 5004, GESP 5101.

GESP 5401: Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders

Definitions, identification and evaluation procedures for Autism Spectrum Disorders. Characteristics of students with Autism Spectrum Disorders, in the following areas of development: biological, cognitive, language, perceptual, and socio-emotional. Impact on family. Overview of theoretical interpretations, research methods and

instructional approaches. Legal and ethical considerations in evidence-based practice. Fieldwork required.

GESP 5402: Applied Behavior Analysis

Description of the basic principles, philosophy, and procedures of Applied Behavioral Analysis. Behavioral research designs, methods, and applications. Assessment methods used to identify factors that contribute to behavioral problems. Research validated procedures used to improve behavior and performance in diverse learners with autism spectrum disorders. Fieldwork required. Prerequisite: GESP 5401.

GESP 5403: Autism: Curriculum and Instruction

Research validated curricular approaches for teaching students with autism spectrum disorders from early intervention through transition to adult services. Current issues and best practices in curriculum design, assessment and implementation, with a focus on integrating theoretical and practical concepts. Classroom organization and materials used to instruct students with autism. Fieldwork Required. Prerequisite: GESP 5401.

GESP 5404: Autism: Language and Social Communication

Social deficits in autism spectrum disorders: language delay and characteristics, pragmatics, and reciprocity. Communication systems and augmentative and alternative communication systems (AAC). Research validated approaches for teaching social and communication skills. Emerging best- practice interventions for teaching social understanding, shaping appropriate social behavior, building play and leisure skills, increasing social communication skills, and teaching coping skills. Fieldwork Required. Prerequisite: GESP 5401.

GESP 5201: Classroom management and Behavior Supports

The course will focus on implementing high-leverage practices for effective management of classroom behavior for students with disabilities and promoting the development of positive social interaction skills. Course assignments will address functional behavioral assessments and behavior intervention plans. Candidates will learn how to plan for and manage teaching and learning environments for students with disabilities, including how to support and respond to the behavioral needs of students with disabilities in the general education setting. A positive, proactive approach to the early detection and prevention of violent and troubling student behaviors will be highlighted throughout this course, with attention to the developmental and social contexts in which student behaviors occur. Prerequisite: GESP 2601. Fieldwork required.

GESP 6104: Practicum (6 credits)

Supervised experience in the teaching of students with disabilities. Using culturally inclusive pedagogies in special education, candidates will identify instructional needs, write student learning objectives, design and implement instructional activities, and monitor, evaluate, and report progress. Degree candidates lacking teaching experience in special education will complete a ten-week student teaching experience. Prerequisites: All other courses.

GESP 7100: Comprehensive Assessment (0 credit)

A critical essay through which degree candidates demonstrate proficiency in addressing a current educational issue through a critical review of research literature and applying appropriate findings to design effective instructional practices for students with disabilities. Prerequisites: Core and Pedagogy courses; approval of faculty advisor (February/October).

COURSES IN TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (TESOL)**GED 4101: Cognition and Instruction**

Study of the cognitive processes of perception, attention, memory, metacognition, and affective factors that influence student learning, e.g., self-efficacy and motivation. Application of principles of cognitive psychology to the acquisition of beginning reading skills, reading comprehension, studying, writing, mathematics, science, and problem solving. Current research related to cognitive processes and cognitive characteristics of diverse learners, specifically English language learners. Implications for student learning and instruction across academic areas will be discussed.

GED 4102: Research Methods in Education

This course offers an overview of quantitative and qualitative research methodologies in education and the behavioral sciences. It introduces teachers to historical, descriptive, experimental, single subject, and ethnographic research methods related to education. The course will present a framework for understanding and evaluating published research and for using educational research to help solve problems in professional practice. Recent contributions to educational practice including evidence-based practices with English Language Learners will be discussed.

GED 4201: TESOL Foundations

Foundation methods course for students who are learning to teach English as a second/foreign language. Contents include guiding principles and methodology in various approaches to the teaching of second languages, including teaching reading and writing, developing auditory comprehension and oral production; impact of culture, heritage, socioeconomic level, educational background, and other human development processes and variations on language and literacy development; skills in motivation, communication, and classroom management.

GED 4202: Language Diversity and Education

Study of theory, policy, and practice of language minority education in the U.S. and international contexts. Key concepts include models and programs of additional language education; policy and politics of language minority education; the impact of culture, heritage, socioeconomic level, home, and community on students' learning; means for understanding the needs of students with disabilities, including those with dual identifications; fostering effective relationships and interaction to support student growth and learning. Emphasis on pedagogical implications of the aforementioned, with particular attention to native language development, language acquisition and literacy development for developmentally and linguistically diverse students.

GED 4301: Linguistics and Structure of English Language

Course content introduces student teachers to theories of general and applied linguistics, focused on the nature and complexity of human language through study of language subsystems and principles of language acquisition. The course shifts to focus on approaches to studying language education, engaging participants in the work of community and school-based applied linguistics.

GED 4302: Language Acquisition and Literacy Development K- 12 Grade

Study of approaches, methods, and techniques used in teaching English language and literacy development to native English speakers and students who are English language learners at the secondary level. The emphasis of the course includes curriculum development, instructional planning, and multiple research-validated instructional strategies for teaching students with the full range of abilities and means for understanding the needs of students with disabilities.

GED 4303: Language Evaluation and Assessment

Examination of issues related to assessment of language proficiency and cognitive abilities of K-12 English language learners, including the importance of appropriate diagnostic testing to the teaching and learning progress, a review of potential cultural bias in K-12 assessment procedures for assessing the eligibility of K-12 students for special language programs.

GED 4304: Content Area Instruction for English Language Learners

Content Area Instruction for English Language Learners: Develop an understanding and acquire knowledge and skills that support the English language acquisition of ESL/EFL students while teaching different core curriculum areas. Using and developing strategies, methods, materials that support the review of language distribution strategies to scaffold core subject learning. Focus on responsive instruction that makes use of effective communication techniques and instructional strategies that actively involve students in the learning process.

GED 6100: TESOL Comprehensive Exam

This capstone project, a take home exam that allows candidates to demonstrate their substantive and integrated knowledge in their field—TESOL. It also demonstrates candidates' ability to apply critical thinking and research skills on given topics. The exam rubric will be aligned with TESOL standards.

GED 6102: TESOL Practicum

This course offers a supervised experience assessing Standards-based practices and strategies related to planning, implementing, and managing the Teaching of English as a Second Language (TESOL) and content instruction, including classroom organization, teaching strategies for developing and integrating language skills, and choosing and adapting classroom resources to support students. Candidates will authentically assess students, plan a comprehensive intervention program based on researched best practices, implement the program under the supervision of a full-time faculty member. Candidates will engage in teaching ESOL as they observe, model, and provide feedback to colleagues and as they develop and participate in collegial online discussion groups. Candidates will also prepare reports for parents/guardians and meet with them to provide feedback and strategy support at home. The course requires candidates to complete at least 50 hours of college-supervised field experiences with students learning English as a new language in both elementary and secondary schools.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Mission of the School of Business

The School of Business educates and enables students to make a positive contribution to the world and prepares them for success in the evolving and complex global business environment. We nurture ethical reasoning skills, an innovative analytic mindset, communication skills, and global perspectives through student-focused teaching and transformative experiential learning.

Program Requirements

The program offers four, nine-week sessions providing students with the opportunity to sign up for a new session in September, December, March and June. Campus-based courses meet once per weekend on Friday evenings, Saturday mornings, or Sunday mornings. The option for completing the Master of Business Administration degree completely online is approved by New York State. Busy professionals around the globe can take advantage of the flexible course offerings at St. Thomas Aquinas College. Online courses meet in a virtual classroom and are accessible 24/7 during the nine (9) week session.

The MBA curriculum requires the completion of 39 credit hours. At least 33 of the credits must be taken on the graduate level at St. Thomas Aquinas College. The program has pathways for traditional undergraduate business majors and non-business majors. Students can customize their experience by selecting upper-level courses that fit their career interests; or they can choose a concentration in Artificial Intelligence, Business Analytics, Cybersecurity, Finance, Healthcare Management & Informatics, Human Resource Management, Management, Marketing, or Sport Administration. There is a specialized track for undergraduate accounting students which also satisfies the 150 hour CPA requirement. These students earn an MBA with a concentration in General Studies.

The MBA Program for Business Majors

For students who have an undergraduate degree in business, the MBA curriculum requires the completion of the following credits:

- Core courses (21 credits)
- Upper level courses (15 credits)
- Capstone Course (3 credits).

Professional Communications Strategies must be taken within the first twelve credits of the program. Substantial completion of Common Professional Component (Core) credits is expected before students enroll in Upper Level Courses. The Capstone Course is to be completed within nine credits of graduation. There is a global course requirement which must be satisfied with either GMBA 1204, GMBA 1302, GMBA 1309, GMBA 1402, or a designated special topics course.

I. Core Courses (Common Professional Component) *: 21 credits

- GMBA 1102 Managerial Economics
- GMBA 1104 Management Information Systems
- GMBA 1108 Legal Environment of Business

GMBA 1116 Operations Management
 GMBA 1121 Business Analytics
 GMBA 1130 Business and The Environment
 GMBA 1151 Professional Communication Strategies

*Entering MBA students are expected to have competency in basic computer and quantitative skills, and oral and written communication skills.

II. Upper Level Courses in one of the following areas: 15 credits

Students may pursue a general program of study tailored to their individual needs or concentrate in Artificial Intelligence, Business Analytics, Cybersecurity, Finance, Healthcare Management & Informatics, Human Resource Management, Management, Marketing, or Sport Administration. To concentrate in a single area, at least four of the five upper level courses must be chosen from that area, with the fifth course from any area.

A. Artificial Intelligence: (5 courses - 15 credits)

1. Twelve credits selected from:
 - GMBA 1801 Generative AI for Managers
 - GMBA 1805 Business Use Cases for AI
 - GMBA 1807 AI Governance and Ethics
 - GMBA 1803 Managing AI Projects
2. Three credits selected from any of the concentration areas.

B. Business Analytics (5 courses - 15 credits)

1. Twelve credits selected from:
 - GMBA 1811 Storytelling with Data
 - GMBA 1815 Spreadsheet Modeling for Decision-Making
 - GMBA 1817 Python for Business Analytics
 - GMBA 1803 Managing AI Projects
 - GMBA 1213 Accounting and Finance Analytics
2. Three credits selected from any of the concentration areas.

C. Cybersecurity (5 courses - 15 credits)

1. Twelve credits selected from:
 - GMBA 1821 Information Governance, Risk Management, and Compliance
 - GMBA 1825 Network Architectures for Cyber Managers
 - GMBA 1827 Cyber Risk Management and Strategy
 - GMBA 1823 Executive Cyber Defense
2. Three credits selected from any of the concentration areas.

D. Finance: (5 courses - 15 credits)

1. Twelve credits selected from:
 - GMBA 1201 Corporate Finance
 - GMBA 1202 Investment Analysis
 - GMBA 1203 Financial Institutions & Capital Markets
 - GMBA 1204 Global Finance
 - GMBA 1205 Mergers & Acquisitions
 - GMBA 1206 Capital Budgeting
 - GMBA 1207 Quantitative Finance & Forecasting
 - GMBA 1208 Commercial Banking
 - GMBA 1213 Accounting and Finance Analytics

2. Three credits selected from any of the concentration areas.

C. *Human Resource Management: (5 courses - 15 credits)*

1. Required course three credits:
GMBA 1305: Human Resource Management
2. Nine credits selected from:
GMBA 1320 Strategic Staffing
GMBA 1322 Total Rewards Management
GMBA 1324 Human Resource Development
GMBA 1326 Labor Relations and Collective Bargaining
3. Three credits selected from any of the concentration areas.

E. *Management: (5 courses - 15 credits)*

1. Twelve credits selected from:
GMBA 1301 Organizational Behavior
GMBA 1302 Global Management
GMBA 1303 Entrepreneurial Management
GMBA 1304 Corporate Strategy
GMBA 1305 Human Resource Management
GMBA 1306 Decision Theory
GMBA 1307 Managing Organizational Change & Conflict
GMBA 1308 Organizational Theory
GMBA 1309 Globalization of Business
2. Three credits selected from any of the concentration areas.

F. *Marketing: (5 courses -15 credits)*

1. Twelve credits selected from:
GMBA 1401 Consumer Behavior
GMBA 1402 Global Marketing
GMBA 1403 Marketing of Services
GMBA 1404 Product Management & New Product Development
GMBA 1405 Advertising Promotion & Media Planning
GMBA 1406 Sales Force Management
GMBA 1407 Marketing Research
GMBA 1408 Direct Marketing
2. Three credits selected from any of the concentration areas

G. *Sport Administration: (5 courses) (15 credits)*

1. Twelve credits selected from:
GMBA 1601 Sport Communications and Public Relations
GMBA 1602 Risk Management and Legal Aspects
GMBA 1603 Governance of Intercollegiate Sport
GMBA 1604 Sport Administration Seminar
GMBA 1605 Applied Ethics in Sport
GMBA 1606 Financial Aspects of Sport
GMBA 1607 Sport Industry Leadership and Management
GMBA 1608 Sport Management Analytics
2. Three credits selected from any of the concentration areas

H. Healthcare Management & Informatics: (5 courses - 15 credits)

1. Twelve credits selected from:

GMBA 1701 Healthcare Management
 GMBA 1702 Healthcare Information Management
 GMBA 1703 Healthcare Finance
 GMBA 1704 Healthcare Law and Ethics *
 GMBA 1705 Healthcare Informatics

2. Three credits selected from any of the concentration areas.

* The program requires an ethics course which can be satisfied by either GMBA 1705, Healthcare Law and Ethics, or GMBA 1502, Leadership, Ethics and Business. If GMBA 1502 is chosen to satisfy the ethics requirement, it will also satisfy the capstone requirement. A student must take an upper level elective course.

III. Capstone Courses: (required) 3 credits, selected from:

GMBA 1502 LEADERSHIP, ETHICS, & BUSINESS

GMBA 1504 BUSINESS POLICY, RESEARCH, & DECISION-MAKING

Specialized Programs:

Accounting/CPA 150: General MBA

Undergraduate Accounting majors enrolled in this program earn BS Accounting/MBA General degrees at St. Thomas Aquinas College. The program meets the CPA educational licensure requirements for New York State. The curriculum for this program requires students to complete MBA Core courses (21 credits); Twelve credits of Upper level accounting courses and one three credit upper level elective (15 credits); and one Capstone Course (3 credits)

Healthcare Management & Informatics for Business Undergraduates

Students who choose to complete their MBA with a concentration in Healthcare Management & Informatics are also eligible to pursue the Digital Healthcare Leader Certificate. They complete the traditional undergraduate business major MBA curriculum, however, there is no global course requirement.

The MBA Program for Non-Business Majors

For students who do not have an undergraduate degree in business, the MBA curriculum requires the completion of the following credits:

For students who have an The traditional undergraduate degree in business, the major MBA curriculum requires the completion of the following credits:

Core courses (27 credits)

Upper level courses (9 credits)

One Capstone Course (3 credits)

Professional Communications Strategies must be taken within the first twelve credits of the program. Enrollment in Common Professional Component (Core) credits is expected before students enroll in Upper Level Courses. The Capstone Course is to be completed within nine credits of graduation.

I. Core Courses (Common Professional Component) *: 27 credits

GMBA 1101 Financial Accounting

GMBA 1102 Managerial Economics

GMBA 1103 Marketing Concepts & Strategies

GMBA 1105 Managerial Finance

GMBA 1107 Management Theory & Practice

GMBA 1108 Legal Environment of Business

GMBA 1116 Operations Management

GMBA 1121 Business Analytics

GMBA 1151 Professional Communication Strategies

*Entering MBA students are expected to have competency in basic computer and quantitative skills, and oral and written communication skills.

II. Upper Level Courses in one of the following areas: 9 credits

Students may pursue a general program of study tailored to their individual needs or concentrate in Artificial Intelligence, Business Analytics, Cybersecurity, Finance, Human Resource Management, Management, Marketing, or Sport Administration. To concentrate in a single area, three upper level courses must be chosen from that area (see above). There is a specialized track for students wishing to pursue the Digital Healthcare Leader Certificate as part of the Healthcare Management & Informatics program.

The global course requirement must be satisfied with either GMBA 1204, GMBA 1302, GMBA 1309, GMBA 1402, or a designated special topics course.

III. Capstone Courses: (required) 3 credits, selected from:

GMBA 1502 Leadership, Ethics, & Business

GMBA 1504 Business Policy, Research, & Decision-Making

Healthcare Management & Informatics for Non-Business Undergraduates

Students who choose to complete their MBA with a concentration in Healthcare Management & Informatics may do so by taking the 13 required courses as described above, however, there is no global course requirement. Students who wish to pursue the Digital Healthcare Leader Certificate

must take 14 required courses, which includes a fourth Upper Level Healthcare class. An additional prerequisite Core class may also be required.

ADVANCED CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Advanced Certificates are designed to provide discipline-specific graduate courses for individuals in the workforce looking to learn specific skills. Post baccalaureate certificates are offered in Artificial Intelligence, Business Analytics, Cybersecurity, Finance, Healthcare Management & Informatics, Human Resource Management, Management, and Marketing. Admission requirements for these programs are the same as the MBA program, and students are required to maintain a 3.0 grade point average. The Advanced Certificate in Artificial Intelligence, Business Analytics, Cybersecurity, Finance, Healthcare Management & Informatics, Human Resource Management, Management, or Marketing requires five (5) upper-level courses in the specific concentration. One upper-level course may be taken outside of the concentration. To take upper-level courses, the student must meet any course prerequisites. The certificates in Artificial Intelligence, Business Analytics, Cybersecurity, Healthcare Management & Informatics, and Human Resource Management are online programs. Certificates in Finance, Marketing, and Management must be completed on-campus.

Students who complete an advanced certificate may use the credits later toward achieving an MBA degree. Also, students who have already completed their MBA, may choose to pursue an advanced certificate in a different concentration than their MBA to enhance their knowledge in a new area.

Applications for admission to the St. Thomas Aquinas College MBA program are available in the Admissions Office. For further information, please contact the Admissions staff at 845-398-4100, or the MBA Office at 845-398-4130.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR THE MBA & CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS *(All courses are 3 credits unless otherwise indicated.)*

CORE COURSES

GMBA 1101: Financial Accounting

Accounting principles and practices used to prepare financial accounting information for public reporting by management. Financial statement reporting and analysis, accounting terminology and mechanics, transactional analysis, cost concepts, income determination, federal income tax decisions, and the environment in which business decision makers and accountants work.

GMBA 1102: Managerial Economics

Application of the use of economic theory, especially microeconomic theory to practical problem solving. Emphasizes the analysis of internal operations and optimal decision-making, especially in the areas of resource allocation and price formulation.

GMBA 1103: Marketing Concepts & Strategies

Concepts and processes of marketing goods and services. Targeting markets and developing a marketing mix: product, price, distribution and promotion strategies. Consumer behavior,

marketing research, product planning, international marketing and effective leadership. The impact of the political, legal, social, economic, technological and competitive environments on the marketing activities of the organization.

GMBA 1104: Management Information Systems

Information systems and associated technologies. Technical and managerial material required to understand the operational and strategic uses of information systems in organizations - for management control, decision support systems, as information processors, and knowledge work support systems. Future issues in information management technology, and ethical issues.

GMBA 1105: Managerial Finance

Theoretical treatment of the fundamental concepts of finance and their application to practical decision making. Exchange in the capital and money markets, valuation, behavior towards risk, risk and returns, asset and security pricing, financial statement analysis and reporting requirements. Note: Students who were not undergraduate business majors are required to complete GMBA 1101 Financial Accounting prior to enrolling in GMBA 1105.

GMBA 1106: Operations Research

The role that management science plays in the decision-making process. Quantitative methods currently used to solve business-related problems. Model building, goal and linear programming, queuing models, quantitative analysis for decision-making, inventory models, and simulation. Computer applications, spreadsheets, statpacks, and graphic packages are required and are the key analytic tools used in the course.

GMBA 1107: Management Theory & Practice

Current management theory and practice, managerial roles and responsibilities. Investigation and review of historical foundations and approaches. Managerial functions of planning, organizing, staffing, directing and leading, and controlling. An understanding of human behavior and the impact of demographic diversity on organizations. Defines the basic tasks of the manager in establishing the work environment, making decisions, setting strategy, allocating resources and executing programs. Competitive leadership to effect a more just and humane society in a variety of settings from smaller companies to global corporations.

GMBA 1108: The Legal Environment of Business

The relationship of law to business, including the development of law, the judicial system, contracts, agency, negotiable instruments, partnerships, and corporations. Ethical considerations and the law, effective leadership in a more just and humane society, and the impact of the political, social, regulatory and technological environments on organizations.

GMBA 1109: Managerial Accounting

Management accounting as an instrument for internal planning and control, decision making and performance evaluation. Cost determination and allocation, responsibility accounting, profit planning and budgeting. Provides students with the tools to construct and evaluate accounting systems to assist management in fulfilling organizational objectives.

Prerequisite: GMBA 1101.

GMBA 1110: Money & The Economy

An analysis of the macroeconomic components of the economy. Emphasis is on monetary policy and the functions of the federal reserve in the management of the economy, and on contemporary issues.

GMBA 1111: Statistics

Broad coverage of statistics with strong orientation using descriptive and inferential statistics to model business situations and make appropriate managerial decisions. Provides the context required for managers to evaluate various research designs and data collection techniques. Computer applications, spreadsheets, statpacks, and graphic packages are required and are the key analytic tools used in the course.

GMBA 1116: Operations Management

This course aims to familiarize the student with the principal functions of operations management and equip the student with the ability to utilize the techniques of modern operations management in managing systems that provide goods and/or services. Expose students to tools and techniques used to improve decision-making in product and process design, resource allocation, and product quality management.

GMBA 1121: Business Analytics

An introduction to analyzing data in order to discover trends, patterns, and relationships used to model business situations and make appropriate managerial decisions. Microsoft Excel will be the principal tool used in accessing data, data description, using probability, applying normal distributions, hypothesis testing, Regression Analysis, Chi-square and other analytic techniques.

GMBA 1130: Business and the Environment

This course will focus on identifying opportunities to create business value from environmental and sustainability issues. Using benefit-cost analysis, risk analysis, and return-on-investment (ROI) – how should investments be measured in a business? How to sustain supplies of energy, water, and other critical resources? What will some of the impacts of climate change be on all businesses? Is there a model for a sustainable business?

GMBA 1151: Professional Communications Strategies

Strategies to produce brief, ethical, well-prepared communications. Topics include preparation of resumes, cover letters, memos, letters, short and long reports, and business cases. Students learn to accurately identify an audience, investigate the purpose, generate text, revise and edit documents, and make individual and group oral presentations. An understanding of the impact of the political, legal, social, cultural, and technological environments on effective communications.

Course Archive

These courses are no longer regularly offered:

- GMBA 1106 Operations Research
- GMBA 1109 Managerial Accounting
- GMBA 1110 Money & the Economy
- GMBA 1111 Statistics

AI COURSES**GMBA 1801: Generative AI for Managers**

Generative AI (GenAI) is ushering in a new age of productivity in business. Managers who ineffectively

adopt it risk being outpaced by forward-thinking competitors. This course equips students to drive impact in any industry using GenAI tools. You'll learn to engineer effective prompts, integrate AI into workflows, and develop innovative GenAI solutions, as well as explore ethical considerations and future trends.

GMBA 1803: Managing AI Projects

AI project can help predict trends and optimizes operations, allowing businesses to understand not just what *has* happened but what *will* happen—and what *should be done* about it. By the end of this course, students will be prepared to drive financial and operational impact by managing AI project lifecycles: developing comprehensive project plans, managing data and models, ensuring effective deployment, and communicating progress and outcomes to stakeholders.

GMBA 1805: Business Use Cases for AI

Just like you wouldn't use a financial model to drive a marketing campaign, different business use cases require different AI tools. In this course, students will explore the potential and limitations of AI technologies, learning to identify business problems suitable for AI solutions and build effective AI implementation strategies. By the end of this course, students will address key challenges and solutions in AI implementation.

GMBA 1807: AI Governance and Ethics

Alongside powerful data-driven solutions, AI opens a Pandora's box of ethical issues: data privacy, bias, transparency, and balancing automation with human oversight. AI governance may be the biggest ethical issue of our time, something essential for any manager to understand before implementing this new technology. Students will develop AI policies for ethics and compliance, mitigate AI-related risks, and communicate governance standards to stakeholders.

BUSINESS ANALYTICS COURSES

GMBA 1811: Storytelling with Data

Storytelling is one of the oldest and most powerful tools for action, and this course empowers MBA students to transform raw data into compelling narratives that drive business decisions. By the end of this course, you'll be able to create data queries and visualizations, integrate data into business planning, and effectively communicate your findings, helping organizations turn data into a strategic tool for competition and innovation.

GMBA 1815: Spreadsheet Modeling for Decision-Makers

Spreadsheet tools are the most universal and easily accessible program for most people to use and interpret data—and a vital skill for any analyst to know. In this course, students will learn data cleaning, financial modeling, optimization, and data visualization using PivotTables and PivotCharts, enabling students to analyze complex datasets, create forecasts, and effectively communicate insights to support data-driven decision-making in business contexts.

GMBA 1817: Python for Business Analytics

Managers who hope to stay competitive in business analytics need to be able to scale their analytics—and Python provides that solution. This course covers Python's significance in business analytics, setting up the Python environment, and learning basic syntax. You'll leverage three of Python's essential libraries—NumPy for numerical data, Pandas for data manipulation, and Matplotlib for data visualization—to use data to solve complex business problems.

GMBA 1821: Information Governance, Risk Management and Compliance

Companies storing information are responsible for keeping it safe—and face consequences if they don't. Who's at fault after an attack and who must be informed? This course covers corporate governance principles, risk identification methods, business regulations, accountability, and audits. In a data-driven world, business leaders must handle data responsibly, and by the end of this course, you'll learn how to

manage the growing legal obligations around cybersecurity.

GMBA 1823: Executive Cyber Defense

To defend against hackers, you need to think like a hacker. This course covers the fundamentals of ethical hacking, from Linux commands and open-source tools to attack tree construction and vulnerability research. By the end of the course, you'll be able to use what you've learned to analyze, interpret, and communicate penetration tests and security strategies to executives.

GMBA 1825: Network Architectures for Cyber Managers

In order to ensure a house is safe, we need to know how it's built. It's the same for cybersecurity: to ensure systems are secure, we need to understand their design and the unique security challenges of different network architectures and data storage solutions. By the end of this course, you'll be able to critique security for various network designs, including IT and OT systems, cloud environments, data storage, and IoT networks, in terms of cyber risk.

GMBA 1827: Cyber Risk Management and Strategy

Cyberattacks today are inevitable—but the extent of the damage may rely on how much *you*, as the manager, are prepared. By the end of this course, you'll know how to create risk management strategies before, during, and after cyberattacks, developing incident response plans, understanding frameworks like NIST and MITRE ATT&CK, identifying proactive and reactive protection techniques, and debriefing with 'hotwashes.'

FINANCE COURSES

GMBA 1201: Corporate Finance

Modeling and practical applications of the major problems confronting the management of the modern corporation. An understanding of financial reporting, analysis and markets. Particular emphasis on investment, financing and capital structure, and dividend decisions. Problems and cases. Prerequisite: GMBA 1105 or equivalent.

GMBA 1202: Investment Analysis

Analysis of different types of securities, markets in which they are traded, different security valuation models and basic portfolio analysis and valuation models. An understanding of the domestic and global economic environments on investment and organizations as well as ethical issues and moral leadership. The course examines applicable cases and problems. Prerequisite: GMBA 1105 or equivalent.

GMBA 1203: Financial Institutions & Capital Markets

Financial markets and intermediaries in the process of capital concentration and allocation. Analysis of structure and performance of industries providing financial services, including banking, brokerage and insurance industries. Ethical aspects, the role of government regulation, and anti-trust policy. Prerequisite: GMBA 1105 or equivalent.

GMBA 1204: Global Finance

Survey and analysis of capital flows; foreign exchange markets and their role in international movement of funds; Eurocurrency; Eurobonds; international stock markets, interaction, integration and the regulatory aspects of international markets. The impact of political, ethical, social and technological environments on international finance. Prerequisite: GMBA 1105 or equivalent.

GMBA 1205: Mergers & Acquisitions

Why and how firms merge and restructure, and the effects on stock prices, capital structure and market power. Legal, ethical and regulatory aspects of mergers, and the understanding and influence of global economic environments. Prerequisite: GMBA 1201.

GMBA 1206: Capital Budgeting

Techniques and methods used by business firms for optimal capital spending in real assets. Cash flows consideration, opportunity cost of funds, selection between mutually exclusive projects and other capital budgeting criteria under different scenarios. An understanding of financial reporting and analysis, computer utilization and quantitative analysis in budgeting. Prerequisite: GMBA 1201.

GMBA 1207: Quantitative Finance & Forecasting

Quantitative methods of estimation and forecasting. Practical application of these methods on financial cases require extensive financial research on data gathering. An understanding of the impact of the global economic environment on financial decision-making. Prerequisite: GMBA 1202.

GMBA 1208: Commercial Banking

Role of the large commercial banks as money center banks. Examines their participation and influence on domestic and foreign money markets, and their portfolio, corporate finance, trading and distribution activities. Legal, ethical and regulatory aspects. An understanding of the impact of the global economic environment on the banking industry. Prerequisite: GMBA 1203.

HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT & INFORMATICS COURSES**GMBA 1701: Healthcare Management**

An introduction to healthcare management. The course offers an overview of healthcare system components, services, and management concepts specific to healthcare. The importance of communication and interactions in healthcare management and the management and physical makeup of healthcare organizations.

GMBA 1702: Healthcare Information Management

The course focuses on mastery of current technology, legislation, and other key topics in health information management by mapping CAHIIM (Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics & Health Information Management) standards and curriculum. The course covers electronic health records, patient records, documentation guidelines within the healthcare setting, as well as HIPPA (Health Protection and Promotion Act) requirements and guidelines. Prerequisites: GMBA 1104 or equivalent and 1701.

GMBA 1703: Healthcare Finance

The course focuses on how microeconomic principles apply to healthcare delivery and its policies. The course explores the changing nature of healthcare, the social and political sides of issues, and the future of healthcare delivery and finance as the U.S. transitions from quantity healthcare to quality healthcare. The course will also compare and analyze public health policy from an economic perspective. Prerequisites: GMBA 1105 or equivalent, 1701, and 1702.

GMBA 1704: Healthcare Law and Ethics

The course offers an overview of healthcare business ethics, ethical decision making, and the impact of social responsibility. The course will prepare students to understand and participate in effective

ethical decision making within healthcare organizations. Through an applied perspective, focusing on conceptual framework, risks, issues, and dilemmas that will be faced in the real world of business. Prerequisites: GMBA 1701 and GMBA 1108 or equivalent.

GMBA 1705: Healthcare Informatics

The course studies how health information professionals use data and statistics to understand and improve healthcare delivery in the clinical settings. Topics will include basic math and statistics, vital statistics and mortality rates, census and occupancy rates, and other key topics required for CAHIIM competency and certification in health informatics. Prerequisites: GMBA 1121 or equivalent, 1701, 1702, 1703 and 1704 (or 1502).

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GMBA 1320: Strategic Staffing

Emphasizes developing a strategic structure for providing corporations with the human resources necessary to achieve organizational goals. Strategies and techniques for workforce planning, job analysis, recruitment and selection, training, performance management, succession planning, and retaining employees are presented. Provides a comprehensive understanding of the staffing process and its role in supporting organizational goals and objectives. Prerequisite: GMBA 1305 or equivalent.

GMBA 1322: Total Rewards Management

The course provides students with knowledge and skills of compensation and reward systems. Topics include a strategic framework for compensation, elements of compensation strategy, the impact of rewards on recruitment, retention and performance management, job evaluation, base pay and salary structures, indirect pay plans, and other non-financial rewards. Provides an overview of the components of total rewards and how they work together to attract, retain, and engage employees. Prerequisite: GMBA 1305 or equivalent.

GMBA 1324: Human Resource Development

This course focuses on the methods and processes used by organizations to improve the performance and skills of their employees. It provides an overview of the theoretical frameworks and practices related to human resource development in organizations. Further, this course involves designing, delivering, and evaluating programs that enhance employee's knowledge, skills, and abilities to meet the current and future needs of the organization. The goal of human resource development is to support the overall success of an organization by helping employees reach their full potential. Prerequisites: GMBA 1305 or equivalent.

GMBA 1326: Labor Relations & Collective Bargaining

Investigates the relationships between employers, employees, and labor unions, focusing on negotiation, conflict resolution, and collective bargaining. Covers the legal framework, history, and current practices of labor relations and provides an understanding of labor unions in the workplace and the impact of collective bargaining on wages, benefits and working conditions. Examines topics such as strikes, grievances, arbitration, and trends in union membership and collective bargaining. Prerequisites: GMBA 1108 or 1305 or their equivalents.

MANAGEMENT COURSES

GMBA 1301: Organizational Behavior

The interaction between individual behavior in organizations, group behavior in organizations and organizational behavior in social systems. Framework for thinking about the human side of the organization to effect a more just and humane environment. Individual behavior patterns,

superior/subordinate relations, group dynamics, communication, motivation, decision-making, leadership styles, managerial stress and the impact of demographic diversity on organizations. Prerequisite: GMBA 1107 or equivalent.

GMBA 1302: Global Management

Problems, policies and operations of multinational corporations (MNCs). International strategies to organize and administer global operations. Political, economic, cultural, legal, social and ethical institutions of host countries. Strategies for expanding abroad, ownership decisions, global industry structures, implication of global competition, relationship between MNCs and host countries and codes of conduct of MNCs to effect a more just and humane society. Prerequisite: GMBA 1107 or equivalent.

GMBA 1303: Entrepreneurial Management

The entrepreneurial process and analyzing problems and issues faced by entrepreneurs. Stages of business development: identifying and evaluating opportunities, preparing the business plan, and identifying success factors, acquiring control over resources, managing resources, effective leadership and human behavior, and testing the business out. Managing a new or rapidly growing business. The influence of global economic environments and ethical issues on entrepreneurial management. Prerequisite: GMBA 1107 or equivalent.

GMBA 1304: Corporate Strategy

Individual and organizational decision-making theories. Organizational scope and competitive advantage. Dynamics of strategic decision-making under circumstances of uncertainty. Decision-making topics: expected utility theory, behavioral decision theory, game theory and negotiation applied to issues of competitive dynamics, competitive positioning, strategy analysis and implementation. Relationship between long-term planning and annual business plans. The development of leadership skills and the ability to make rapid and intelligent decisions in an increasingly complex and changing environment. Prerequisite: GMBA 1107 or equivalent.

GMBA 1305: Human Resource Management

The new and expanded role of the human resource professional. Attracting, retaining, motivating and upgrading human assets in organizations. Human manpower planning, recruitment, selection, appraisal, training, performance and reward systems, and development of wage and salary administration. Organizational design, organizational culture and quality of work life. Also understanding the impact of the political, legal, social, ethical, and technological environments on organizations. Prerequisite: GMBA 1107 or equivalent.

GMBA 1306: Decision Theory

Business decisions made using analytical procedures, and decisions made upon the decision-maker's judgment. Decision-making processes and methods for defining, analyzing and assessing alternative courses of action and solving complex problems. Use of computer models and quantitative analysis to estimate probabilities for uncertain events. Additionally, the course investigates the fallibility of human judgment, leadership, and behavior; the possibility of bias and the need to develop correct procedures to counteract bias. Prerequisites: GMBA 1107 or equivalent, GMBA 1304.

GMBA 1307: Managing Organizational Change & Conflict

Techniques for successfully managing change and conflict in complex organizations. Implementation of change in organizations as they respond to socioeconomic, technological, ethical, environmental factors and adapt to new competitive conditions. Analyzes: forces inducing

change; organizational barriers to change; human behavior and demographic diversity; strategies for overcoming resistance to change; and intervention techniques of effective organizational change programs. Prerequisites: GMBA 1107 or equivalent, GMBA 1304.

GMBA 1308: Organizational Theory

The theoretical perspectives, empirical findings and controversies in organizational theory. Implications and consequences of a number of fundamental types of organizations. Classical approaches to the study of organizations. Bureaucratic theory, systems theory, institutional theory and decisional theory. Contemporary modes of analysis, the relationship of authority to role responsibility, organizational structure, agency theory, and the impact of demographic cultural diversity on organizations. Prerequisite: GMBA 1107 or equivalent.

GMBA 1309: Globalization of Business

The evolution in the worldwide economic transformation from domestic to international business. International topics and issues: international law, multinational organization, global marketing, ethical issues in international business, technology in global markets and careers in international business. Students can expect to attain an understanding of human behavior, leadership, and demographic diversity in organizations in a global business environment. Prerequisite: GMBA 1107 or equivalent.

MARKETING COURSES

GMBA 1401: Consumer Behavior

Consumers and influences upon their behavior as they search to find products and services to fulfill their needs and wants in the decision making process. An examination of socioeconomic variables, positioning, market segmentation, and ethics as it applies to the implementation of various research methods. The influence of political, legal, social, economic, and technological environments on the consumer and the marketer. Students will demonstrate acquired knowledge by introducing a product/service to a consumer behavior model. Prerequisite: GMBA 1103 or equivalent.

GMBA 1402: Global Marketing

Planning, organizing, coordinating, and controlling the marketing function on a global basis. Environmental factors that influence marketing in the international arena (political, legal, social, cultural, economic, technological, and competitive). An understanding of human behavior and leadership and the impact of demographic diversity. Project involving the introduction of a product/service into a specific country and/or region. Prerequisite: GMBA1103 or equivalent.

GMBA 1403: Marketing of Services

Service organizations, not-for-profit enterprises, and service groups within manufacturing businesses. Strategies for marketing mix variables in the marketing of services. An understanding of the influence of the political, legal, social, ethical, and technological environments on the marketing of services. Research project. Prerequisite: GMBA 1103 or equivalent.

GMBA 1404: Product Management & New Product Development

Planning, development, and execution of marketing strategy. Analysis of the contents, required research and data, and structure of the marketing plan. Marketing mix applications, product life cycles, product mix, internationalization, and ethical considerations. Techniques and methods in

identifying new product (product/service) opportunities. New product development strategy, and the influence of markets and technology upon new product success. Development and presentation of annual marketing plan and new product development model. Prerequisite: GMBA 1103 or equivalent.

GMBA 1405: Advertising, Promotion, & Media Planning

Analysis of the marketing communications of the firm. Planning, organizing, coordinating, and controlling elements in advertising, promotion, and media strategy. Social, ethical, and economic implications, international and cultural perspectives and the impact of cultural diversity, objectives, budgets, and evaluation of advertising effectiveness. Advertising and media plan. Prerequisite: GMBA 1103 or equivalent.

GMBA 1406: Sales Force Management

The management of the personal selling function of the organization as it relates to the overall marketing strategy. The selling process, recruiting, selection, training, evaluating, motivation, forecasting, time and territory management, and the social and ethical responsibilities involved in the personal selling function of the firm as well as effective leadership. An understanding of not only domestic but also global economic environments as they relate to selling activities and functions. Research project. Prerequisites: GMBA 1103, GMBA 110, or equivalent.

GMBA 1407: Marketing Research

Materials, tools, and concepts from information systems, marketing, the social sciences, and mathematics. Implementation into the marketing research process. Social and ethical questions addressed, and upon marketing intelligence and management decision-making. The influence of the political, legal, social, economic, and technological environments as well as demographics. Development of a marketing research project. Prerequisites: GMBA 1103 or equivalent, GMBA 1121.

GMBA 1408: Direct Marketing

Media (telephone, mail, newspaper, magazine, radio, television), techniques, and methods employed in direct marketing. Applications of direct marketing in obtaining inquiries, selling merchandise and services, providing support for the sales force and distributors, encouraging feedback, getting contributions, and getting potential consumers to visit shopping locations. Databases of customer information reviewed. The influence of domestic and global economic environments, demographics, and ethics as they apply to direct marketing. Prerequisite: GMBA 1103 or equivalent.

SPORT ADMINISTRATION COURSES

GMBA 1601: Sport Communications and Public Relations

This course examines the role of public relations, mass media and social media in sports communications. It imparts an understanding of the operation of sports media and communications at all levels of sports (amateur, collegiate, professional), the role of sports in American society and how publicists, agents and sports marketers perform their jobs.

GMBA 1602: Risk Management and Legal Aspect of Sport

This required course provides the student with a background and understanding of the legal system in the United States and how law is used by, and applied to, athletes and athletics. Some of the major legal problems and issues confronting the sports administrator to be covered include tort law, contract law, labor/antitrust law, constitutional law and various topics in sports and

legislation. In addition to the topics covered in the text, this course will require students to learn the fundamentals of legal analysis, legal research, risk management procedures, crowd control and security, product liability and logic through the use of hypothetical situations. Prerequisite: GMBA 1108.

GMBA 1603: Governance of Intercollegiate Sports

This course examines the purpose and practice of sports governance and how it relates to the administration and management of sports. The course will assess the value and practice of governance for intercollegiate sport including the NCAA, NAIA, & NJCCC. This course will also cover elements of NCAA regulations, rules interpretations, and enforcement decisions.

GMBA 1604: Sport Administration Seminar

This capstone course is designed to provide supervised fieldwork experience in the sport industry within the various students' areas of interest. This course provides planned observations in model programs or in various programs of interest and provides supervised administrative experience within an approved sport organization. All of these objectives relate to better preparing the student to be competitive in the sport industry upon graduation.

GMBA 1605: Applied Sport Ethics

This course is intended as an introductory examination of ethical issues that commonly arise in the sport business. The course provides an analysis of ethical issues facing youth, interscholastic, intercollegiate, Olympic, professional, and business sport entities.

GMBA 1606: Financial Aspects of Sport

The course is intended to provide an overview of the sport industry and is divided into sections reflective of the major issues surrounding the financial management of sport organization in both nonprofit and profit contexts with the emphasis on the latter. Prerequisite: GMBA 1105 or equivalent.

GMBA 1607: Sport Industry Leadership and Management

This course is an examination of management issues and organizational behavior in the industry, with specific reference to staffing, motivation, and communication.

GMBA 1608: Sport Management Analytics

This course provides a comprehensive review of statistical and mathematical models as they relate to sports team administration, marketing and business management. The course gives students an opportunity to work with data relating to sports business tactics and strategy. This course will discuss the theories, concepts and development of analytics in sports today. Students will discuss and analyze the methods of sport analytic topics in today's industry, such as player performance, player management, sports data strategies, team management, game day operations and strategies, etc. Additionally, students will gather insight of how these aspects and more affect today's sport analytics. Prerequisite: GMBA 1121.

MBA/CPA COURSES FOR THE 150 HOUR CPA REQUIREMENT

GMBA 1210: Financial Statement Analysis

Provides the analytical tools needed to evaluate financial statements and supplementary data in order to gain information that is useful in forecasting and decision making. The course examines the impact of financial accounting principles, disclosure standards and alternative accounting practices on financial reports. Prerequisites: GMBA 1101, GMBA 1105 or equivalent.

GMBA 1211: Information Systems: Auditing & Assurance

A study of Auditing, Assurance, and Internal Control in the contemporary management information system environment. Topics include: electronic commerce systems, data management, systems auditing of the revenue and expenditure cycles, and fraud detection. There will be special emphasis on computer assisted audit tools and techniques. Prerequisite: Advanced Accounting II and Auditing I.

GMBA 1212: Contemporary Accounting Theory

Analysis of the models, concepts, and assumptions which form the conceptual framework and theoretical aspects of accounting practice. Emphasis on modern accounting trends; contemporary controversial topics in accounting; accounting research on current issues. Prerequisite: Advanced Accounting II and Auditing I.

GMBA 1213: Accounting and Finance Data Analytics

Provides a critical thinking framework and data analysis process model to help develop skills needed to plan data analysis projects, perform analyses, and report results. The course provides a pattern-based approach to analysis which teaches methods to prepare data, calculate the information needed for analytical purposes, and explore data from a variety of perspectives. This approach has a hands-on emphasis that provides opportunities to learn new technology skills. Prerequisite: GMBA 1101 and GMBA 1105, or the equivalent and GMBA 1121.

CAPSTONE COURSES**GMBA 1502: Leadership, Ethics, & Business**

Strategies to bridge the gap between awareness and action and by examination of public responsibility, personal integrity, and competitive pressure. Leadership and change, long term strategic flexibility, traditional hierarchical systems. A team approach, and an integrated, self-managing structure. The significant influence of the political, legal, social and ethical environments upon leadership, ethics, and business. Group problem solving, interpersonal communication and leadership. Case studies, student lectures, and group discussion. Prerequisites: Completion of all Core courses. Students must be within 9 credits of graduation.

GMBA 1504: Business Policy, Research, & Decision Making

Students will put to use all of the acquired skills obtained through their graduate studies. Extensive business research, computer simulation, written reports, and oral presentations will be required in the development of strategies, decision making in a case study environment, and the ability to make rapid and intelligent decisions in an increasingly complex and changing world. Prerequisites: Completion of all Core courses. Students must be within 9 credits of graduation.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Program Requirements

The program offers three sessions providing students with the opportunity to sign up for a new session in September, January, and June. Campus-based courses meet in the evening once or twice a week, offered online or in a hybrid format.

The MPA curriculum requires the completion of 34 credits. Upon successful completion, all courses earn 3 or 4 credits.

- I. Required Courses (8 courses):
 - GMPA 1000 Foundations of Public Administration
 - GMPA 1209 Administrative Law
 - GMPA 1213 Statistics for Decision Makers
 - GMPA 1220 Public and Nonprofit Administration
 - GMPA 1420 Evaluation and Evidence-based Research
 - GMPA 1430 Policy, Planning and Analysis
 - GMPA 1510 Writing and Research for Public Administration
 - GMPA 1520 Capstone Seminar

- II. Elective Courses (Choose 3):
 - GMPA 1201 Information Technology and Public Administration
 - GMPA 1302 Leadership for Social Impact Organizations
 - GMPA 1305 Public Sector Communications
 - GMPA 1310 Law in the Workplace
 - GMPA 1401 Community-Based Strategies for Social Change
 - GMPA 1502 Leadership, Ethics, and Criminal Justice
 - GMPA 1530 Public Service Internship

Concentrations

Students may choose to concentrate in Criminal Justice Leadership or Nonprofit Leadership tracks but it is not required. The Criminal Justice Leadership concentration is available for students who successfully complete GMPA 1201 Information Technology and Public Administration and GMPA 1502 Leadership, Ethics, and Criminal Justice. The Nonprofit Leadership concentration is available for students who successfully complete GMPA 1302 Leadership for Social Impact Organizations and GMPA 1401 Community-Based Strategies for Social Change.

Course Waivers

A maximum of 3 graduate transfer credits may be accepted. Decisions regarding waivers and transfer credits are based on the following criteria: comparability to the STAC course, the grade received (B or better), semester lengths, and number of credits. Course work must have been completed within the last seven years. The level at which the course was taken (upper division or lower division) is considered. Students must submit detailed course descriptions for each requested waiver. Requests for waivers must be completed by the end of the first session of attendance and are granted solely at the discretion of the College. Advanced undergraduates at the college may, with the permission of the Director and instructor, take up to 9 credits of graduate courses while still an undergraduate student.

Following demonstration of competency in selected courses, students may obtain a waiver. Students must apply to the MPA Director upon admission for such competency-based waivers.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE REQUIRED FOR WAIVER OF MPA COURSE

Successful completion of an undergraduate course may warrant a waiver of one graduate required course. The student may not pursue additional undergraduate coursework to obtain waivers in lieu of completing the graduate level work. The list of undergraduate courses, designated by course number from the STAC undergraduate catalog, required for waivers of MPA, is as follows:

GMPA 1213 - STATISTICS FOR DECISION MAKERS

PSYC 310 Statistics. Grade of B+ or better and recommendation of undergraduate instructor

Applications for admission to the St. Thomas Aquinas College MPA program are available in the Admissions Office. For further information, please contact the Admissions staff at 845-398-4100 or the MPA Director at 845-398-4370.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR THE MPA PROGRAM

(All courses are 3 credits unless otherwise indicated)

GMPA 1000 Foundations of Public Administration

An introductory course to the field of public administration. This is designed for students who have no background, who are accelerated students, or undergraduates interested in learning about the field who meet the qualifications for taking a graduate course.

GMPA 1201: Information Technology and Public Administration

The course introduces the current uses of information technologies (IT) in public administration (both in government and the nonprofit sector). This course is designed for the administrator who will manage or oversee some form of technology application directly or indirectly through policy. The expectations and goals for using technology in government and non-profit organizations vary throughout each enterprise. This course will cover various types of technology practices, opportunities, and obstacles encountered with the use of IT. Upon completion, students should better appreciate how the use of technology applications, "electronic government" and other web-based technologies can transform government and be able to help governments develop and manage programs and services that are more responsive and effective.

GMPA 1209: Administrative Law

Administrative Law explores the environment and legal framework of public administration in the context of academic scholarship and practice. Principles of constitutional law, the federal judiciary, constraints and flexibility in rulemaking and administrative discretion, human resources law, as well as values and ethics will be examined.

GMPA 1213: Statistics for Decision Makers

This course theme is application: understanding and interpretation, and comprehension with respect to when particular techniques are appropriate. The goal is to assist criminal justice administrators in their decision making process. GMPA1213 will emphasize the practical role of statistics in criminal justice administration and decision making; portraying data; calculating, reading, and interpreting basic statistics from group differences through basic prediction models; and sampling and error.

GMPA 1220: Public and Nonprofit Administration

This course focuses on various aspects of public sector administration and management including: the environment of government and non-profit organizations, organizational structure and culture, performance measurement and management; and internal management processes. It also looks at several areas of budgeting including: rules of public finance, budget cycle expenditures; taxation and revenue; and quantitative budgeting. Pre or co- requisite: GMPA 1101.

GMPA 1302 Leadership of Social Impact Organizations

Culture -- the system of shared assumptions, values, meanings, and beliefs that inform the behavior of individuals -- is the most salient variable that influences organizational performance. Successful leadership of nonprofit organizations largely depends on how closely institutional practices align with professed public values. A strong organizational culture fosters innovation, supports collaboration, and advances impact. Presuming a basic grounding in the structures and roles of nonprofit organizations, this course explores the values behind them in supporting cross-sector global and mission-driven organizations, advancing DEIB strategies, and managing partnership and funder relationships. Expect a course exploring organizational culture and how it informs and influences the vision, mission, internal systems and structures, budget, employee performance and

satisfaction, external brand identity, and, ultimately, the organization's success.

GMPA 1310: Law in the Workplace

An elective covering all areas of law relevant to the public and private sector including (but not limited to) employment and unemployment law, disability law, labor unions.

GMPA 1401 Community-Based Strategies for Social Change

Working with local communities is an important strategy for those who could imagine running national or local advocacy organizations that make change happen or anyone who wants to understand the art of community organizing. It will provide an overview of and training in contemporary community organizing practice in the United States, with some time spent on international organizing. This includes defining community organizing and identifying its value base; exploring the strategies, tactics, and activities of organizing; and thinking about marketing, language, and evaluation. We also will examine the transformations of civic engagement and voluntary associations in the United States and the impact of these transformations on the ways Americans organize and advocate for change. In today's volatile world, not only in the United States but across the globe, organizing can be an effective vehicle for change – and for expressing commitment and passion to issues you most care about.

GMPA 1420: Evaluation and Evidence-based Research

Evaluation and Evidence-based Research introduces criminal justice administrators to the scientific methodology involved in assessing a program's effectiveness. Topics to be covered include planning for evaluation, needs assessments, process analysis, outcome evaluations, cost-benefit analysis, the relationship between administrator, evaluator, and stakeholders, and using evaluation results in decision-making. No prerequisites but having an undergraduate course in research methods would be helpful.

GMPA 1430: Policy, Planning, and Analysis

Policy, Planning and Analysis is a required course that considers how sound policies and programs can be identified, planned for, evaluated, and implemented in the public realm where there are diverse stakeholders. Public administration occurs within an ever-changing political and social context, and is increasingly becoming evidence-based: overall, this course should enable administrators and policy makers to use the evidence to plan for, implement, and monitor policies and programs that are responsive to contemporary issues.

Prerequisite: GMPA 1213; 1420 recommended.

GMPA1502: Leadership, Ethics, and Criminal Justice

This course explores the nature of leadership, and the requirement for ethical behavior, in the field of criminal justice administration. The constraints, challenges, issues, and dilemmas of ethical leadership in contemporary society is emphasized.

GMPA 1505 Public Sector Communications

This course is designed to equip professionals in the public sector with the essential skills and knowledge required for effective communication within government organizations. Through a comprehensive exploration of various communication strategies, tools, and practices, students will enhance their ability to convey complex information, engage stakeholders, and navigate communication challenges in the ever-evolving public sector landscape.

GMPA 1510: Writing and Research for Public Administration

Writing and Research for Public Administration is a prerequisite for GMPA 1550: Capstone Seminar. Students will prepare for their capstone project by developing a policy proposal agreed

upon by the instructor that will include research, analysis and a literature review. The process will include instructor and peer review.

GMPA 1520: Capstone Seminar

Students will expand upon the policy proposal developed in GMPA 1510 as a basis for a thesis project. At the conclusion of GMPA 1520 students will orally present and defend their completed projects to a group of graduate students and faculty. Prerequisite: GMPA 1510. (4 credits)

GMPA 1530: Public Service Internship

The MPA internship aims to provide pre-career students with administrative experience in public or non-profit organizations. These experiences are significant for students who need a public service employment track record. The internship requires 168 hours (minimum) of work in a government or nonprofit organization.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EXERCISE SCIENCE

Program Purpose

The mission of this program is to offer students a comprehensive exploration of exercise science, encompassing theoretical knowledge, hands-on experiential learning, and the ability to critically engage with research. Graduates of this program will acquire the expertise needed to accurately assess, evaluate, and advocate for physical activity across diverse populations, positioning them as impactful contributors in the field of exercise science.

Program Objectives:

1. Instill a robust understanding of exercise physiology, encompassing bioenergetics, cardiovascular and muscular function, and adaptive responses to exercise, while also integrating an awareness of environmental factors impacting performance.
2. Equip students with practical expertise through hands-on training with diverse equipment and methodologies for conducting physical assessments. This proficiency will enable the interpretation of physiological and performance metrics, facilitating the design of tailored training programs for diverse populations and contexts, thereby preparing them for diverse career paths in exercise science.
3. Foster advanced skills in exercise science research methodology, empowering students to critically analyze and apply findings from peer-reviewed literature to real-world scenarios effectively.

Program Requirements

The MS in Exercise Science program is designed to be completed in two years. The program is a combination of in-person, evening courses, and online instruction. The curriculum requires the completion of 33 credits. Upon successful completion, all courses earn 3 credits each.

I. Core Courses (12 credits)

GMEX 1101: Advanced Exercise Physiology

GMEX 1110: Clinical Exercise Physiology

GMEX 1115: Exercise Stress Testing

GMEX 1120: Testing and Evaluation for Fitness and Sport

II. Research Readiness Courses (9 credits)

GMEX 1201: Research Methods in Exercise Science

GMEX 1211: Statistics in Kinesiology

GMEX 1501: Research Seminar/Comprehensive Exam

III. Electives (12 credits, select 4 courses)

GMEX 1301: Sport Nutrition

GMEX 1310: Sport Psychology

GMEX 1315: Strength & Conditioning for Tactical
Populations

GMEX 1320: Performance Analytics

GMEX: 1325: Sport Medicine

GMEX 1330: Health Promotion

Admission Requirements and Prerequisites

In order to be admitted into the MS in Exercise Science Program, candidates must hold a Bachelor's Degree, have an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher, and must have taken undergraduate courses in the following subjects: Anatomy & Physiology with Lab; Exercise Physiology; Statistics; Any 1 Course in Kinesiology/Exercise Science; General Psychology. It is also recommended that the candidate has taken the GRE.

Course Waivers

A maximum of 3 graduate transfer credits may be accepted. Decisions regarding waivers and transfer credits are based on the following criteria: comparability to the STAC course, the grade received (B or better), semester lengths, and number of credits. Course work must have been completed within the last seven years. The level at which the course was taken (upper division or lower division) is considered. Students must submit detailed course descriptions for each requested waiver. Requests for waivers must be completed by the end of the first session of attendance and are granted solely at the discretion of the College. Advanced undergraduates at the college may, with the permission of the Director and instructor, take up to 9 credits of graduate courses while still an undergraduate student. Following demonstration of competency in selected courses, students may obtain a waiver. Students must apply to the Dean of the School of STEM for such competency-based waivers.

ADVANCED CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN EXERCISE SCIENCE

Advanced Certificates are designed to provide discipline-specific graduate courses for individuals in the workforce looking to learn specific skills. Admission requirements for these programs are the same as the MS program. Students who complete an advanced certificate may use the credits later toward achieving an MS degree.

The curriculum requires the completion of 12 credits. Upon successful completion, all courses earn 3 credits each.

I. Core Courses (6 credits, select 2 courses)

GMEX 1101: Advanced Exercise Physiology

GMEX 1110: Clinical Exercise Physiology

GMEX 1115: Exercise Stress Testing

GMEX 1120: Testing and Evaluation for Fitness and Sport

II. Electives (6 credits, select 2 courses)

GMEX 1301: Sport Nutrition

GMEX 1310: Sport Psychology

GMEX 1315: Strength & Conditioning for Tactical Populations

GMEX 1320: Performance Analytics

GMEX: 1325: Sport Medicine

GMEX 1330: Health Promotion

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR THE MASTER'S OF SCIENCE AND ADVANCED CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS IN EXERCISE SCIENCE

(All courses are 3 credits)

GMEX 1101: Advanced Exercise Physiology

This course will broaden student's understanding of exercise physiology through study of the advanced principles of exercise physiology and exploring the intricate mechanisms that govern human performance, adaptation, and health. Through a blend of theoretical discussions, lectures, and critical analysis of research, students will deepen their understanding of the physiological responses and adaptations to exercise across various populations and conditions. Topics include but are not limited to energy metabolism, muscle physiology, cardiovascular system adaptations, and environmental considerations for exercise.

GMEX 1110: Clinical Exercise Physiology

Those involved will develop knowledge within a broad scope of chronic illnesses and learn how the physiological aspect of a disease is inseparable from the development of a targeted clinical exercise program. Students will understand how to adopt a healthy lifestyle in order to effectively manage disease processes, and also how to efficiently improve aerobic endurance and those aspects of programmed exercise necessary for success. After learning the process of careful evaluation, students will become knowledgeable about the benefits of whole-body strength and its place in the overall exercise programming. The ultimate importance of coordination, flexibility, agility and balance will be taught in conjunction as well. These topics, along with others, will be incorporated to enable those with, or at risk for, a chronic disease to become functioning members of our society.

GMEX 1115: Exercise Stress Testing

This course will provide students the advanced knowledge and practical skills necessary for conducting comprehensive exercise testing protocols and designing individualized exercise programs. Through a combination of lectures, laboratory sessions, case studies, and practical experiences, students will gain expertise in assessing body composition, cardiovascular and muscular fitness, identifying cardiovascular risk factors, and developing safe and effective exercise programs for diverse populations. Protocols and procedures utilized in this course will reflect recommendations of the American College of Sports Medicine.

GMEX 1120: Testing and Evaluation for Fitness and Sport

This course is designed to equip students with advanced knowledge and practical skills in designing and implementing exercise programs for diverse populations, including individuals seeking to improve health and fitness as well as athletes aiming to enhance sports performance. Through a blend of lectures, hands-on practical sessions, case studies, and laboratory experiences, students will develop expertise in tailoring exercise programs to meet the specific needs and goals of clients across various age groups, fitness levels, and athletic disciplines.

GMEX 1201: Research Methods in Exercise Science

This course is designed to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and practical experience necessary to conduct high-quality research in the field of exercise science. Through a combination of theoretical instruction, critical analysis of research literature, and project-based learning, students will develop a deep understanding of research design, methodology, data analysis techniques, and ethical considerations specific to exercise science research.

GMEX 1211: Statistics in Kinesiology

This is one of two required research readiness courses, designed to prepare students for the application of statistical methods to problems in exercise science. The goal of the course is to teach students to understand, confidently interpret, and apply a variety of statistical methods and research designs that are essential in exercise science research. The focus is on statistical methods to measure the impact of some potential cause (e.g., an intervention, a change in training program, external conditions, or nutrition) on some outcome (e.g., athletic performance, sleep, weight, etc.).

GMEX 1501: Research Seminar/Comprehensive Exam

This seminar-style course provides an in-depth exploration of current trends, methodologies, and challenges in exercise science, while also fostering critical thinking, scholarly discussion, and the development of research skills. Additionally, this course will provide a structured review of main concepts, theories, and knowledge skill sets in the field of Exercise Science in preparation of the comprehensive exam.

GMEX 1301: Sport Nutrition

This course provides an in-depth exploration of the role of nutrition in optimizing athletic performance, enhancing recovery, and supporting the health and well-being of athletes. Through a blend of scientific principles, practical applications, case studies, and hands-on experiences, students will delve into advanced concepts in macronutrients, micronutrients, hydration, supplementation, and nutrition periodization for athletes across various sports and performance levels.

GMEX 1310: Sport Psychology

This course will explore the psychological principles, theories, and techniques that influence athletic performance, motivation, and well-being. Through a combination of theoretical lectures, practical applications, case studies, and experiential learning, students will delve into the intricacies of sport psychology, examining the psychological factors that impact athletes, teams, coaches, and sport organizations.

GMEX 1315: Strength & Conditioning for Tactical Populations

This course will explore traditional exercise principles, methodologies, and specialized training techniques and how they are tailored to meet the physical demands of military personnel, law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency responders, and other tactical professionals. Through a combination of theoretical instruction, practical applications, case studies, and hands-on training, students will develop the knowledge and skills necessary to design safe, effective, and specific strength and conditioning programs for tactical populations.

GMEX 1320: Performance Analytics

This course explores the intersection of data analytics, sports science, and performance optimization in athletic contexts. Designed for students with a foundational understanding of statistics, data analysis, and sports science, this course provides a comprehensive overview of the methodologies, tools, and applications used to analyze and enhance athletic performance. Students will learn how to integrate the concepts of training-stress balance, allostatic load, and periodization when working with athletic populations.

GMEX: 1325: Sport Medicine

This course is designed to integrate the principles of sports medicine with the application of corrective exercise strategies for optimizing athletic performance and preventing injuries. Students will explore the biomechanical, physiological, and neuromuscular factors contributing to sports-related injuries, and learn how to develop evidence-based corrective exercise programs tailored to individual athletes. Through a combination of theoretical knowledge, practical skills development, and case studies, students will gain the expertise needed to assess, treat, and enhance athletic function in diverse sports settings.

GMEX 1330: Health Promotion

This course offers a comprehensive examination of evidence-based strategies and interventions to promote health and prevent chronic disease across diverse populations. The course integrates the principles and initiatives of the American College of Sports Medicine's Exercise is Medicine (EIM) program, emphasizing the vital role of physical activity in preventive healthcare. Through a blend of theoretical lectures, practical applications, case studies, and community engagement, students will explore innovative approaches to fostering healthy lifestyles, reducing health disparities, and advocating for policy changes to support population health.