

2016-2017 CATALOG

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING | MASTER OF EDUCATION



COVENANT COLLEGE
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



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Covenant College

HISTORY

Covenant College, operating under the Presbyterian Church in America, is committed to the Bible as the Word of God written and accepts as its guiding interpretation the summary contained in The Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms. That commitment is expressed in the college's motto based on Colossians 1:18, "In all things Christ preeminent."

Covenant strives to be a reformed learning community which recognizes and responds appropriately to Christ's rule over creation and all areas of life through rigorous academic inquiry. A Covenant College education is designed to produce knowledge, skills, and values that equip students to serve effectively and live responsibly in a rapidly changing world.

Covenant offers associate and baccalaureate degrees in liberal arts disciplines and selected pre-professional programs as well as graduate degrees in education. Covenant provides a Christ-centered education to students from a wide range of denominational, geographic, ethnic, and financial backgrounds through scholarly classroom instruction and experiential opportunities.

On April 5, 1955, the Presbytery of the Great Plains met in Wilton, North Dakota, to consider establishing a liberal arts college under the Bible Presbyterian Synod. The college was organized by the Synod and named "Covenant" by Dr. Robert G. Rayburn, the school's first president. In the fall of 1955, the school began operation at the Pasadena City Church in Pasadena, California. Covenant was to be a Christian liberal arts college acknowledging Christ's preeminence to help Christians learn to live as active, reforming members of a complex society. In 1956 Covenant College moved to St. Louis, Missouri. The first property purchased in St. Louis, from Millstone Construction Company, consisted of 25 acres, with one building located in the center that was used for all functions.

A number of professors from Faith Theological Seminary near Philadelphia came to St. Louis, and Covenant became a four-year liberal arts college and a three-year theological seminary operated by one board and one administration.

Covenant College complies with federal and state requirements for nondiscrimination on the basis of age, race, color, gender, handicap, and national or ethnic origin in the administration of its policies and programs.

An order of Catholic sisters at nearby St. John's Hospital donated a building to the college, which eventually became the administration building. Both the college and the seminary increased in size, and soon a new residence hall was needed. Mr. Hugh Smith heard that the "Castle in the Clouds" hotel near Chattanooga, Tennessee, was for sale. After much debate, the old hotel was purchased for Covenant College in 1964. Today the college campus contains a total of 200 acres and Covenant Seminary remains at the original campus.

Covenant has had six presidents: Dr. Robert Rayburn, Dr. Marion Barnes, Dr. Martin Essenburg, Dr. Frank Brock, Dr. Niel Nielson, and Dr. Derek Halvorson, who began serving July, 2012.

The official purpose statement of Covenant College is included in the Appendices.

Graduate School of Education

The Master of Education began in 1991 and accreditation was granted by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) December 15, 1993. The Master of Arts in Teaching began in 2010, at which time the Graduate School of Education was created.

Covenant College's principal aim is to explore and express the preeminence of Jesus Christ in all things, inspiring and equipping God's people faithfully to fulfill their part in the grandest story of all, God's history-encompassing project of bringing glory to himself through exalting Jesus Christ and summing up all things in him. The aim of the Graduate School of Education is to equip educators to lead and to serve faithfully in local schools according to professional principles grounded in biblical truth.

The Graduate School of Education at Covenant College provides a Christian community for graduate study. Prior to the on-campus session students prepare by reading books and articles, collecting information, and writing reflectively. In the course of the on-campus session, students share their lives, their thoughts, and their plans resulting in a support network of Christian educators. Covenant graduate students learn how their faith relates to their work with learners who bear the image of God. Three graduate degree programs make up the Graduate School of Education: Master of Arts in Teaching and Master of Education in either Educational Leadership or Integrated Curriculum and Instruction.

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) is a 34 credit hour program in the following academic areas (grade levels of certification in parentheses):

- *Art (P-12)*
- *Biblical Studies (6-12; ACSI only)*
- *Biology (6-12)*
- *Chemistry (6-12)*
- *Drama (P-12)*
- *Economics (6-12)*
- *English (6-12)*
- *French (P-12)*
- *German (P-12)*
- *History (6-12)*
- *Mathematics (6-12)*
- *Music (P-12)*
- *Physics (6-12)*
- *Political Science (6-12)*
- *Spanish (P-12)*

- *Middle grades level (grades 4-8) certification is available with any two specializations in:*
 - *Language Arts*
 - *Mathematics*
 - *Science*
 - *Social Studies*

The MAT is a three semester on-site cohort program emphasizing:

- 1. Research.** *One innovative aspect of the MAT is the emphasis on classroom research. This focus enables candidates to understand the value and limitations of educational research and to develop the values of self-reflection and self-evaluation as they conduct action research through various courses.*
- 2. Collaboration.** *The MAT benefits from partnerships with area schools and collaboration with colleagues from other academic departments in the college. Content specialists in other disciplines work with the Education Department in transcript review, remediation plans as needed, collaboration, and supervision of clinical practice.*

- 3. Clinical Practice.** *MAT students complete hundreds of hours of clinical practice during both the fall and spring semesters.*
- 4. Theory and Practice.** *Theory and practice are integrated in the program with a combination of on-campus classroom activities combined with field practicum activities in area schools. On-campus coursework is presented by a faculty that has both practical and research experience. All candidates complete a full year of clinical practice in P-12 classrooms under the supervision and mentorship of experienced classroom teachers and Covenant faculty. Candidates gain experience working with students at different grade levels and from different socioeconomic, racial/ethnic and linguistic backgrounds, and students with exceptionalities.*
- 5. Workable Schedule.** *The MAT allows candidates to complete a degree in one year and obtain the Certificate of Eligibility from the GaPSC and from the Association of Christian Schools International in their desired teaching area. Summer classes are taught in a three week session Monday – Friday 8:30 – 5 while classes are held in the evening during fall and spring semesters with clinical practice during daytime hours. It is also possible for current teachers who desire state certification and a master’s degree to complete the program while employed full time.*

For most students, the MAT will be completed in one year with six credit hours in the summer term, 15 credit hours in the fall term, and 13 credit hours in the spring term. Students can choose to complete the MAT as a two-year course of study. The degree must be completed within six years.

MASTER OF EDUCATION

The Master of Education (MEd) is a 30 credit hour program with two specializations: Educational Leadership (EL) and Integrated Curriculum and Instruction (ICI). Both specializations are approved for certification by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). Additional information about certification may be found in the MEd section of this catalog.

The MEd requires three weeks on campus each of three summers. Each course consists of three phases: pre-campus, on-campus, and post-campus.

Pre-campus session: The pre-campus session begins with registration (February-April) and includes significant coursework within a variety of assignments: reading of texts and articles, writing, analysis, data gathering, and reflection. The intent of the pre-campus work is to give background to and prepare students for the on-campus session.

On-campus session: The on-campus session consists of one intensive week per course on campus during which instructional activities are widely varied. This session occurs for three weeks late June through mid-July. Classes meet 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

Post-campus session: The post-campus session consists of projects, exams, research, or papers in which students apply what they are learning to their own school settings. This session concludes on February 1.

EDU 785 (EL) and EDU 790 (ICI) are capstone courses and conclude March 1 of the final year.

Students completing the MEd in three years are regular, full-time students, registering for three courses each of the first two years, and four cXourses the third year. It is possible to extend the program beyond three years but not beyond six years. Occasionally due to unusual circumstances, a student is unable to complete the MEd within the six year limit. Application may be made to the Dean of the Graduate School of Education to extend the program. If extended, continuation fees apply.

General Information

ACCREDITATION AND STATE AUTHORIZATION

Covenant College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate, baccalaureate, and master's degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Covenant College.

NOTICE: Covenant College operates in compliance with the official complaint policy on the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges as revised June 2013. All written complaints from students concerning the status of the College with respect to its standing with the Commission on Colleges or allegations of significant non-compliance with the Criteria for Accreditation may be forwarded to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, at the above address, or by completing the written complaint form found here:

<http://www.sacscocorg/pdf/081705/complainmtpolicy.pdf>

Since Covenant College operates under the authority of the State of Georgia, effective July 1, 2015, complaints should be filed with the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission (GNPEC) INSTEAD OF THE OFFICE of the Inspector General. A link to the authorized GNPEC complaint form is here:

<http://gnpec.org/consumer-resources/gnpec-authorized-school-complainant-form/>

The contact information for GNPEC is:

State of Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission
2082 East Exchange Place, Suite 220
Tucker, Georgia 30084-5305
Office: 770.414.3300
FAX: 770.414.3309

ADVISORS

All individuals admitted to the Graduate School of Education are assigned an academic advisor. Students are encouraged to contact their advisor with questions about their program of study.

AUDITING

Because the effectiveness of the program is directly related to active participation of students in all assignments, no auditing of courses is permitted in any graduate program.

AUTHORIZATION BY THE STATE OF GEORGIA

Covenant College is authorized to operate educational programs beyond secondary education, including programs that lead to a degree or a certificate by executive order of the governor of the State of Georgia. The Office of Inspector General is designated as the state agency responsible for receiving complaints made by students enrolled in private post-secondary education.

CONDUCT, DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES AND APPEALS

The following general regulations regarding student conduct apply to Graduate School of Education students:

1. *Smoking and possession and use of alcohol and drugs are not permitted on campus.*
2. *Scripture specifically describes practices which are morally wrong, and are therefore*

unacceptable for all students while enrolled at Covenant College. Among these practices are drunkenness, adultery, and fornication (defined as cohabitation and/or premarital sexual relationships of a heterosexual or homosexual nature), stealing, slanderous talk, gossip, profanity, lying, cheating, and possession of obscene or pornographic materials.

3. *Plagiarism involves quoting, paraphrasing, or in other ways using sources without proper acknowledgment. See extended statement regarding plagiarism in this catalog.*

Violation of any of the regulations regarding conduct will be considered as grounds for discipline which could result in immediate dismissal.

Students accused of infractions are given notice either in writing or in a disciplinary information meeting so that the alleged misconduct is clearly understood. The student's case is heard and decided by the Dean of the Graduate School of Education.

The student may choose to appeal the decision to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, who may modify the decision of the Dean. Such an appeal must be submitted within two working days after the Dean's decision. If the student wishes, the case may be further appealed to the President of the college. This appeal must be submitted within two working days after the decision by the Vice President.

The Graduate Council hears appeals from students regarding academic matters.

COSTS

It is the desire of Covenant College, within the limits of its available funds, to offer its Christian educational opportunities to all who qualify for admission, regardless of individual economic circumstances.

The cost of an education at Covenant is only partly covered by tuition charges; the balance is paid from contributions made by friends and alumni of the College. Because of increasing costs, the Covenant College Board of Trustees reserves the right to make changes at any time in the tuition charges and other general and special fees as needed.

All account balances are due in full at the start of the term. If the account balance is not paid in full, a finance charge will be assessed at the end of each month on the unpaid balance. To avoid late payments, students should check their account balance on-line. Accounts must be fully paid each term before a student can register for a subsequent term, view grades, or receive a transcript. Account balances with no payment activity for more than three months may be sent to a collection agency with a collection agency commission of up to 55% added to the balance due.

Tuition and fees for MAT and MEd are listed under those sections of the catalog.

CREDIT HOUR DEFINITION

Consistent with industry best practices, Covenant has established a credit hour to be the amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates:

1. *Not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time.*
2. *One credit hour will be awarded for no less than every two hours of other academic activities as established by the instruction including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the awarding of credit hours.*

FACULTY AND PERSONNEL

faculty

Jack E. Beckman, Professor of Education (2004), Ph.D. and M.Phil., University of Cambridge; M.Ed., Covenant College; B.S., Georgia State University.

William Davis, Professor of Philosophy (1997), Ph.D. and M.A., University of Notre Dame; M.A., Westminster Theological Seminary; B.A., Covenant College.

Sarah E. Donaldson, Assistant Professor of Education (2012), Ph.D. and M.Ed., University of Georgia; B.A., Covenant College.

James L. Drexler, Dean of the Graduate School of Education, Professor of Education, and Coordinator of the Educational Leadership specialization (2004), Ph.D., Saint Louis University; M.Ed., University of Missouri; M.Div., Covenant Theological Seminary; B.A., Covenant College.

Kevin J. Eames, Professor of Psychology and Director of Institutional Effectiveness (2003), Ph.D. and M.S., Georgia State University; B.A., Florida State University.

John W. Ferguson, Jr., Headmaster Grace Community School (2015), Ph.D. Candidate, Dallas Baptist University; Juris Doctor, Texas Tech University; M.Ed., Covenant College; B.A., Baylor University.

Jay D. Green, Professor of History (1998), Ph.D., Kent State University; M.A., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; B.A., Taylor University.

Daphne W. Haddad, Professor of Education (1996), Ph.D., University of South Carolina; M.Ed., Converse College; M.A. and B.A., Birmingham University, Birmingham, England.

Jeffrey B. Hall, Vice President of Academic Affairs (1994), Ed.D., University of Tennessee; M.Ed., Slippery Rock University; B.A., Grove City College.

Phillip B. Horton, Professor of Education (1998), Ph.D., Florida State University; M.S.T., Middle Tennessee State University; B.A., Bryan College.

Stephen R. Kaufmann, Professor of Education (1982), Ph.D. and M.A., University of Iowa; B.A., Covenant College.

Barrett L. Mosbacker, Headmaster Briarwood Christian School (2006), Ed.D., University of North Carolina; M.Ed., Covenant College; B.A., Cedarville College.

Rebecca E. Pennington, Associate Professor of Education (2002) and Coordinator of the Integrated Curriculum and Instruction Specialization, Ed.D., University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; M.Ed. and B.A., Covenant College.

Bruce R. Young, Professor of Education (2004), Ed.D., University of San Francisco; M.Ed., Holy Names University; B.A., Covenant College.

personnel

Rebecca J. Dodson, Assistant Professor of Education (1975) and Associate Dean of Education, M.S., Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville; B.A., Covenant College.

Miranda C. Huggins, Administrative Assistant to the Graduate School of Education (2012), M.B.A., Brenau University; B.S., Berry College.

FINANCIAL AID

To be considered for financial assistance an individual must be accepted and registered for one of the degree programs of the Graduate School of Education for a minimum of six semester hours. Eligibility for assistance is established through financial aid application submitted annually to the Financial Aid Office at Covenant

College. With the exception of the Church Scholarship Promise and tuition reduction program, financial assistance is based on financial need. Covenant College uses the standard federal calculations to determine financial need.

Financial aid information is included with the registration packet. Financial aid grants may not be used to fund tuition deposits. Returning students who have previously received federal student loans must register within 90 days from the last end term date to remain in deferment status.

Federal aid will be earned on a prorated basis up to 60% of the term of attendance.

GRADES

Grades in the Graduate School of Education have the following meaning. Professors may modify standard letter grades with a plus or minus with the exception of A+.

- A** *Represents work of distinctly superior quality and quantity accompanied by unusual evidence of initiative, thoroughness, and originality.*
- B** *Represents work showing the above qualities to a lesser extent.*
- C** *Represents fulfillment of the minimum essentials of a course. Only one course with the grade of C will be applied to graduation requirements.*
- D** *Represents unacceptable work. The course must be repeated to be applied toward the degree.*
- F** *Represents failure. The standing of any student earning an F will be reviewed for continuation in the program. The course must be repeated to be applied toward the degree.*
- I** *Represents incomplete coursework. May be given to a student who has a valid reason for not completing some requirements of the course. Any Incomplete (I) granted for a course not completed by the date specified will be replaced with an F. All work for a course with an incomplete grade must be submitted to the instructor by the specified date or on the Monday morning following if the specified date falls on a weekend. Financial aid eligibility for the next term is determined based on the resulting grade point average.*
- W** *Represents official withdrawal from a course. The student receives no credit for that course or for work which may have been completed while registered for the course.*

specified dates for course incompletes

- *Incomplete received in MAT summer term must be completed by August 15*
- *Incomplete received in MAT fall term must be completed by January 3*

- *Incomplete received in MAT spring term must be completed by May 18*
- *Incomplete received in MEd term must be completed by April 1*

An Incomplete Grade Request Form must be discussed and agreed to by the student and instructor prior to the conclusion of the term in order for an incomplete course grade to be granted. Forms are available from the office of the Graduate School of Education. Students may not register for additional coursework with more than one incomplete course grade.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Grade point averages are computed on a 4.0 scale; an A is assigned the value of 4.0, a B is assigned 3.0, a C is assigned 2.0, and a D is assigned 1.0. Only one course with the grade of C will be applied to graduation requirements. If a course is repeated, the most recent grade is used in computing the grade point average. No grade below B is accepted by transfer. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 is required for continuation in and completion of the graduate degree.

GRADUATION

Graduation is held in May each year. All degree requirements and fiscal responsibilities must be completed and met in order to graduate in May of any given year. Degrees are awarded in May, August, and December.



GRIEVANCE POLICY

academic grievances

Students wishing to file grievances on academic issues should submit written appeals to the Dean of the Graduate School of Education following attempts to resolve the problem with the faculty member. Academic grievances concerning a faculty member should be directed initially to that faculty member, then to the Dean of the Graduate School of Education.

general grievances

All general grievances, not of an academic nature, should be written and directed to the Dean of Education. Procedure for reporting grievances:

1. *All student grievances must be submitted in writing to the proper college official.*
2. *The college official will then review the complaint and decide whether the complaint merits official action.*
3. *The appropriate official will then provide the student with a response to the complaint once a decision is made.*
4. *The student may appeal the decision in writing; appeals must be submitted within forty-eight hours to the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Graduate Council.*

LIBRARY SERVICES

The Anna Emma Kresge Memorial Library represents the critical center of the academic enterprise at Covenant College. The library exists to facilitate and promote learning through its physical facilities, dynamic collections, and services performed by professional librarians and skilled support staff. It plays a significant role in fulfilling the mission of the College by providing bibliographic instruction, carefully selected resources in a variety of media formats, personalized research assistance, and information literacy competency training using a biblical frame of reference from within the Reformed tradition.

The Kresge Memorial Library seats about 250 on two floors. The first floor contains seating and furnishings that encourages engagement with library staff, faculty, and other students. Reading tables, individual study carrels, soft seating, and a coffee lounge offer a warm, inviting environment. The second floor is a quiet study area housing carrels, semi-private group study rooms, the campus Art Gallery, the

Writing Center, the Center for Student Success, the College Archives, and a lounge/retreat room for receptions and other special events. While the entire building is configured for wireless access to the campus network, the library also provides wired network connectivity through public computers appropriately equipped for research and writing.

Collections include print and electronic books, print and electronic subscriptions to journals, magazines and newspapers, back files of periodicals accessible through the Web and in print, streaming audio and video databases, films on DVD and Blu-Ray, and over 200 general and subject-specific research databases. Many of these databases are available through GALILEO, Georgia's "Virtual Library."

By using a web-scale, cloud-based, integrated, single-search box online catalog, WorldCat Discovery Services, library users may explore, identify, and access print and electronic resources held in the Kresge Library as well as those located in thousands of other libraries worldwide. Students may connect to the library's electronic resources from off-campus locations with appropriate campus network authentication. The library will ship circulating items from its print and media collections to graduate students and pay postage costs. Through its membership in OCLC, the world's largest provider of bibliographic services, the library networks with thousands of other institutions worldwide to provide interlibrary loan and document delivery services. Standard interlibrary loan transaction costs are subsidized by the library.

The library's web site, <http://library.covenant.edu>, provides more detailed information on collections, discipline-specific resource guides, policies, and other services.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

As is clear from the definition of plagiarism below, Covenant College includes under the more narrow term "plagiarism" most, if not all, academic misbehavior usually designated by the word "cheating" -- that is, the giving or receiving of illegitimate assistance, especially under circumstances when not collaboration but one's own individual work is expected and when a student presents material as his or her own individual work.

Plagiarism is inconsistent with good scholarship. Covenant College considers plagiarism a moral matter as well as a legal matter. It does this on the assumption that the function of a Christian college is not only to impart knowledge but also to nurture moral character of the student writer.

- *Plagiarism is a deception--of the instructor, obviously, but no less of the student writer. Cheating hides individuals from the encounter with who they really are, what they really can do, or what they can be.*
- *Plagiarism is a theft of the materials themselves, but no less of the right of the cheater's fellow students to equal consideration, for in effect the plagiarized paper throws all other papers in competition with work that likely has already been judged superior.*
- *Plagiarism breeds a moral atmosphere which denies all students the dignity and freedom due them as human beings. Inevitably, one cheater throws the taint of suspicion upon all, the entire climate is poisoned, and mutual respect is endangered.*
- *Plagiarism perverts the values of humane education when the instructor is forced to give extraordinary attention to the integrity of the grade and can no longer assume the integrity of the student.*
- *Plagiarism is a sin, a violation of the Eighth Commandment. It is inimical to the values and ideals of a Christian educational institution.*

According to the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (7th ed.; 2009; print; p. 52), plagiarism is:

Derived from the Latin word plagiarus ("kidnapper"), to plagiarize means "to commit literary theft" and to "present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source" (Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary [11th ed.; 2003; print]). Plagiarism involves two kinds of wrongs. Using another person's ideas, information, or expressions without acknowledging that person's work constitutes intellectual theft. Passing off another person's ideas, information, or expressions as your own to get a better grade or gain some other advantage constitutes fraud.

In its discussion of the nature of plagiarism, the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (7th ed.; 2009; print; p. 56) also notes three "less conspicuous forms of plagiarism," including "the failure to give appropriate acknowledgment when repeating or paraphrasing another's wording, when taking a particularly apt phrase, and when paraphrasing another's argument or presenting another's line of thinking."

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, the following:

- *Part or all of a written or spoken assignment copied from another person's manuscript without proper documentation*
- *Part or all of an assignment copied or paraphrased from a source (books, journals, newspapers, magazines, digital resources, web sites, charts, graphs, music scores, sound recordings, video recordings) without proper documentation*
- *Presenting as original (or paraphrased) the sequence of ideas, arrangement of material, or pattern of thought contained in another person's work*
- *Allowing a paper, in outline or finished form, to be copied and submitted as the work of another person*
- *Preparing an assignment for another student and allowing him/her to submit it as his/her own work*
- *Keeping a written or digital archive of documents with the intent that they be copied and submitted as the work of another person*
- *Handing in one's own work to satisfy more than one assignment without the permission of all instructors.*

A paraphrase is the rewording of another's ideas or the summary of another's work, and even if the wording is distinctly different from the original source, the original source should be cited. If a person copies a distinctive phrase or description using the same words and word-order of the original source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, with an appropriate reference.

To avoid plagiarism, the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (7th ed.; 2009; print; p. 61) suggests:

- *making a list of the writers and viewpoints you discovered in your research and using this list to double-check the presentation of material in your paper*
- *keeping the following three categories distinct in your notes: your ideas, your summaries of others' materials, and exact wording you copy*
- *identifying the sources of all material you borrow—exact wording, paraphrases, ideas, arguments, and facts*
- *checking with your instructor when you are uncertain about your use of sources*

For more information on plagiarism, see <http://abacus.bates.edu/cbb>.

procedures and penalties for violations of academic integrity

Covenant College assumes the honor and integrity of its students. If someone should abuse this confidence, the college is prepared to act as follows:

1. *An instructor who finds evidence of plagiarism or any violation of academic integrity will first discuss with the student the nature of the case, including its moral implications and its academic ramifications. Plagiarism normally results in a mark of zero for the plagiarized work. Instructors also have the prerogative to fail the student in the course or to recommend to the Dean of the Graduate School of Education that a student be dismissed from the graduate program.*
2. *After discussing the evidence with a student, an instructor should notify a student of any sanction for the plagiarism or cheating. Initial notification may be verbal, but should also be accompanied by written and electronic confirmation. A copy of this penalty policy, along with specific information needed for an appeal, should accompany the written and electronic notifications to the student.*
3. *Regardless of any other actions, once an instructor determines a student has committed the intentional plagiarism or cheating, the instructor must document and notify the Office of Academic Affairs of the incident. The Office of Academic Affairs will keep record of all incidents and will report multiple violations by the same student to the Academic Standards Committee for review and possible further action.*
4. *After being sent notification of a sanction, a student may appeal within two business days to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The Vice President will normally either uphold or deny the appeal; in rare instances, and after consultation with the instructor and student involved, the Vice President may suggest an alternate sanction for the instructor to impose.*



PRIVACY RIGHTS OF STUDENTS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their educational records. These rights include:

- *The right to inspect and review the student's educational records within 45 days of the day Covenant receives a request for access. A student should submit to the Office of Records or other appropriate official, a written request that identifies the records the student wishes to inspect. The College official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.*
- *The right to request the amendment of the student's educational records that the student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA. A student who wishes to request Covenant to amend a record should write the appropriate official clearly identifying the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed. If Covenant decides not to amend the record as requested, Covenant will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student's right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.*

Covenant discloses education records without a student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A Covenant official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an educational record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities. A Covenant official is a person employed by the College in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person or company with whom Covenant has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using Covenant employees or officials (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

Covenant designates the following categories of student information as public or "directory information." Such information may be disclosed by the institution for any purpose at its discretion:

- **Biographical:** *Name, address, telephone number, email address, photograph and video*
- **Enrollment:** *Dates of attendance, enrollment status, class, previous institution(s)*

attended, major field of study, awards, honors, degrees conferred (including dates).

- **Athletic:** *Past and present participation in officially recognized sports and activities, physical factors (height, weight of athletes), date and place of birth.*

Currently enrolled students may withhold disclosure of directory information under FERPA by submitting a written request to withhold disclosure. Contact the Office of Records.

The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the College to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-5901

Please direct any questions regarding privacy rights to the Office of Records at Records@covenant.edu or call 706.419.1134.

TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Technology available to Covenant graduate students consists of computer laboratories, email, Internet access, software, printers, and wireless capability. Google Apps for Education is the platform in place at Covenant College. Additionally, Word, PowerPoint, Excel of Microsoft Office are available. Canvas is the course learning management system faculty employ at their discretion. Graduate students are expected to be familiar with these software and have access to the Internet and email.

Wireless Internet access is available throughout the college campus. It is based on the 802.11 g/n standard with WPA2 encryption. Any wireless card that supports that standard will work in the residence halls, library, and classroom buildings. To access the wireless network, personal computers will need to be equipped with the appropriate wireless card. Additional details are included in the registration packet.

Email is the primary means of communication while a student at Covenant College. Personal email accounts are required of all graduate students to communicate with faculty, personnel, and fellow students. A student's primary email address is required

upon admission and is on file with the graduate office. Upon acceptance into the Graduate School of Education, students are assigned a Covenant username, password and Banner ID, and a Covenant email account. The Covenant email account, rather than a primary personal account, is used for communication while enrolled at Covenant. The Covenant student Banner account is the vehicle used for posting e-bills, financial aid, and records information.

TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE–TOEFL

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required for international applicants whose native language is not English. A minimum score of 550 (paper-based exam), 215 (computer-based exam), or 80 (Internet-based exam) is required. Official score report should be submitted to Covenant College (Code 6124). Information about the TOEFL may be obtained from the Educational Testing Service, Box 899, Princeton, New Jersey 08540, USA or www.ets.org/toefl.

Covenant defines international students as anyone who is not a citizen of the United States of America.

TRANSFER CREDITS

Graduate work completed at other regionally-accredited institutions may be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the MAT or MEd degrees at Covenant College subject to the following conditions:

- *Transfer credit will not be allowed for any course in which the grade received was lower than a B.*
- *No more than six hours of transfer graduate-level credit may be applied toward the MAT or MEd degree.*
- *Any course transferred and applied toward the degree must have been taken within six years of the graduation date for the graduate degree.*
- *Transfer coursework will be evaluated in terms of level, context, quality, comparability, and degree relevance by the appropriate professor and the Dean of the Graduate School of Education. Approval of any transfer credit must be granted prior to registration for the term. Transfer credit forms are included in the application packet and may be submitted as part of the application process.*



WITHDRAWAL REFUND POLICY

When a student formally withdraws from the college, leaves the college without notice, or does not return from an approved leave of absence, adjustments may result from the refund of expenses and the reduction of financial aid. The date of withdrawal is determined by written application or violation of the attendance policy. See Withdrawal or Suspension.

The federal Title IV pro rata percentage will determine the refund or reduction based on the amount of time spent in academic attendance and has no relationship to the student's incurred institutional charges. This pro rata percentage is used to determine the percentage adjustment at the time of withdrawal up through the completion of the 60 percent point in a term. After the 60 percent point, a student has earned 100 percent of the expenses and financial aid for the term. After the last day of late registration, no tuition will be refunded as a result of a load adjustment from dropping a course.

The effective withdrawal date of a student who withdraws from the College through the Office of Records will be the date on which the student begins the withdrawal process, either orally or in writing, or the last date of attendance at an academically-related activity (e.g. attendance in class, clinical practice, exams). In cases where a student is unable to visit the office, the effective date will be the date the student makes known their intent to withdraw with the Dean of Records: Rodney Miller, 706.419.1134 or miller@covenant.edu.

When a student leaves the College without notice, or receives all F's or Incomplete grades for a semester, faculty will be contacted to determine the last date of academically-related activity and establish if the student unofficially withdrew. The college will look for evidence of course engagement or lack of course engagement (no response to course due dates) to help determine the effective date for both Title IV and institutional refund purposes. If an effective date cannot be accurately determined, the midpoint of the term will be used as the effective date. A different effective date may be used for refund purposes of institutional expenses compared to Title IV funds when there are differences between the dates the withdrawal was initiated compared to when the student completed the process.

Example: if a term is 100 days long and the student withdraws on the 20th day, 20 percent of the term has been completed resulting in an 80 percent reduction of the tuition and financial aid. If the student was billed for tuition of \$10,000 and received

financial aid of \$6,000, the tuition would be reduced by \$8,000 and financial aid reduced by \$4,000. This will leave an \$800 tuition charge that is still the responsibility of the student. Other charges will apply as stated in this section on refunds.

This refund policy is in compliance with the federal Department of Education Title IV requirements. All financial aid reductions are calculated based on formulas published by and software received from the Department of Education.

INVOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL OR SUSPENSION

Conditions for which a student may be dismissed are outlined under Conduct, Discipline Procedures and Appeals in this catalog.

A student who is dismissed for disciplinary reasons will still receive a pro rata percentage reduction of financial aid consistent with federal regulation noted above. Tuition charges will be refunded at a rate of one half of the financial aid pro rata percentage.

Example: *Following the example under Withdrawal Refund Policy above, a student who is involuntarily withdrawn on the 10th day would receive an 80 percent pro rata reduction in financial aid, and a 40 percent refund of tuition (one half the financial aid percentage). Tuition charges would be refunded \$4,000 and financial aid would still be reduced by \$4,800. This will leave a \$4,800 tuition charge that is still the responsibility of the student. Other charges will apply as stated in Withdrawal Refund Policy.*

- $\$10,000$ Tuition Charges less $\$4,000$ refund ($\$10,000 \times .40$) = $\$6,000$ Adjusted Tuition Charge
- $\$6,000$ Financial Aid less $\$4,800$ reduction ($\$6,000 \times .80$) = $\$1,200$ Adjusted Available Aid
- $\$4,800$ Remaining Tuition Charge

Master of Arts in Teaching Degree

ADMISSIONS

An application packet may be obtained by contacting the MAT office or downloading a packet from www.mat.covenant.edu.

Master of Arts in Teaching

Graduate School of Education
Covenant College
14049 Scenic Highway
Lookout Mountain, GA 30750
800.677.3626
mat@covenant.edu
www.mat.covenant.edu

Application for admission and accompanying documentation must be submitted on or before April 1.

admissions calendar

Dec-April 1	Applications received
Apr 1-May 1	Admissions closed, and applicants notified Application for financial aid
Apr 15-May 15	Registration
May 16-May 26	Late registration Drop/add period \$100 late registration fee
May 27	Tuition and fees assessed
May 26-Aug 1	Summer term dates

Individuals choosing to drop a course after May 26 will not receive a refund and are responsible to pay total course tuition and fees. This policy is in compliance with federal and fiscal regulations. No exceptions may be made. See Refund Policy.

admission requirements and procedures

Regular Admission - Required For Degree Completion

For admission as a regular student in the MAT, the following is required:

1. Hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
 - a. Applicants having completed a major in any of the following content fields are eligible for a Certificate of Eligibility (grades 6-12) from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission upon completion of the MAT degree: biology, chemistry, economics, English, history, mathematics, political science, physics. A major in biblical studies will lead to secondary certification by the Association of Christian Schools International.
 - b. Applicants having completed a major with concentrations of at least 15 semester hours in two of the following content fields are eligible for middle grades Certificate of Eligibility (grades 4-8) upon completion of the MAT degree: language arts, mathematics, science, social studies.
 - c. Applicants having completed a major in any of the following content fields are eligible for a Certificate of Eligibility (grades P-12) upon completion of the MAT degree: art, drama, French, German, music, Spanish
 - d. Upon completion of the MAT degree, all applicants receive a certificate from the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).
2. Minimum grade point average of 3.0 on relevant courses in the content field.
3. Minimum cumulative undergraduate grade point average of 2.5 required.
4. Passing scores on GACE Program Admissions Assessment (Georgia Assessment for the Certification of Educators) or exemption through SAT, ACT, or GRE scores. Official score reports are required.
5. Passing scores on the appropriate GACE Content Assessment (Georgia Assessment for the Certification of Educators).
6. Transcript analysis by GSE admissions.
7. Content Standards Diagnostic.
8. Academic paper-minimum of five pages in length with appropriate citations and academic form. Paper will be examined for coherence of thought, organization, spelling, and punctuation.
9. Written statement of faith in Jesus Christ.
10. Two references.

11. *Completion of a course in educational psychology from a regionally accredited college or university.*
12. *Completion of a course in introduction to teaching from a regionally accredited college or university. The course must include a minimum of 30 hours of fieldwork/observation in K-12 classrooms.*
13. *Completion of a course in special education from a regionally accredited college or university.*
14. *Letter of cooperation from the head of school if the applicant is employed as a teacher and wishes to use employment towards clinical practice requirements.*
15. *Completion of International Certification of Finances form by all international applicants. Covenant defines international students as anyone who is not a citizen of the United States of America.*

Admission Procedures

The following is to be submitted to be considered for admission to the MAT:

1. *A completed application form.*
2. *Payment of the application fee: \$50.00, non-refundable.*
3. *Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate coursework.*
4. *Official score report of GACE Program Admissions Assessment. If exempt, submit official score report verifying qualifying exemption scores on SAT, ACT, or GRE. GACE website: www.gace.ets.org. Exemption scores are as follows: SAT 1000 combined on verbal and math; ACT 43 combined on English and math; GRE 297 combined on verbal and quantitative. Additional information is provided in the application packet.*
5. *Official score report of GACE Content Assessment. GACE website: www.gace.ets.org. Additional information is provided in the application packet.*
6. *Content Standards Diagnostic. Diagnostic form provided in application packet.*
7. *Sample academic paper by the applicant which demonstrates academic capability. The sample may be an academic paper previously written, or an academic essay focusing on a problem of special concern in education, or an academic paper in which an idea related to a problem is developed. The academic paper must be a minimum of five pages, in academic form including appropriate citations. The paper will be examined for coherence of thought, organization, spelling and punctuation.*

8. *A written profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior; one page in length, typed.*
9. *Two completed reference forms from educators.*
10. *Official transcript showing completion of a course in educational psychology from a regionally accredited college or university.*
11. *Official transcript showing completion of a course in introduction to teaching from a regionally accredited college or university.*
12. *Official transcript showing completion of a course in special education from a regionally accredited college or university.*
13. *Letter of cooperation from the head of school if applicant is employed as a teacher and wishes to use employment towards clinical practice requirements.*

International Applicants

Covenant defines international students as anyone who is not a citizen of the United States of America. International applicants must submit the following in addition to the above:

1. *The International Student Certification of Finances form prior to, or along with, submitting the application for admission to the MAT. The form is provided in the application packet and available at www.mat.covenant.edu. In addition, a copy of the student's passport biographical page must be submitted before an I-20 can be issued, or before the student would be considered for any institutional financial aid. The certification form must be supported with a copy of a bank statement or letter from a bank confirming the availability of financial resources to pay for educational expenses. If a third party sponsor or organization will be providing resources for the student, a similar confirmation of resources from an individual or a letter from an organization should be included. One to two months should be allowed for processing certification of finances and two months minimum should be allowed to obtain a student visa.*
2. *International transcripts submitted for admission to the MAT must be evaluated and authenticated. The following organizations are reputable such that Covenant College will accept a course evaluation (to award college credit on a course-by-course basis) and a degree confirmation. All are well established and have different fee structures and time lines of services so the applicant may select the organization they prefer to utilize.*

International Education Services

<http://ies.aacrao.org/about/>
Washington, DC
202.296.3359

Josef Silny & Associates

<http://www.jsilny.com/>
Miami, FL
305.273.1616

International Education Evaluations, Inc.

<http://www.foreigntranscripts.com>
Charlotte, NC
704.772.0109

World Education Services

<http://www.wes.org/>
New York, NY
212.966.6311

Educational Credential Evaluators

<https://www.ece.org/>
Milwaukee WI
414.289.3400

Global Credential Evaluators, Inc.

<http://gceus.com/>
Offices in Texas, Mississippi and Virginia
800.707.0979

- The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required for international applicants whose native language is not English. A minimum score of 550 (paper-based exam) or 215 (computer-based exam) or 80 (Internet-based exam) is required. An official score report should be submitted to Covenant College (Code 6124). Information about the TOEFL may be obtained from the Educational Testing Service, Box 899, Princeton, NJ 08540, USA or www.ets.org/toefl.*

admission status**Regular Student Status**

An applicant who meets all admission requirements to the MAT is accepted as a regular student. Regular student status is required for admission to the Teacher Education Program and to complete the MAT degree. To maintain regular student status a minimum 3.0 grade point average must be earned throughout enrollment in the MAT.

Provisional Student Status

An applicant not having fully met admissions criteria may be considered for provisional admission. The student will be informed of unmet criteria to be satisfied to obtain regular student status. The status of a provisional student is reviewed after



six hours of coursework; no more than six hours taken while in this category may be applied toward the degree. A student must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) on courses taken as a provisional student. Regular student status is required for the MAT degree to be granted.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

fees and expenses

Tuition

\$600	Tuition--per term per hour (1-11 hours)
\$3600	Tuition--summer term (6 hours)
\$7200	Tuition--per term fall and spring (12-16 hours)

Fees

\$50	Application fee (non-refundable, payable with application)
\$400	Enrollment deposit, summer term only, applied towards balance
\$100	Late registration fee
\$500	Continuation fee (applicable when program is extended beyond six years)
\$15	Course change fee
\$200	I-901 annual fee for International students. Fee subject to change.
\$6	EDU 550 History and Philosophy fee
\$300	EDU 580 Clinical Practice I fee, EdTPA
\$7	EDU 580 Clinical Practice I fee, PAGE membership
\$135	EDU 595 Clinical Practice II, Graduation fee
\$15	ID card fee
\$50	Parking fee, yearly fee payable fall term
\$29	Student Activity fee per course, summer term
\$10	Student Activity fee per course, fall and spring terms
\$25	Technology fee per course, summer term
\$25	Technology fee per course, fall term

No student may register for additional courses until all previous financial commitments have been satisfied. Financial aid grants may not be used to fund the Enrollment deposit required at registration. Enrollment deposit is not refundable.

Summary of Fees and Expenses 2016-2017 Academic Year

1. Summer Term <i>May 26-August 1, 2016</i>	
a.	Tuition: 6 hours: 6 x \$600 = \$3600
b.	Student Activity Fee (\$29 per course): 3 x \$29 = \$87
c.	Technology Fee: (\$25 per course): 3 x \$25 = \$75
d.	ID card Fee: = \$15
	Total = \$3777
	<i>Non-refundable Enrollment deposit due at registration = \$400</i>
	<i>Amount remaining = \$3377</i>
<hr/>	
2. Fall Term <i>August 6-December 14, 2016</i>	
a.	Tuition: 12-16 hours: 12 x \$600 = \$7200
b.	EDU 550 History and Philosophy Fee = \$6
c.	Clinical Practice I fees: \$7 Page membership, \$300 EdTPA, subject to change. = \$307
d.	Parking fee: = \$50
e.	Student Activity fee (per course) 5 x \$10 = \$50
f.	Technology Fee: (\$25 per course): 4 x \$25; no fee for EDU 580 Clinical Practice I = \$100
	Total = \$7713
<hr/>	
3. Spring Term <i>January 4-May 6, 2017</i>	
a.	Tuition: 12-16 hours: 12 x \$600 = \$7200
b.	EDU 595 Clinical Practice II graduation fee: = \$135
c.	Student Activity fee (per course): 2 x \$10; no fee for EDU 585 Diversity Field Experience = \$20
	Total = \$7355
<hr/>	
Tuition/Fees Total MAT Degree: = 18,845	

payment schedule and information

1. Submitted with application for admission: \$50 application fee.
2. Submitted with pre-registration for summer term only:
 - a. \$400 non-refundable enrollment deposit towards tuition
 - b. Application for financial aid, if applicable
3. An enrollment deposit is not required for fall and spring preregistration.
4. Covenant College accepts payment for student accounts from an e-check on-line, MasterCard, Discover, check, PayPal, or cash. A processing fee is assessed for on-line payment based on payment method and amount of payment. See Application or Registration form for complete details.
5. Details regarding payment are included in the registration packet.
6. Students are responsible to verify their account balance through their Banner account. Students receive a monthly electronic statement to their Covenant email. College office will also communicate with students via their Covenant College e-mail account.
7. Students are responsible for purchase of textbooks and supplies. Included with the registration packet is a list of textbooks and materials required for each course in the MAT.

REGISTRATION

summer term—may 26–august 1

Apr 15-May 15	Registration; materials available on website
May 16-May 26	Late registration Drop/Add period \$100 late registration fee
May 27	Tuition and fees assessed

Individuals choosing to drop a course after May 26 will not receive a refund and are responsible to pay total course tuition and fees. This policy is in compliance with federal and fiscal regulations. No exceptions may be made. See Refund Policy.

fall term—august 6–december 14

July 4-8	Pre-registration
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Aug 3	Registration
Aug 6	Tuition and fees assessed

spring term—january 4–may 6

Nov 15-17	Pre-registration
Jan 5	Registration; Tuition and fees assessed

Returning students may not register if carrying more than one incomplete course grade, have outstanding tuition/fees/fines, or have any other unmet obligation to the college. Students may not register for Clinical Practice II without approval to the Teacher Education Program.

Individuals choosing to drop a course after registration for the fall or spring term will not receive a refund and are responsible to pay total course tuition and fees. This policy is in compliance with federal and fiscal regulations. No exceptions may be made. See Refund Policy.

GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION

attendance policy

Students are expected to be in attendance at all sessions.

During the summer term, one day of excused absence is permitted for an emergency. More than one day of absence will result in the student being required to retake the course. Appeals may be submitted in writing to the Dean of the Graduate School of Education for consideration by the graduate faculty.

During the fall and spring terms, the attendance policy is determined for each course by the course professor of record and by the Handbook for Clinical Practice.

calendar for 2016-2017

MAT Summer Term, 2016

May 27-Aug 1	Summer term dates
May 27	MAT pre-campus summer coursework begins; tuition/fees assessed

June 26	Convocation
June 27–July 1	EDU 510 Foundations for Curriculum Development –classes meet 8:30–5:00 M-F
July 1	Approval to enter the Teacher Education Program
July 4–8	Orientation for Clinical Practice I TBD EDU 540 Nature and Needs of Adolescent Learners –classes meet 8:30–5:00 M-F Pre-registration for fall term
July 11–15	EDU 520 Introduction to Research–classes meet 8:30–5:00 M-F
Aug 1	End term date for summer session
Aug 6	Tuition/fees assessed
Aug 15	Completion deadline for incomplete coursework

MAT Fall Term, 2016

Aug 3	Registration
Aug–Dec	EDU 560 Middle/Secondary Content and Methods and EDU 580 Clinical Practice I begin–see MAT academic calendar for specific schedule
Aug 4	Approval for Clinical Practice
Aug 6	Tuition/fees assessed
Aug 6–Dec 14	Fall term dates
Aug–Dec	EDU 530 Content Area Literacy for Adolescents–see MAT academic calendar for specific schedule EDU 550 History and Philosophy of American Education - see MAT academic calendar for specific schedule EDU 570 Educational Assessment and Research–see MAT academic calendar for specific schedule EDU 580 Clinical Practice I - see MAT academic calendar for specific schedule
Nov 15–17	Pre-registration
Dec 14	End term date
Jan 3	Completion deadline for incomplete coursework

MAT Spring Term, 2017

Jan 4–May 6	Spring term dates
Jan 5	Registration; tuition/fees assessed
Jan–Apr	EDU 590 Research Seminar - see MAT academic calendar for specific schedule

EDU 595 Clinical Practice II, M-F, full-time clinical practice in the classroom. See MAT academic calendar for specific information.

March or April	Easter Break TBD
Apr 25–29	EDU 585 Diversity Field Experience, field placement and seminar one week only - see MAT academic calendar for specific schedule
May 4	End term date for spring term
May 6	Commencement
May 18	Completion deadline for incomplete coursework

candidacy

Candidates for the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree are students who have completed 18 semester hours, have regular student status, are in good standing in the Teacher Education Program, and have a minimum grade point average of 3.0.

certification

Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)

Graduates of the MAT are eligible for an ACSI certificate upon completion of the degree. Certificate level is determined by content field: elementary (K–8), secondary (7–12), or all level (K–12), valid for five years.



Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC)

The MAT was approved by the GaPSC in May, 2011.

The MAT is a state approved program by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). State approved status and accreditation are necessary for obtaining certification in any state. Graduates of the MAT are considered program completers of a state approved program and are eligible for a Certificate of Eligibility from the GaPSC upon completion of the degree and all GaPSC requirements.

Graduates hired by a Georgia school receive an Induction Certificate requested by the hiring school. Graduates hired by a school in a state other than Georgia apply for certification in that state. Typically additional assessments are required.

MAT students are informed about certification procedures including establishing a My PSC account. For questions related to certification, please contact the Certification Official, Rebecca Dodson at rebecca.dodson@covenant.edu or 706.419.1406. Additional information about certification in Georgia may be found at www.gapsc.com.

course deadlines and incompletes

Coursework is to be turned in by the date specified in the syllabus or course calendar for each course. Students failing to meet deadlines can expect to be penalized as much as one letter grade. *If a student believes that a deadline will not be met, communication with the professor prior to the deadline is essential. An Incomplete Grade Request form must be completed by student and instructor prior to the conclusion of the term in order for an incomplete course grade to be granted.* Any incomplete (I) granted for a course not completed by the date specified will be replaced with an F. All work for a course with an incomplete grade must be submitted to the instructor by the specified date or on the Monday morning following if the specified date falls on a weekend. Financial aid eligibility for the next term would be determined based on the resulting grade point average.

Specified dates

- *Incomplete received in summer term must be completed by August 15*
- *Incomplete received in fall term must be completed by January 3*

- *Incomplete received in spring term must be completed by May 18*

Students may not register for additional coursework with more than one incomplete course grade. An Incomplete Grade Request form must be discussed and agreed to by student and instructor prior to the conclusion of the term in order for an incomplete course grade to be granted. Forms are available from the office of the Graduate School of Education.

Purpose and Standards of Teacher Education Program

Revised June 18, 2014

COVENANT COLLEGE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM PURPOSE STATEMENT

learning, serving, transforming

The purpose of the teacher education program at Covenant College is to prepare competent and compassionate teachers who practice their profession according to biblical guidelines in diverse educational settings. Candidates develop the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to become teachers who model life-long learning and faithful service to God as change-agents in society.

TEACHER STANDARDS

domain A: foundational knowledge

- 1. Theological Framework.** *The teacher applies a biblical worldview to the nature and needs of learners, content and professional knowledge, and instruction.*
- 2. Learner Development.** *The teacher understands how learners grow and develop, recognizing that patterns of learning and development vary individually within and across the cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical areas, and designs and implements developmentally appropriate and challenging learning experiences.*
- 3. Content Knowledge.** *The teacher understands the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline(s) he or she teaches and creates learning experiences that make these aspects of the discipline accessible and meaningful for learners to ensure mastery of the content.*

domain B: planning

- 4. Planning for Instruction.** *The teacher plans instruction that supports every student in meeting rigorous learning goals by drawing upon knowledge of content areas, curriculum, cross-disciplinary skills, and pedagogy, as well as knowledge of learners and the community context.*
- 5. Learning Differences.** *The teacher uses understanding of individual differences and diverse cultures and communities to ensure inclusive learning environments that enable each learner to meet high standards.*

domain C: instruction

- 6. Instructional Strategies.** *The teacher understands and uses a variety of instructional strategies to encourage learners to develop deep understanding of content areas and their connections, and to build skills to apply knowledge in meaningful ways.*
- 7. Application of Content Knowledge.** *The teacher understands how to connect concepts and use differing perspectives to engage learners in critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative problem solving related to authentic local and global issues.*

domain D: assessment

- 8. Assessment.** *The teacher understands and uses multiple methods of assessment to engage learners in their own growth, to monitor learner progress, and to guide the teacher's and learner's decision making.*

domain E: classroom environment

- 9. Learning Environments.** *The teacher works with others to create environments that support individuals and collaborative learning, and that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.*
- 10. Communication.** *The teacher communicates verbally and nonverbally in ways that demonstrate respect for all learners, includes interactive technologies, and develops learner interpersonal communication skills.*

domain F: professional practice

- 11. Professional Learning and Ethical Practice.** *The teacher engages in ongoing professional learning and uses evidence to continually evaluate his/her practice, particularly the effects of his/her choices and actions on others (learners, families, other professionals, and the community), and adapts practice to meet the needs of each learner.*

- 12. Leadership and Collaboration.** *The teacher seeks appropriate leadership roles and opportunities to take responsibility for student learning, to collaborate with learners, families, colleagues, other school professionals, and community members to ensure learner growth and to advance the profession.*

Programs and Courses

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING COURSE SEQUENCE

The MAT is designed to be completed within an eleven month period in summer, fall, and spring semesters. All coursework applied toward the degree must be taken within six years of degree conferral.

summer

EDU 510 Foundations for Curriculum Development

A study of various foundational principles that guide selection of goals, content, and materials for classroom practice and curriculum development. Students evaluate these principles from a Christian perspective, and choose those appropriate for developing an understanding of classroom practice and curricular issues for schools.
2 hours

Instructor: Kaufmann

Format: Combined course with MEd

meets 1st week of summer session, M-F, 8:30-5:00

EDU 520 Introduction to Research

An introduction to research methods and designs and their application to educational settings. Emphasis is given to developing knowledge and skills in classroom research procedures and in critiquing and applying research to classroom settings.
Prerequisite(s): EDU 510. 2 hours

Instructor: Hall

Format: Meets 3rd week of summer session, M-F, 8:30-5:00

EDU 540 Nature and Needs of Adolescent Learners

This course introduces candidates to the developmental characteristics of adolescents with emphasis on implications for planning and implementing classroom instruction. Contemporary research and practice is analyzed and evaluated from a biblically-

informed perspective, with the goal of enabling candidates to become effective teachers whose work is shaped by a personal, thoughtful, and growing Christian philosophy of education.

Prerequisite(s): EDU 510. 2 hours

Instructor: Donaldson

Format: Meets 2nd week of summer session, M-F, 8:30-5:00

fall

EDU 530 Content Area Literacy for Adolescents

This course equips candidates with an understanding of how reading, writing, and multi-literacies support learning in the subject areas, especially in grades 6-12. Specific topics include literacy development in K-12 learners; word recognition and fluency; vocabulary and comprehension; and theoretical foundations for understanding pedagogy related to English Language Arts across the curriculum. The course includes use of assessment processes, development of instructional strategies, and selection of literature and materials appropriate for use in various content areas. Special emphasis is placed on development of standards-based curriculum as well as differentiated instruction for diverse learners. Prerequisite(s): EDU 510. 3 hours

Instructor: Pennington

EDU 550 History and Philosophy of American Education

A course designed to provide an overview of the leading ideas and institutional developments that have shaped the character of American education. Of particular interest are the influences of Puritanism on education, the rise of the public school movement, the legacy of John Dewey and the progressive movement, and the Christian school movement. Students consider educational developments within their social, intellectual, and political contexts. \$6.00 fee. Prerequisite(s): EDU 510. 3 hours

Instructor: Kaufmann

EDU 560 Middle/Secondary Content and Methods

A course designed to help candidates develop and practice the abilities and skills necessary to be effective classroom teachers. Candidates examine curricula and complete assignments in their specific subject area, and develop a unit plan and lesson plans that address relevant state and national standards. Prerequisite(s): EDU 510. 3 hours

Instructor: Donaldson

EDU 570 Educational Assessment and Research

A study of the principles and practices of measurement, testing, assessment, and evaluation for making decisions in education. Topics include the development of traditional, performance, and product assessment, writing assessment, affective assessment, standardized assessment, and evaluating classrooms through action research. Prerequisite(s): EDU 520. 3 hours

Instructor: Horton

EDU 580 Clinical Practice I

The fall Clinical Practice requires integration and application of instructional, management, and professional knowledge and competencies in school settings. Candidates are in schools three days per week, under the direction of a mentor teacher and college supervisor. Candidates complete a Teacher Performance Assessment (EdTPA) and must earn a passing score to receive a Certificate of Eligibility. The scoring fee for EdTPA is covered through the course fee. Biblical Studies candidates are exempt from this requirement. \$307.00 fee. Prerequisite(s): EDU 540 and approval for Clinical Practice. 3 hours

Instructor: Staff

spring

EDU 585 Diversity Field Experience

EDU 585 is a 40-hour field placement in diverse local school settings, with opportunities to observe and participate in a variety of classroom activities with diverse student populations. Prerequisite(s): EDU 580. 1 hour

Instructor: Tinbolt

Format: April

EDU 590 Research Seminar

This course meets in conjunction with full-time clinical practice and includes assigned readings, participation, and presentation and discussion of action research projects. Seminars also address the issues and concerns that clinical practice candidates encounter during their daily practice. These experiences enable candidates to become more reflective in their teaching practice. Prerequisite(s): EDU 570. 4 hours

Instructor: Horton

Format: Meets 1 evening per week throughout semester and occasionally on an additional evening.

EDU 595 Clinical Practice II

The Spring Clinical Practicum is the culminating course in the MAT and requires integration and application of instructional, management, and professional knowledge and competencies in school settings. Candidates teach under the direction of a mentor teacher and college supervisor. Candidates must maintain a 3.0 GPA and no course grade lower than a B to continue in clinical practice. Prerequisite: completion of all coursework and approval for clinical practice.

Prerequisite(s): EDU 580. 8 hours

Instructor: Staff

Format: Jan-April, M-F

part-time program completion

Students unable to complete the degree in the three semester sequence may complete it in a part-time sequence over a two year period. The course schedule is determined in consultation with the academic advisor.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A total of 34 semester hours of coursework is required for completion of the Master of Arts in Teaching degree. The degree must be completed with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, and only one course with the grade of C (with the exclusion of EDU 595 Clinical Practice II) will be applied to graduation requirements. All coursework applied toward the degree must be taken within six years of degree conferral.

If a student is unable to complete the degree within six years, application may be made to the Dean of the Graduate School of Education to extend the program. If extended, continuation fees apply.

TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Teacher Education Program (TEP) at Covenant College is regulated by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC). MAT students are admitted to the TEP prior to Clinical Practice I. Many of the admission requirements for the MAT are also required for admission to the TEP. As of January 1, 2015, completion of the Georgia Educator Ethics Assessment-Program Entry (350) is required for admission to the TEP. Following are requirements and process points which candidates must satisfy to remain in the TEP and successfully complete the MAT degree.

Approval to the TEP

Approval to the TEP occurs July 1, prior to Clinical Practice I. Requirements are:

- a. *Satisfaction of all admissions requirements to the Master of Arts in Teaching*
- b. *Completion of Georgia Educator Ethics Assessment-Program Entry (350)*
- c. *Minimum GPA of 3.0*
- d. *Application for the Pre-Service Certificate submitted to the Georgia Professional Standards Commission*

Note: the Pre-Service Certificate is required in order to participate in Clinical Practice I-II. Upon approval to the TEP, MAT students become candidates in the TEP.

Approval for Clinical Practice I – August 4

The following are required for approval:

- a. *Minimum GPA of 3.0*
- b. *Satisfactory Disposition Evaluations*
- c. *Awarding of Pre-Service Certificate*

Application for the Pre-Service Certificate

The application will be completed upon acceptance into the MAT and submitted to the Georgia Professional Standards Commission by the Certification Official of Covenant College. Candidates are required to hold this certificate for all field experiences. To obtain the certificate, candidates will submit:

- a. *Signed GaPSC Application for Certification, pages 1 & 3, including completed Personal Affirmation Questions.*
- b. *Signed and notarized Verification of Lawful Presence (VLP) affidavit.*
- c. *Copy of supporting documentation for VLP (such as valid driver's license).*

Documents are submitted to the college certification official: Mrs. Rebecca Dodson. The education department will submit these documents to the GaPSC on behalf of the candidate. These documents authorize the GaPSC to conduct a criminal record check. Please note:

- a. *The candidate will be issued a Pre-Service certificate if the candidate responded “no” to all Personal Affirmation questions on the application and the criminal record check does not contradict those answers.*
- b. *If a Pre-Service Certificate is not obtained, the candidate will not be allowed to participate in field work.*
- c. *Each candidate must receive a Pre-Service Certificate prior to the start of Clinical Practice I.*
- d. *The Pre-Service Certificate will be issued through the candidate's MyPSC account.*
- e. *The Pre-Service Certificate is valid for five years.*

Clinical Practice II

The following are required for continuation in Clinical Practice II from Clinical Practice I.

- a. *TEP Approval*
- b. *Pre-Service Certificate*
- c. *Minimum GPA of 3.0*
- d. *Satisfactory Clinical Evaluations*
- e. *Satisfactory Disposition Evaluations*

Program Completion and Graduation

- a. *Minimum GPA of 3.0; no course with less than a B grade.*
- b. *Successful completion of all clinical practice and coursework*
- c. *Satisfactory Clinical Evaluations*
- d. *Satisfactory Dispositions Evaluations*
- e. *Graduate Exit Survey*
- f. *Completion of edTPA; passing score is required for Certificate of Eligibility*
- g. *Completion of Georgia Educators Ethics Exam-360; passing score is required for Certificate of Eligibility*





Master of Education Degree

ADMISSIONS

An application packet may be obtained by contacting the MEd office or downloading a packet from www.med.covenant.edu.

Master of Education

Graduate School of Education
Covenant College
14049 Scenic Highway
Lookout Mountain, GA 30750
800.677.3626
med@covenant.edu
www.med.covenant.edu

Early Application Bonus—for all application packets (must include application, references, writing sample, statement of faith) postmarked by February 1, the \$50 application fee will be waived.

Note the following dates for submission of application materials:

Dec-Apr 1	Applications received and accepted
Feb 15-Apr 15	Registration period
Mar 1	Priority deadline for submission of financial aid application for returning students
Apr 1	Application deadline Priority financial aid awards for new students
Apr 15	Registration deadline
May 1	Official start date of pre-campus session Term start date; fees assessed
Apr 16-May 1	Late registration, \$100 fee Course drop/add period

Individuals choosing to drop a course after May 1 will not receive a refund and are responsible to pay total course tuition and fees. This policy is in compliance with federal and fiscal regulations. No exceptions may be made. See Refund Policy.

admission requirements

Regular Admission - Required For Degree Completion

To be admitted as a regular student in the MEd, an individual must:

1. Hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally-accredited college or university.
 2. Have earned a grade point average of 3.0 for the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate study. Graduate coursework will be considered if a degree was not earned but the cumulative GPA was 3.5 or higher for a minimum of 15 semester hours.
 3. Have completed at least 15 semester hours of undergraduate coursework in education. Evidence of five years of verified experience in professional education may be substituted for the required coursework in education.
 4. Have taught for one or more years. (Application may be submitted during the first year of teaching.) If the experience was in a home rather than a school setting, the applicant will be considered for provisional admission.
 5. Submit a credible written profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
 6. Submit a sample academic paper demonstrating the applicant's academic capability. The sample may be an academic paper previously written, or an academic paper focusing on a problem of special concern in education, or a brief paper written in which an idea related to that problem is developed. The academic paper must be a minimum of five pages, in academic form, and include appropriate citations. The paper will be examined for coherence of thought, organization, spelling and punctuation.
- Applicants who have already completed a master's degree are exempt from submitting an academic paper.**
7. Have taken the General Test of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and submit official scores to Covenant College (code 6124); the test must have been taken within five years of the date of application.

Applicants, who have already completed graduate work at a regionally accredited institution with a grade of at least "B" and took the Miller Analogies Test for admission to that graduate degree program, may choose to submit MAT test scores in lieu of GRE scores. The test must have been taken within five years of the date of application to Covenant.

Applicants who have already completed a master's degree are exempt from taking the GRE.

8. *If applicants are not working in a school situation (teaching or administration) a letter of cooperation is required from a school administrator stating that the applicant will have access to classroom or school situations where graduate coursework can be applied.*

9. **International Candidates:** *Covenant defines international students as anyone who is not a citizen of the United States of America. International candidates must submit the following in addition:*

A. The International Student Certification of Finances form prior to, or along with, submitting the application for admission to the MEd. The form is provided in the application packet and available at www.med.covenant.edu. In addition, a copy of the student's passport biographical page must be submitted before an I-20 can be issued, or before the student would be considered for any institutional financial aid. The certification form must be supported with a copy of a bank statement or letter from a bank confirming the availability of financial resources to pay for educational expenses. If a third party sponsor or organization will be providing resources for the student, a similar confirmation of resources from an individual or a letter from an organization should be included. One to two months should be allowed for processing certification of finances and two months minimum should be allowed to obtain a student visa.

B. International transcripts submitted for admission to the MEd must be evaluated and authenticated. The following organizations are reputable such that Covenant College will accept a course evaluation (to award college credit on a course-by-course basis) and a degree confirmation. All are well established and have different fee structures and time lines of services so the applicant may select the organization they prefer to utilize.

International Education Services

<http://ies.aacrao.org/about/>
Washington, DC
202.296.3359

Josef Silny & Associates

<http://www.jsilny.com/>
Miami, FL
305.273.1616

International Education Evaluations, Inc.

<http://www.foreigntranscripts.com>
Charlotte, NC
704.772.0109

World Education Services

<http://www.wes.org/>
New York, NY
212.966.6311

Educational Credential Evaluators

<https://www.ece.org/>
Milwaukee WI
414.289.3400

Global Credential Evaluators, Inc.

<http://gceus.com/>
Offices in Texas, Mississippi and Virginia
800.707.0979 TX

C. The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required for international applicants whose native language is not English. A minimum score of 550 (paper-based exam) or 215 (computer-based exam) or 80 (Internet-based exam) is required. An official score report should be submitted to Covenant College (Code 6124). Information about the TOEFL may be obtained from the Educational Testing Service, Box 899, Princeton, NJ 08540, USA or www.ets.org/toefl.

admission procedures

Application and supporting materials are accepted through April 1 by the Master of Education office. Application packets may be obtained through written, phone or e-mail request, or by downloading from the MEd website: www.med.covenant.edu.

The Following Are Required For Admission

1. *A completed application form.*
2. *Payment of the \$50 non-refundable application fee.*
Early Application Bonus—for all application packets (must include application, references, writing sample, statement of faith) postmarked by February 1, the \$50.00 application fee will be waived.
3. *A credible written profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.*
4. *Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate coursework.*

5. *Two completed recommendation forms from educators.*
6. *A sample academic paper demonstrating the applicant's academic capability. The sample may be an academic paper previously written, or an academic paper focusing on a problem of special concern in education, or a brief paper written in which an idea related to that problem is developed. The paper must be a minimum of five pages, in academic form, and include appropriate citations. The paper will be examined for coherence of thought, organization, spelling and punctuation.*

Applicants who have already completed a master's degree are exempt from submitting an academic paper.

7. *Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores on the General Test obtained within the last five years. Applicants must request that their scores be sent to the college (code 6124). Students who have completed graduate work at a regionally accredited institution with a grade of at least B may choose to submit Miller Analogies Test scores in lieu of GRE scores, if the test was taken within five years of the date of application to Covenant. Applicants who have already completed a master's degree are exempt from taking the GRE.*
8. *If the applicant is not working in a school situation (teaching or administration), a letter of cooperation is required from a school administrator stating that the applicant will have access to classroom or school situations where graduate coursework can be applied.*
9. *International applicants must submit the following in addition:*
 - A. The International Student Certification of Finances form prior to, or along with, submitting the application for admission to the MEd. The form is provided in the application packet and available at www.med.covenant.edu. In addition, a copy of the student's passport biographical page must be submitted before an I-20 can be issued, or before the student would be considered for any institutional financial aid. The certification form must be supported with a copy of a bank statement or letter from a bank confirming the availability of financial resources to pay for educational expenses. If a third party sponsor or organization will be providing resources for the student, a similar confirmation of resources from an individual or a letter from an organization should be included. One to two months should be allowed for processing certification of finances and two months minimum should be allowed to obtain a student visa.
 - B. International transcripts submitted for admission to the MEd must be evaluated and authenticated. The following organizations are reputable such that Covenant College will accept a course evaluation (to award college credit

on a course-by-course basis) and a degree confirmation. All are well established and have different fee structures and time lines of services so the applicant may select the organization they prefer to utilize.

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 Charlotte, NC
 704.772.0109

World Education Services

<http://www.wes.org/>
 New York, NY
 212.966.6311

Educational Credential Evaluators

<https://www.ece.org/>
 Milwaukee WI
 414.289.3400

Global Credential Evaluators, Inc.

<http://gceus.com/>
 Offices in Texas, Mississippi and Virginia
 800.707.0979 TX

C. The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required for international applicants whose native language is not English. A minimum score of 550 (paper-based exam) or 215 (computer-based exam) or 80 (Internet-based exam) is required. An official score report should be submitted to Covenant College (Code 6124). Information about the TOEFL may be obtained from the Educational Testing Service, Box 899, Princeton, NJ 08540, USA or www.ets.org/toefl.

After the application and all supporting materials are received, the applicant is notified of his or her acceptance into the program, status (special, provisional, or regular), and an academic advisor is assigned. The application for financial aid is included with registration materials.

Admission Procedures for Special Student Applicants

The following are required for admission as a special student:

1. *A completed application form; payment of \$50 non-refundable application fee. For all application packets postmarked by February 1, the \$50 application fee will be waived.*
2. *Written statement of faith in Jesus Christ.*
3. *Official transcripts of all college and graduate coursework.*
4. *Statement of access from an administrator if the applicant is not working in a school situation.*
5. *Mail documents and \$50 application fee to the Master of Education, Covenant College.*

admission status

Regular Student Status

An applicant who meets all admission requirements to the MEd is accepted as a regular student. Regular student status is required to complete the MEd degree.

To maintain regular student status a 3.0 grade point average must be maintained throughout enrollment in the MEd.

Provisional Student Status

An applicant not having fully met admissions criteria may be considered for provisional admission. The student will be informed that unmet criteria must be satisfied during the course of the program. The status of a provisional student is reviewed after nine hours of coursework; no more than nine hours taken while in this category may be applied toward the degree.

A student must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) on

courses taken as a provisional student. The GRE must be taken before registration will be accepted for a second year of study. Regular student status is required for the MEd degree to be granted.

Special Student Status

An applicant not intending to complete the MEd degree may be considered for special student admission. An individual may take up to 12 hours as a special student. See admission procedures for special student admission. An applicant must have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university, and one year of teaching experience. If the applicant is not working in a school, verification from a school administrator must be submitted assuring access to a school situation where principles learned in the MEd can be applied. A grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) for the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate study is expected. No more than 12 hours taken as a special student may be applied toward the degree should the student apply for admission as a regular student in the MEd.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

deferment status

Returning students who have previously received federal student loans must register by April 15 in order to remain in deferment status. The terms of attendance for federal financial aid purposes will be considered to be April 15 through January 15. Federal aid will be earned on a prorated basis up to 60% of the term of attendance.

fees and expenses

General

\$50	Application fee (non-refundable, payable once only)
\$600	Tuition per term per unit
\$16	Materials fee (per course)
\$25	Technology fee (per course)
\$29	Student activity fee (per course)

Housing

\$135-330 Room per week (7 days, cost dependent upon housing type.
See registration form for details)

Special

\$15	ID card
\$15	ID card replacement fee
\$100	Late registration fee
\$135	Graduation fee, third year students only
\$15	Course change fee: <i>On May 1 and following, each course change is subject to fee.</i>
\$500	Continuation fee: <i>Applicable when program is extended beyond six year limit.</i>
\$200	I901 Annual fee for international students; subject to change

Summary of Fees and Expenses for the Summer Term

A.	Tuition, 9 hours:	9 x \$600 = \$5400
B.	Course Materials Fee (\$16 per course):	3 x \$16 = \$48
C.	Student Activity Fee (\$29 per course):	3 x \$29 = \$87
D.	Technology Fee (\$25 per course):	3 x \$25 = \$75

Total:	\$5610
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<i>Deposit towards tuition (non-refundable, due w/ registration):</i>	- \$400
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Amount remaining:	\$5210
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(Textbooks, supplies, and housing costs are in addition.)

Payment Schedule

1. *Submitted with application for admission: \$50 application fee. Early Application Bonus for all application and materials postmarked by February 1, the \$50 application fee will be waived. Note: application, references, academic paper, statement of faith must be submitted to qualify for fee waiver.*
2. *Submitted with registration form:*
 - a. \$400 non-refundable enrollment deposit towards tuition
 - b. Application for financial aid, if applicable
3. *Tuition and fees are assessed on May 1. Interest will be added at the end of May and each successive month on the last business day of the month at 4:00 pm on any unpaid balance. Returning students may not register until all financial obligations from the previous year have been satisfied.*

4. *Housing is paid during the on-campus session.*
5. *Details regarding payment are included in the registration packet.*
6. *Covenant College accepts payment for student accounts from an e-check on-line, Master-Card, Discover, check, PayPal, or cash. A processing fee is assessed for on-line payment based on payment method and amount of payment. See Application or Registration form for complete details.*
7. *Students are responsible to verify their account balance through their Banner account. Students receive a monthly electronic statement to their Covenant email. College offices will also communicate with students via their Covenant College e-mail account.*
8. *Students are responsible for purchase of textbooks and supplies. Included with the registration packet is a list of textbooks and materials required for each course in the MEd.*

housing

Housing for the on-campus session is reserved as part of registration. Full payment for housing is due at the beginning of the on-campus session. No housing refunds are provided once on-campus sessions begin. Housing is not available for family members.

registration

Feb 15-Apr 15	Registration; materials available on website
Apr 16-May 1	Late registration \$100 late registration fee
Apr 16-May 1	Drop/Add period
May 1	Tuition and fees assessed

Individuals choosing to drop a course after May 1 will not receive a refund and are responsible to pay total course tuition and fees. This policy is in compliance with federal and fiscal regulations. No exceptions may be made. See Refund Policy.

On February 15, registration information is made available to Master of Education students. Students may register through April 15 without penalty and through May 1 with late registration fee applied.

Returning students may not register if carrying more than one incomplete course grade, if tuition/fees/fines are outstanding, or with any other unmet obligation to the college. Students may not register for courses beyond the first year without having submitted an official GRE score report.

Late Registration

Registration from April 16–May 1 will incur a \$100 late registration fee. Individuals choosing to drop a course after May 1 will not receive a refund and are responsible to pay total course tuition and fees. This policy is in compliance with federal and fiscal regulations. No exceptions may be made. See Refund Policy.

the robert b. ashlock award

Each year the faculty of the Master of Education selects a third-year student to receive the Robert B. Ashlock Award. This award recognizes Dr. Ashlock as the organizing and first director of the Master of Education at Covenant College and as a published scholar in the field of elementary mathematics. The award will be given to a MEd student who exemplifies the mission of Covenant College through scholarly academic performance. Dr. Ashlock is Professor of Education Emeritus.

the norman harper scholarship

Each year the faculty of the Master of Education selects a third-year student to receive the Norman Harper Scholarship. This honor will be bestowed on a MEd student who exemplifies the mission of the college relative to scholarly work in the program. The award memorializes Dr. Harper, a key initiator of the predecessor of the program when it was housed at Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi.

tuition reduction plan

The Tuition Reduction Plan offers an incentive for multiple educators from the same school to participate in the Master of Education. The plan is solely based on the number of participants from a particular school. The details of the plan include adjustments in tuition at the following rates:

- 10%** *reduction for individuals when two MEd students enrolled from the same school*
- 20%** *reduction for individuals when three MEd students enrolled from the same school*
- 25%** *reduction for individuals with when four or more MEd students enrolled from the same school*

All of the students must be registered for at least one full class during the term, and the reductions do not include any non-tuition fees. To apply for participation, the lead administrator must submit an official letter listing participants in the Tuition Reduction Plan from his/her school. This letter is by the request of the student

and must be submitted each academic year for eligible applicants to receive tuition reduction benefits. Upon receipt of registration forms and initial deposit, the tuition reduction will be applied to participants.

Submit letter to: Rebecca Dodson, *Associate Dean of Education*
Master of Education Covenant College, 14049 Scenic Highway
Lookout Mountain, GA 30750-9601
or rebecca.dodson@covenant.edu

GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION

attendance policy

Students are expected to be in attendance at all on-campus sessions. One day of excused absence is permitted for an emergency. More than one day of absence will result in the student being required to retake the on-campus portion of the course. Appeals may be submitted in writing to the Dean of the Graduate School of Education for consideration by the graduate faculty.

calendar for 2016–2017

- Dec-Apr 1** Receipt of application and supporting materials for admission
- Feb 15-Apr 15** Registration period
- Apr 1** Incomplete course grade must be completed
- Apr 16-May 1** Late registration period-\$100 fee
Drop/Add period
- May 1** Official start date of pre-campus session

Pre-Campus Session

- May 1** Pre-campus session officially begins

On-Campus Session

- Jun 26** Convocation Dinner for all students, faculty, personnel
- Jun 27-Jul 1** EDU 610 *Foundations for Curriculum Development (Core Course)*
EDU 630 *Learning Theory Applied to Teaching (Core Course)*
EDU 750 *The Nature of Knowledge and Curriculum Integration*
EDU 760 *School Business Management*

Jul 4-8	EDU 620 <i>Introduction to Research (Core Course)</i>
	EDU 650 <i>The School in Society (Core Course)</i>
	EDU 725 <i>Development of Personnel</i>
	EDU 730 <i>Implementing Instructional Strategies</i>
Jul 11-15	EDU 712 <i>Shaping School Curriculum, K-12</i>
	EDU 720 <i>Organizational Leadership</i>
	EDU 735 <i>Integrative Approaches to Curriculum</i>
	EDU 738 <i>Research and Practice in Teaching Content Fields</i>
	EDU 740 <i>Supervision of Instruction</i>
	EDU 745 <i>School Law, Standards and Policy</i>

Post-Campus Session

JUL-JAN 15	Completion of course requirements <i>See Course completion dates, MEd General Academic Information section of this catalog</i>
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MAY 6, 2017	Commencement
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abbreviated calendars

2016-2017

Commencement:	<i>May 7, 2016</i>
Convocation Dinner:	<i>June 26, 2016</i>
On-campus session:	<i>June 27-July 15, 2016</i>

2017-2018

Commencement:	<i>May 6, 2017</i>
Convocation Dinner:	<i>June 25, 2017</i>
On-campus session:	<i>June 26-July 14, 2017</i>

2018-2019

Commencement:	<i>May 5, 2018</i>
Convocation Dinner:	<i>June 24, 2018</i>
On-campus session:	<i>June 25-July 13, 2018</i>

2019-2020

Commencement:	<i>May 4, 2019</i>
Convocation Dinner:	<i>June 23, 2019</i>
On-campus session:	<i>June 24-July 12, 2019</i>

candidacy

Candidates for the degree are students who have completed nine semester hours, have regular student status, and have a minimum grade point average of 3.0.

certification

Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)

In April 2007, the Master of Education was approved by ACSI for the awarding of an ACSI certificate upon completion of the MEd degree. Graduates of the MEd are eligible for an ACSI certificate upon completion of the degree. The certificate is valid for five years.

Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC)

The educational leadership specialization in the Master of Education is an approved program by the GaPSC for program recommendation in states *other* than Georgia. Individuals would need to satisfy any certification requirements outside the parameters of the MEd in order to become certified in that state. It is advisable to apply for certification within five years of completion of the MEd degree.

Within the state of Georgia, certification in educational leadership is available at the specialist level *only*. Certified individuals holding a master's degree in any field, who

have a passing score on the Georgia Content Assessment of Educators (GACE™) in educational leadership, who hold an approved leadership position in a Georgia school, and are enrolled in a leadership program at the specialist level may apply for a five-year non-renewable certificate in educational leadership. For complete details see www.gapsc.com.

course completion dates

- Dec 1** EDU 610 *Foundations for Curriculum Development (Core Course)*
- Jan 1** EDU 620 *Introduction to Research (Core Course)*
- Jan 15** EDU 630 *Learning Theory Applied to Teaching (Core Course)*
- Nov 15** EDU 650 *The School in Society (Core Course)*
- Jan 1** EDU 712 *Shaping School Curriculum, K-12*
- Jan 1** EDU 720 *Organizational Leadership*
- Nov 15** EDU 725 *Development of Personnel*
- Dec 15** EDU 730 *Implementing Instructional Strategies*
- Nov 15** EDU 735 *Integrative Approaches to Curriculum*
- Dec 15** EDU 738 *Research and Practice in Teaching Content Fields*
- Jan 15** EDU 740 *Supervision of Instruction*
- Dec 15** EDU 745 *School Law, Standards and Policy*
- Jan 15** EDU 750 *The Nature of Knowledge and Curriculum Integration*
- Dec 15** EDU 760 *School Business Management*
- Mar 1** EDU 785 *Field Experience in Educational Leadership*
- Mar 1** EDU 790 *Project in Integrated Curriculum and Instruction*

important calendar dates

- Dec-April 1** Applications received and accepted
- Feb 15-April 15** Registration period
- March 1** Priority deadline for submission of financial aid application for returning students
- April 1** Application deadline
Priority financial aid awards for new students
Any incomplete course grade must be completed.
Any incomplete converts to an F.

- April 15** Registration deadline
Completion of all coursework and financial obligations to the college in order to graduate
- April 16-May 1** Late registration, \$100 fee
Drop/add period
No registrations received after May 1
- May 1** Official start date of pre-campus session
Term start date; fees assessed

Individuals choosing to drop a course after May 1 will not receive a refund and are responsible to pay total course tuition and fees. This policy is in compliance with federal and fiscal regulations. No exceptions may be made. See Refund Policy.

course deadlines and incompletes

Coursework is to be turned in by the published Course Completion Date for each course. Students failing to meet this deadline can expect to be penalized as much as one letter grade. If a student believes that a deadline will not be met, communication with the professor prior to the deadline is essential. An Incomplete Grade Request form must be agreed to and completed by student and instructor prior to the conclusion of the term in order for an incomplete course grade to be granted. Any incomplete (I) granted for a course not completed by the date specified will be replaced with an F. All work for a course with an incomplete grade must be submitted to the instructor by the specified date or on the Monday morning following if the specified date falls on a weekend.

Incomplete received must be completed by April 1

Students may not register for additional coursework with more than one incomplete course grade. Incomplete Grade Request forms are available from the office of the Graduate School of Education.

graduate record exam

See Admission Requirements in this catalog.

The revised GRE General Test is required for admission to the Master of Education. www.gre.org provides information regarding test registration, test centers, score reporting procedures, etc. Test-taker news and information is available at www.ets.org/gre/testtakernews.

housing and meals, on-campus session

On-campus housing is available for the on-campus session. Housing requests are included with registration and housing arrangements are finalized after registration concludes. Full payment for housing is due at the beginning of the on-campus session.

MEd students are ordinarily housed in Maclellan and Rymer Halls. These facilities consist of suites incorporating two rooms and a bathroom. Kitchen and commons areas are available on each floor (two floors are designated for MEd students).

Meals are available through the college dining facility at a discounted price which may be purchased on a meal-by-meal basis. The schedule of meals varies according to the summer conference program schedule. Typically meals are not available Friday through Monday breakfast.

Additional information about housing and meals is provided in the registration packet.

PROGRAM AND SPECIALIZATION OUTCOMES

Students select one of two specializations upon application to the program: Educational Leadership or Integrated Curriculum and Instruction. If a change in specialization is desired after admission, a written request to change the specialization is required as well as two new references. Requests and references are submitted to the Associate Dean of Education.

mission

The mission of the Covenant College Master of Education is to develop and equip biblically faithful educators.

program outcomes

- *Use theologically and culturally Reformed ideas and concepts to think about, talk about, and implement educational practice.*
- *Demonstrate intellectual maturity through curiosity, patience, intellectual honesty, critical discernment, humility, and a tolerance for complexity and ambiguity.*
- *Facilitate needed change to close the gap between the current situation (the “is”) and the desired situation (the “ought”).*

- *Demonstrate confidence and boldness in the biblically faithful critique and implementation of educational practice.*
- *Demonstrate compassionate treatment of and collaboration with all members of the school community.*
- *Apply common grace insights in leadership and curriculum and instruction.*
- *Describe the roles of schools in society over time.*
- *Critique all forms of research related to educational research, conduct empirical research for improvement and enhancement of educational practice, and apply findings from learning theory research to the design and delivery of instruction and supervision.*

educational leadership specialization outcomes

The educational leadership specialization provides graduate instruction which enables students to practice:

Organizational leadership in terms of systems thinking and application, leadership traits, skills, and styles, organizational culture, and field experience.

Instructional leadership for collaborative supervision and evaluation of instruction, professional learning for teacher growth, curriculum leadership, and field experience.

Administrative leadership in areas of fiscal resources and management, school law, physical plant management, strategic planning, personnel management, and field experience.

integrated curriculum and instruction specialization outcomes

The integrated curriculum and instruction specialization provides graduate instruction which enables students to:

Develop integrative instructional strategies for solving problems, making connections within subjects, with other subject areas, and with the everyday world.

Develop integrative units and/or courses of study which include the ability to select worthy themes, develop guiding questions and essential understandings, relate biblical truth to the subject matter, and make meaningful connections between academic disciplines.

Use an understanding of the structure of knowledge and knowing as a basis for integrating the curriculum.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A total of 30 semester hours of coursework is required for completion of the Master of Education: 12 hours of core courses and 18 hours within a specialization. The degree must be completed with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, and only one course with the grade of C will be applied to graduation requirements. All coursework applied toward the degree must be taken within six years of degree conferral.

If a student is unable to complete the degree within the six year limit, application may be made to the Dean of the Graduate School of Education to extend the program. If extended, continuation fees apply.

core courses

All MEd students are required to complete the core.

EDU 610 Foundations for Curriculum Development (Core Course)

A study of various foundational principles that guide in the selection of goals, content, and materials in the curriculum. Students evaluate these principles from a Christian perspective, and choose those appropriate for evaluating and changing classroom practice in the schools. 3 hours

Instructor: Kaufmann

EDU 620 Introduction to Research (Core Course)

An introduction to research methods and designs and their application to educational settings. Emphasis is given to developing knowledge and skills in research procedures and in critiquing and applying research. Students design and implement research projects in their own school settings. 3 hours

Instructor: Horton

EDU 630 Learning Theory Applied to Teaching (Core Course)

A comprehensive survey of current research on learning and its implications for classroom practice. Learning theories are related to a Christian view of the learner, the role of the teacher, and the learning process in order to develop effective and appropriate instructional and assessment models, which are then applied in a school-based project. Prerequisite(s): EDU 610. 3 hours

Instructor: Beckman

EDU 650 The School in Society (Core Course)

A study of culture as an integrated whole, the nature of cultural change and the role of the school in both facing and effecting change in society. An historical overview of the school in American society is presented and students examine selected approaches to teaching from various times. Prerequisite(s): EDU 610. 3 hours

Instructor: Green

PROGRAMS AND COURSES

Courses are listed by Core, Educational Leadership specialization, and Integrated Curriculum and Instruction specialization.

educational leadership specialization (MEd) 2016-2017 course sequence

Year 1, Week 1 (June 27-July 1)

EDU 610 Foundations for Curriculum Development (Core Course)

A study of various foundational principles that guide in the selection of goals, content, and materials in the curriculum. Students evaluate these principles from a Christian perspective, and choose those appropriate for evaluating and changing classroom practice in the schools. 3 hours

Instructor: Kaufmann

Year 1, Week 2 (July 4-8)

EDU 620 Introduction to Research (Core Course)

An introduction to research methods and designs and their application to educational settings. Emphasis is given to developing knowledge and skills in research procedures and in critiquing and applying research. Students design and implement research projects in their own school settings. 3 hours

Instructor: Horton

Year 1, Week 3 (July 11-15)

EDU 720 Organizational Leadership

This course provides a theoretical and empirical overview of contemporary leadership theories and the essentials of organizational behavior. Students explore assumptions about human nature in leadership and followership, the personality

and motivation of the leader, and theories of leadership with an emphasis on organizational complexity and systems thinking. Attention is given to leadership that is specific to educational settings using a case study approach. Prerequisite(s): EDU 610, EDU 620. 3 hours

Instructor: Eames

Year 2, Week 1 (June 27-July 1)

EDU 630 Learning Theory Applied to Teaching (Core Course)

A comprehensive survey of current research on learning and its implications for classroom practice. Learning theories are related to a Christian view of the learner, the role of the teacher, and the learning process in order to develop effective and appropriate instructional and assessment models, which are then applied in a school-based project. Prerequisite(s): EDU 610. 3 hours

Instructor: Beckman

Year 2, Week 2 (July 4-8)

EDU 725 Development of Personnel

A study of the educational leader's role with faculty and staff. This includes a study of recruitment, selection, and hiring, personnel utilization/staffing, supervision/personnel evaluation and conferencing. Additionally, the course focuses on the use of job descriptions, staff development, adult learning, the promotion of change, new teacher induction, and professional learning communities. Prerequisite(s): EDU 720. 3 hours

Instructor: Drexler

Year 2, Week 3 (July 11-15)

EDU 745 School Law, Standards and Policy

A study of the legal foundations of education - law, standards, and policy. Constitutionally-based case law is examined for its impact on public schools. Contract law is examined for its impact on private and religious schools. Tort law is examined for an understanding of legal liability. Legal audits assess the meeting of federal and state statutory requirements. State standards are reviewed. An historical, philosophical, and biblical framework for school law is presented. Prerequisite(s): EDU 720. 3 hours

Instructor: Ferguson

Year 3, Week 1 (June 27-July 1)

EDU 760 School Business Management

A study of the principles and methods of school business management based upon a biblical perspective of leadership, planning, and stewardship of time and resources. As a context for specific professional practice, students study external forces that affect their schools, e.g. globalization, the digital revolution, and other socio-economic trends. The implications of these forces for professional practice are studied and applied to strategic, instructional, and technology planning, budgeting and finance, compensation, purchasing, facilities capitalization, the strategic allocation of resources, time management, and board relations. To give students direct experience on how technology can contribute to the learning process and can leverage scarce resources and increase ROI, portions of this course are blended with online collaboration tools. Prerequisite(s): EDU 720. 3 hours

Instructor: Mosbacher

Year 3, Week 2 (July 4-8)

EDU 650 The School in Society (Core Course)

A study of culture as an integrated whole, the nature of cultural change, and the role of the school in both facing and effecting change in society. An historical overview of the school in American society is presented and students examine selected approaches to teaching from various times. Prerequisite(s): EDU 610. 3 hours

Instructor: Green

Year 3, Week 3 (July 11-15)

EDU 740 Supervision of Instruction

The educational leader is a key member of an instructional team focused on effective teaching and learning in the classroom. Two aspects of instructional leadership are explored in this course 1) Supervision - those professional community practices that lead to teacher developmental growth; and 2) Evaluation - those administrative practices that lead to judgments regarding novice, veteran, and marginal teachers. Prerequisite(s): EDU 720. 3 hours

Instructor: Beckman

Year 3, EDU 785 is the capstone course and does not required an on-campus session.

EDU 785 Field Experience in Educational Leadership

Capstone course taken during the third year; however, students may begin the work in previous years. In this course students are required to observe, participate in,

and reflect on activities which deepen understanding and develop skills necessary for effective practice. Field-based experiences are intended to extend coursework to the school setting, providing real-life learning and a critical link between theory and practice. The set of planned experiences involves at least 150 clock hours of participation. Students are required to begin field work during their first year of the program. The requirements for this capstone course include taking the Praxis II test in Leadership and Administration (Test #5411) and producing a 20-25 page scholarly paper which includes a literature review. The final notebook for this course is due March 1 of the semester the student intends to graduate. This course is taken as an independent study, and students register for EDU 785 during their final year of study in the program. Prerequisites: EDU 720. 3 hours

Instructor: Drexler



integrated curriculum and instruction specialization (MEd) 2016-2017 course sequence

Year 1, Week 1 (June 27-July 1)

EDU 610 Foundations for Curriculum Development (Core Course)

A study of various foundational principles that guide in the selection of goals, content, and materials in the curriculum. Students evaluate these principles from a Christian perspective, and choose those appropriate for evaluating and changing classroom practice in the schools. 3 hours

Instructor: Kaufmann

Year 1, Week 2 (July 4-8)

EDU 620 Introduction to Research (Core Course)

An introduction to research methods and designs and their application to educational settings. Emphasis is given to developing knowledge and skills in research procedures and in critiquing and applying research. Students design and implement research projects in their own school settings. 3 hours

Instructor: Horton

Year 1, Week 3 (July 11-15)

EDU 712 Shaping School Curriculum, K-12

An application of a biblical world view to the processes and products of curriculum development and assessment for the K-12 school or school system. The course examines the steps in developing a course of study from a school's mission statement through the assessment process. The issue of state and national standards are addressed. Criteria is developed for the evaluation of textbooks and other curriculum materials. Prerequisite(s): EDU 610. 3 hours

Instructor: Young

Year 2, Week 1 (June 27–July 1)

EDU 630 Learning Theory Applied to Teaching (Core Course)

A comprehensive survey of current research on learning and its implications for classroom practice. Learning theories are related to a Christian view of the learner, the role of the teacher, and the learning process in order to develop effective and appropriate instructional and assessment models, which are then applied in a school-based project. Prerequisite(s): EDU 610. 3 hours

Instructor: Beckman

Year 2, Week 2 (July 4–8)

EDU 730 Implementing Instructional Strategies

A study of strategies, particularly technological, for planning instruction to create a better learning environment for all students. Instructional strategies are examined in the light of learning principles and other research findings. The class endeavors to embody a biblical view of learners, teachers, curriculum, and the global community in which they all interact. Prerequisite(s): EDU 630. 3 hours

Instructor: Young

Year 2, Week 3 (July 11–15)

EDU 735 Integrative Approaches to Curriculum

This course focuses on the process of designing curricula that are integrated and conceptually focused. Units of instruction are designed which focus on major enduring understandings and principles, and reflect a biblical world view, resulting in instruction that enables classroom teachers to engage their students and help them remember and apply the concepts they learn. Prerequisite(s): EDU 610, EDU 630. 3 hours

Instructor: Pennington

Year 3, Week 1 (June 27–July 1)

EDU 750 The Nature of Knowledge and Curriculum Integration

This course examines the epistemological foundations for an integrated school curriculum. It clarifies the structure of knowledge, the nature of truth, and the place of “knowledge” in the postmodern world. These considerations are brought to bear on the task of integrating an academic curriculum. Prerequisite(s): EDU 610, or approval of the ICI coordinator. 3 hours

Instructor: Davis

Year 3, Week 2 (July 4–8)

EDU 650 The School in Society (Core Course)

A study of culture as an integrated whole, the nature of cultural change and the role of the school in both facing and effecting change in society. An historical overview of the school in American society is presented and students examine selected approaches to teaching from various times. Prerequisite(s): EDU 610. 3 hours

Instructor: Green

Year 3, Week 3 (July 11–15)

EDU 738 Research and Practice in Teaching Content Fields

An in-depth study of the research literature related to the teaching of the various content fields. Emphasis is given to research that has implications for instruction, and to current trends in the design of curricula and teaching practice. Prerequisite(s): EDU 620, EDU 630. 3 hours

Instructor: Horton

Year 3, EDU 790 is the capstone course and does not require an on-campus session

EDU 790 Project in Integrated Curriculum and Instruction

Capstone course taken during the third year; however, students may begin the work in previous years. In this course, a major project links research to practice within school settings. Projects typically build on plans for integrated curriculum and instruction developed in EDU 735. In EDU 790, those plans are implemented within an appropriate action research framework. EDU 790 constitutes a capstone culminating performance for the ICI specialization and incorporates content and integrates insights from all coursework throughout the program. This course is taken as an independent study in the last year of the program, and the project research is evaluated by two graduate professors. Prerequisites: EDU 620 and 735. 3 hours

Instructor: Pennington

Covenant Fellows Program

Graduates of the MEd may enroll in up to six hours per year of MEd graduate courses. Fellows will be charged the appropriate tuition rate with an offsetting Covenant Fellows Grant applied to result in the effective rate of \$33 per credit hour charge. These hours may apply toward a second MEd specialization.

MEd graduates may also enroll in up to six hours per semester of traditional undergraduate classroom courses at the same effective tuition rate, if seats are available following registration.

Registration for more than two courses per semester and a maximum of 12 hours per year for undergraduate students and/or six hours per year of graduate courses. Registration for May term courses, summer or correspondence courses will be charged at the respective published student tuition rate.

Graduates must pay all other college and course-related fees, purchase texts and other required materials, complete assignments, and take examinations. Covenant Fellows are not eligible for other institutional financial assistance and no refund of tuition is issued from a withdrawal.

Covenant Fellows are encouraged to participate fully in the MEd. Priority in housing is given to degree candidates but is made available to Covenant Fellows whenever possible.

Appendices

APPENDIX A

the purpose of covenant college

Covenant College is a Christ-centered institution of higher education, emphasizing liberal arts, operated by a Board of Trustees elected by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, and exists to provide post-secondary educational services to the denomination and the wider public.

The college is committed to the Bible as the Word of God written, and accepts as its most adequate and comprehensive interpretation the summary contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms.

The focus of Covenant College is found in its motto, based on Colossians 1:18 “In All Things...Christ Preeminent.” Acknowledging Christ preeminent as the creator of all things, as the redeemer of people fallen into sin, as the touchstone of all truth, and as the sovereign ruler over all areas of life, the college strives to discern and to unfold the implications of His preeminence in all things. To serve this end, we seek to appropriate the mind of Christ as the biblical perspective from which we characterize and respond to reality. In attempting to make such a biblically-grounded frame of reference explicit and operative, we are committed to excellence in academic inquiry, and we seek to define all areas of the college’s structure and program according to this understanding of our purpose.

We seek to implement our purpose in view of our belief that all human beings are created in the image of God and are, therefore, spiritual, moral, social beings who think, act, value, and exercise dominion. Because we are called to reflect in finite ways what God is infinitely, we attempt to institute programs designed to offer all students the opportunity to discover and give expression to their potential in each facet of their redeemed humanness.

With these commitments in mind, we seek to work together as a college community, responsibly striving, corporately and personally, to accomplish the following general aims in every area of life:

1. *to see creation as the handiwork of God and to study it with wonder and respect;*
2. *to acknowledge the fallen nature of ourselves and of the rest of creation and to respond,*

in view of the renewal that begins with Christ's redemption, by seeking to bring every thought and act into obedience to Him;

3. *to reclaim the creation for God and to redirect it to the service of God and humankind, receiving the many valuable insights into the structure of reality provided by the good hand of God through thinkers in every age, and seeking to interpret and re-form such insights according to the Scriptures;*
4. *to see learning as a continuous process and vocation;*
5. *to endeavor to think scripturally about culture so as to glorify God and promote true human advancement*

As an educational institution, Covenant College specifically seeks to provide educational services from a Reformed perspective to the students who enroll. While the traditional undergraduate, on-campus programs remain the primary focus of the college, we recognize that the college has a significant role to fulfill in the education of students in nontraditional categories.

Students are expected to become active participants in fulfilling the general aims just outlined. It is the college's purpose to help these students make significant progress toward maturity in the following areas:

1. Identity in Christ

A Covenant student should be a person who is united with Christ and committed to Him. This union and commitment should lead to an understanding both of one's sin and of one's significance as a person redeemed by Christ, resulting in a growing awareness of purpose. This awareness of purpose should facilitate the development of goals, priorities, and practices that foster spiritual effectiveness and well-being, including the emotional, social, physical, and intellectual aspects of the individual students.

2. Biblical frame of reference

Students should be acquiring the ability to orient their lives by a perspective based on scriptural revelation. For realization of this goal the following are important:

a. Scriptural knowledge *Students should be acquiring a working knowledge of the Scriptures, rejoicing in their promises and allowing them to direct their thoughts and actions in every area of life.*

b. Academic inquiry *Students should be acquiring a broad appreciation of the various aspects of creation, becoming familiar with valid methods of inquiry into each*

area of study. Each student should be acquiring some depth in one or two academic disciplines.

c. Analytical skills *Students should be acquiring the capacity for incisive, critical and logical thinking.*

d. Communication skills *Students should be acquiring the ability to communicate ideas clearly in both speaking and writing.*

3. Service that is Christ-like

a. *Students should be assuming responsibilities within a local congregation as well as in the community of all believers. This implies demonstrating a positive influence on others while at the same time accepting their loving concern.*

b. *Students should be assuming responsibilities in society as servants of God. This involves a total life-calling to fulfill one's covenantal responsibilities as succinctly summarized in Genesis 1:28 and Matthew 28:18-20, including not only the student's specific vocation, but all other activities as well.*

*the college hymn***All for Jesus**

*All for Jesus! All for Jesus!
All my being's ransomed power;
All my thoughts and words and doings;
All my days and all my hours.*

*Let my hands perform his bidding;
Let my feet run in His ways;
Let my eyes see Jesus only;
Let my lips speak forth His praise.*

*Worldlings prize their gems of beauty,
Cling to gilded toys of dust;
Boast of wealth and fame and pleasure--
Only Jesus will I trust.*

*Since my eyes were fixed on Jesus,
I've lost sight of all beside,
So enchained my spirit's vision,
Looking at the crucified.*

*Oh what wonder! How amazing!
Jesus, glorious King of Kings,
Deigns to call me His beloved,
Lets me rest beneath His wings.
Amen.*

motto, thistle logo and tartan

Covenant's motto, "In all things Christ preeminent," is based on the Apostle Paul's letter to the Colossian church, in which he reminds young believers of Jesus Christ's central and exalted role in relationship to the created order: "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities - all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent." (Colossians 1:15-18) Jesus Christ's status as the firstborn of all creation is the foundation of Covenant's educational mission, as the College seeks as a community of learning to know and celebrate his preeminence in all dimensions of existence.

The thistle has been used as a logo from the earliest days of the College and is used as a logo from the earliest days of the College and is used in the College shield. The thistle has a much longer history as the national symbol of Scotland. In the College's context, the thistle points to the distinctly Scottish heritage of Presbyterianism. But for the Scots themselves it is a reminder of the legendary day in 1263 when the invading Vikings of King Haakon IV stepped on the prickly spurs and cried out in pain, thus alerting the sleeping Scots of their presence. The Norsemen would never rule over or attack the Scots again. Offset in the right-hand side of the college shield is a swatch of Covenant tartan. Many academic shields contain some sort of symmetrical chevron, cross, or division. Covenant, in keeping with that tradition, employs a chevron in its shield. The swatch of plaid used for the chevron is derived from the Clergy tartan worn in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries by Scottish pastors and employed by the College in various uses. The Covenant tartan is used in the Covenant graduate hood.

(Excerpted from "The Covenant College Motto and Logo," Covenant College Catalog)



index

GENERAL

- Accreditation and State Authorization, 6–7
- Advisors, 7
- Auditing, 7
- Authorization by the State of Georgia, 7
- Conduct and Discipline, 7–8
- Costs, 8–9
- Credit Hour Definition, 9
- Faculty and Personnel, 9–10
- Financial Aid, 10–11
- General Information, 6–7
- Grades, 11–12
- Grade Point Average, 12–13
- Graduate School of Education, 3
- Graduation, 12
- Grievance Policy, 13
- History, 2–3
- Involuntary Withdrawal or Suspension, 23–27
- Library Services, 13–14
- Master of Arts in Teaching, 4–5
- Master of Education, 5–6
- Plagiarism and Cheating, 14–17
- Privacy Rights of Students, 18–19
- Technology Services, 19–20
- Test of English as a Foreign Language, 20
- Transfer Credits, 20
- Withdrawal Refund Policy, 22–23

MAT

- Admission Requirements/Procedures, 25–28
- Admission Status, 28–29
- Attendance Policy, 34
- Calendar for 2016–2017, 34–35
- Candidacy, 36
- Certification, 36–37
- Course Deadlines and Incompletes, 36–37
- Degree Requirements, 43
- Fees and Expenses, 30–31
- Financial Information, 30–32
- General Academic Information, 33–37
- Course Sequence, 40–43
- Payment Schedule and Information, 32
- Program Purpose Statement, 37
- Programs and Courses, 39–42
- Registration, 32–33
- Teacher Education Program, 43–45
- Teacher Standards and Domains, 38–39

MED

- Abbreviated Calendars, 60–61
- Admission Procedures, 52–54
- Admission Requirements, 49–50
- Admissions, 48–55
- Admission Status, 54–55
- Attendance Policy, 59
- Calendar for 2016–2017, 59–60
- Candidacy, 61
- Certification, 61–62
- Core Courses, 66–67
- Course Completion Dates, 62–63
- Course Deadlines and Incompletes, 63
- Covenant Fellows Program, 73
- Deferment Status, 55
- Degree Requirements, 66
- Educational Leadership Specialization Course Sequence, 67–69
- Educational Leadership Specialization Outcomes, 65
- Fees and Expenses, 55–56
- Financial Information, 55–59
- General Academic Information, 59–64
- Graduate Record Exam, 63
- Graduation, 63
- Housing, 55
- Housing and Meals, On-Campus Session, 64
- Important Calendar Dates, 63
- Integrated Curriculum and Instruction Specialization Course Sequence, 70–72
- Integrated Curriculum and Instruction Specialization Outcomes, 65
- Mission, 64
- Program and Specialization Outcomes, 64–65
- Program Outcomes, 64–65
- Programs and Courses, 67–73
- Registration, 57–58
- The Norman Harper Scholarship, 58
- The Robert B. Ashlock Award, 58
- Tuition Reduction Plan, 58–59

APPENDICES

- Motto, Thistle Logo and Tartan, 79
- The College Hymn, 78
- The Purpose of Covenant College, 74–76

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