BECOME AN ART TEACHER
❈ Teach in K-12 Schools ❈

Visual Arts Teacher Certification, grades PK-12
      Class Alt A certification issued by the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE)
      https://www.uab.edu/education/home/graduate/arts-education/alt-maed-visual-arts

Master of Arts in Education: Arts Education with Visual Arts concentration
      Alternative Master's Program (AMP) in UAB's School of Education
      Program Coordinator/Advisor- Arts Education: Dr. Susan Spezzini spezzini@uab.edu

Requirements for Admission to the AMP in Visual Arts
      Earn an UG degree in studio art or art history (or equivalent) from regionally accredited college and have a
            GPA of 2.5 or higher posted on degree-issuing UG transcript
      Obtain passing score (158) on #5134 Praxis Subject Assessment-Visual Arts
      Read this art AMP packet, complete final page, and email it to Dr. Spezzini at spezzini@uab.edu
      Background clearance: First, check here (type your name and scroll to end). If clearance is not listed, go to
            this **site**, scroll to **Background Clearance Based on Fingerprint Review,** and follow instructions.
      Participate in an interview (if UG art degree was not earned at UAB) and share your art portfolio.

Program Completion (usually in 2 or 3 years)
      Advising: Meet with faculty advisor each semester and carefully follow projected timeline.
            This timeline is built around methods, which are projected every 2 years, pending enrollment:
                EDA 534 *Methods I Visual Arts* projected for Spring of even years, e.g., 2024, 2026, …
                EDA 564 *Methods II Visual Arts* projected for Fall of even years, e.g., 2024, 2026, …
                NOTE: These courses were offered in odd-numbered years but will now be offered in even-numbered years.
      Content Courses: 12 credit hours of advisor-approved ARS and ARH courses
      Financial Aid: Be degree-seeking student and enroll in 5+ graduate credit hours per term.
            Inquire at UAB's financial aid office about availability of TEACH grant.

Projected Timeline - *subject to change based on course scheduling, enrollment, and/or other circumstances.*
    NOTE: AMP students often pursue a 3-year plan because of personal responsibilities and professional commitments.

Term	Courses: 38 credit hours	Schedule (subject to change)
Spring 2024	**ECY 600** *Into to Exceptional Learners* (3 credit hours) **EDA 534** *Methods I: Visual Arts* (3 credit hours) [with clinical (50 clock hours) in K-12 schools]	online online (Tues. 5:00-7:30 pm): *even years*
Summer 2024	**EHS 597** *Current Issues: Diversity* (3 credit hours) **Art** graduate course, advisor-approved (3 credit hours)	Blended/evenings or online per class schedule (500-level courses)
Fall 2024	**EDR 521** *Reading in Content Area* (1 credit hour) **EPR 511** *Measurement & Assessment* (3 credit hours) **EDA 564** *Methods II: Visual Arts* (3 credit hours) [with clinical (50 clock hours) in K-12 schools]	online online online (Tues. 5:00-7:30 pm): *even years*
Spring 2025	**EHS 556** *Classroom Management* (3 credit hours) **Art** graduate course, advisor-approved (3 credit hours)	online per class schedule (500-level course)
Summer 2025	**Art** graduate course, advisor-approved (6 credit hours)	per class schedule (500-level course)
Fall 2025	**EDA 690** *Internship in Art Education* (6 credit hours) **EHS 690** *Internship Seminar* (1 credit hour) **Graduation** (K-12 teacher certification in visual arts)	**Student Teaching** 15 weeks full-time (i.e., 7:30-4:00) (or hired as art teacher with interim cert.)

STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
TEACHER EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION

9.16.22
*B0*_____

Candidate's Name _____

Issued to candidate on _____ by _____

ALSBE

Approved EPP _____ Approved: _____
Initials: *aH* Expired: _____
Revised: _____

Program: **Visual Arts (P-12)**

Total Hours **35-38**

ALTERNATIVE CLASS A PROGRAM CHECKLIST

Institution: **UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM**

Date Approved: 06/09/2022
Date Expires: 06/30/2028
Revisions: _____

PROFESSIONAL STUDIES 19-22

(If a required course is listed for more than one of the following categories, credit should be indicated only for the first entry.)

Teaching Field Specific Methods Course(s):
EDA 564 Methods II: Visual Arts 3

Learner Development, Learner Differences, and Learning Environments:
EDA 534 Methods I: Visual Arts 3

Professional Learning and Ethical Practice:
EHS 556 Classroom Management 3

Leadership and Collaboration:
EDA 564 Methods II: Visual Arts (see under methods)

*Survey of Special Education Course:
Survey of Special Education Course (required if not completed previously).
ECY 600 Introduction to Exceptional Learners 0-3

*If course was completed prior to unconditional admission to Alt-A program, another approved diversity course is required. EHS 597 meets the ALSDE diversity course requirement, and this course is required in this program.

*EHS 597 Special Problems in Education: Diversity 3

Program Admission Requirements to the Alternative Class A Certification Program in Visual Arts (P-12)

Prospective students should NOT begin any coursework without first seeking advisement from the program faculty advisor (call 205-934-5371). Students who ignore this admonition assume responsibility for their own mistakes.

For unconditional admission to the Alternative Class A Certification in Visual Arts (P-12), candidates must:

1) have a passing score on the Visual Arts Praxis test;

2) have an unrounded cumulative 2.50 GPA on a bachelor's degree transcript (or 3.0 on master's degree transcript) from a regionally accredited institution and a suitable background clearance; and

3) meet any other criteria as required by the UAB Graduate School.

TEACHING FIELD 12

(At least 1/3 of the program shall be in teaching field courses)

12 hours of advisor approved visual art courses at 500+ level 12

Internship:
EDA 690 Internship in Art Education 6
EHS 690 Internship Seminar in Secondary Education 1
The internship shall be divided between early childhood/elementary and middle/secondary grades.

ADDITIONAL COURSES 4

Using Assessment Data to Improve Student Learning:
EPR 510 or EPR 511 Measurement and Evaluation 3

Literacy (including technology):
EDR 521 Reading in Content Areas 1
(Technology standards are met in the methods courses)

ALSDE Requirements for Alternative Class A Certification in Visual Arts (P-12):

Once a candidate has completed checklist requirements and has met all admission, exit, and certification requirements, the candidate will be eligible for Alternative Class A certification in Visual Arts (P-12). To be eligible for this certification, the candidate must:

- submit a completed application for certification during the last term of enrollment in the Alternative Class A certification in Visual Arts (P-12) Program (and no later than 60 calendar months following completion of this degree program)

- obtain a passing score on the Praxis test in Visual Arts

- successfully complete all courses on the Alternative Class A program checklist, meet the criteria of UAB's Graduate School for completing the corresponding master's degree program, earning an overall GPA of 3.25

- meet all requirements for the Alabama Educator Certification Assessment Program (AECAP)

Dean of Education: *Michelle Robinson*

Date: 10/14/2022

School of Education ● The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB)
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Mailing Address: 1720 2nd Avenue South—EEC 206B ● UAB ● Birmingham, Alabama 35294-4460
spezzini@uab.edu TEL (205) 934-8357 ● FAX (205) 934-4792

Financial Aid, TEACH Grant, Hired Candidates, Internship,
Teaching in a Community College, and Using Earlier Graduate Courses

Financial Aid
Students must take at least 5 graduate credit hours in any given semester to be eligible for financial aid.

TEACH Grant: Pay for College
If you wish to learn about seeking the TEACH Grant at UAB, inquire at finaid@uab.edu. Be sure to include your Blazer ID or student number. You must submit a FAFSA application to be considered for the TEACH Grant. You must have at least a 3.25 GPA or have scored above the 75% percentile on an approved placement exam.

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant is different from other federal student grants because it requires you to agree to complete four years of qualifying teaching as a condition for getting the grant; and if you don't complete your teaching service obligation, the grant will turn into a loan that you must repay in full, with interest. The TEACH Grant Program provides grants of up to $4,000 a year to students who are completing or plan to complete course work needed to begin a career in teaching. As a condition for receiving a TEACH Grant, you must sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve in which you agree to (among other requirements) teach in a high-need field for at least four complete academic years within eight years after completing (or ceasing enrollment in) the course of study for which you received the grant. High-need fields are English language acquisition, foreign languages, STEM, reading, special education, and other field identified as high-need by a school or state agency.

Hired Candidates
Just like all other AMP candidates, hired AMP candidates must meet with their advisor, follow the recommended course schedule, maintain high academic standards, and submit quality work on time. Although hired AMP candidates will be doing most of the required field experiences in their own classrooms, they must also do a small number of experiences in other settings. If you are hired as a full-time teacher, you should also be doing the following field experiences:

> Two prep periods per month observing master teachers in their own school. These observations must be arranged with the support of the candidate's principal or AP (8 hours per semester) and documented as such.
> One full day (8 hours) each semester in a school that is different from where the candidate works, i.e., location (urban, rural, suburban), grade level (middle vs. high), Students with special needs, English learners, and socio-economic status. This placement must be arranged by the course instructor. It can take place during a personal day or school break.

Internship
All candidates (including those hired as full-time teachers) must submit a student teaching application in the semester before the semester when they will be enrolled in their internship course (EDA 690).

To be approved for starting their internship, candidates must have completed ALL required courses with education prefixes (e.g., EDA, EDR, EHS, EPR). During their internship semester, candidates are not allowed to take any courses. Candidates in P-12 fields are allowed to take one or two **content** courses (e.g., ARS or ARH) at UAB after completing their internship.

Eligibility for Teaching in a Community College
After earning a master's degree and completing 18 graduate credit hours in a single teaching field (e.g., art), you should be eligible to be considered for teaching that subject in a community college or other post-secondary institution.

Using Earlier Graduate Courses in Art Towards Certification
If you have already completed graduate courses in art and/or earned a graduate degree in art, you might be able to use some of these art courses towards alternative Class A teacher certification issued by the ALSDE. This does not apply to courses taken in an earned graduate degree used to meet ALSDE's GPA requirement. This also does not apply to education courses completed at another institution. Since each applicant's situation is different, obtain approval to use your former graduate art courses towards seeking ALSDE certification to teach art. After being admitted to UAB, send your transcripts and completed art course syllabi electronically to your art education program coordinator. After the program coordinator helps you identify UAB art courses that correspond to art courses that you have already taken, you will send a substitution waiver form to Ms. Tashara Walker (tawalker@uab.edu), Director of SOE Office of Student Services. Ms. Walker will submit a request to the ALSDE for approval (or denial) for using art courses from another institution to substitute art courses on UAB's certification checklist. If these former art courses were used to earn a degree, you may use only up to 8 credit hours to substitute courses on UAB's certification checklist. That's because you must take at least at least 30 credit hours at UAB to earn an MAEd.

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Teaching with Different Certification Approaches

A. Seeking employment

1. Salary Scale: FY 2024 Salary Foundation

2. Education Career Fair is sponsored each April by UAB's Career & Professional Development Services for students and alumni

3. School district websites (*certified positions*) and the **ALSDE's statewide job search listing.** Go here and login. When responding to the job application's question: "Do you hold certification," consider responding "Yes." If you have been admitted to the AMP, select "First Alternative Certification" from drop down menu. If not, select "Emergency Certification" from this same menu.

B. Being hired as a teacher while pursuing the AMP: *Interim Employment Certificate in a Teaching Field (IEC)*

After being unconditionally admitted to UAB's AMP, you are eligible to be hired with an **Interim Employment Certificate (IEC)**. The IEC is not an emergency certificate (though sometimes seen as such). Inform yourself about the IEC by visiting this ALSDE website about **other approaches**. Scroll to **Interim Employment Certificate** and click **Form IE-1**.

When a principal (or assistant principal) offers you a teaching position, follow these steps:

1. If you have been admitted unconditionally to the AMP and are being hired for a teaching position in your certification area, you should be hired with the IEC and not with any other type of certification. If you wish to be eligible for the IEC, be sure that you will be teaching in your certification field for most of day. *NOTE: Some school districts do not consider AMP candidates for teaching positions even though these candidates are eligible for an IEC.*

2. Request an official academic transcript (in progress and with current courses) from UAB's transcript ordering **website**. Indicate for your transcript to be sent **electronically** to our SOE Office of Student Services at SOEtranscripts@uab.edu. When prompted (even if requesting electronic transcript), provide a mailing address: SOE Teacher Certification, 1720 2nd Ave South-EEC 311, Birmingham AL 35294-4460; Tel 205-934-7530.

3. Ask your school district's human resource (HR) officer to send an email to Ms. Tashara Walker (tawalker@uab.edu), the certification specialist in UAB's SOE Office of Student Services. In this email, your school's HR official will provide your full name, the last 4 digits of your SSN, and the teaching field and grade span that you will be teaching as well as the HR mailing address. Your HR officer will ask Ms. Walker to complete a Supplement SA1 form and to mail it to the school's address.

4. Ms. Tashara Walker (tawalker@uab.edu), UAB's certification specialist in SOE's Office of Student Services, will mail the SAI form and all other required materials to the address provided by your school's HR officer.

5. Your school's HR officer will send your IEC application to the ALSDE. If approved, your IEC will be issued by the ALSDE.

6. You may teach full time for three years with an IEC. After teaching one year with IEC-1 and completing designated courses at UAB, visit your school's HR office and apply to the ALSDE for IEC-2. After teaching a second full year (with IEC-2), and completing designated UAB courses, again visit your school's HR office and apply to the ALSDE for IEC-3. After teaching a third full year (or any time before), you must have completed AMP and graduated. An individual who has not completed all of the requirements for Class A certification by the expiration of the IEC-3 is ineligible to continue seeking certification via the IEC approach. The IEC-1, IEC-2 and IEC-3 must be completed within four consecutive school years.

C. Other ALSDE approaches that lead to initial teacher certification *(These approaches are NOT available through UAB.)*
These certification approaches are initiated by the hiring school. The school's HR office sends the application to the ALSDE.
Applicants should contact the ALSDE (and not a university or school of education) about "Provisional Certificates".
Certified teachers can add another certification through "Certification Based on Test" (CBT).

1) Overview of Alabama's Educator Certification Approaches
   https://www.alabamaachieves.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/TEA_2022111_Overview-of-Alabama_s-Educator-Certification-Approaches_V1.0.pdf

2) Provisional Certification in a Teaching Field: PCTF
   PCTF is provisional certification in K-12 grades for certain single subjects, such as visual arts. If hired with a PCTF, you can take required PCTF courses at UAB: ECY 300/600 exceptional learners, EPR 411/511 assessment; EHS 456/556 classroom management, and EDA 534 art methods. The PCTF allows schools to hire uncertified candidates who have passed the Praxis subject assessment, obtained background clearance, and met other ALSDE regulations. By the end of their first year of teaching, PCTF teachers must have taken two of these four required courses and applied for a 2nd PCTF through the school's HR office. By the end of their second year, PCTF teachers must have taken the final two courses and applied for a 3rd PCTF. In their third year of teaching, PCTF teachers must pass an assessment and submit a PCTF application through their school's HR office. *[NOTE: PCTF used to be called ABC.]*

3) Emergency Certification: Emergency
   In lieu of certified teachers, schools can hire uncertified applicants to teach. If you have been admitted to the AMP and are hired to teach full-time in art, emergency certification is usually not your best option. However, if a school hires you to teach something other than art or if you are ineligible for the IEC or PCTF, the school will request emergency certificate on your behalf. Emergency certification is valid for two years and can be renewed for another two years.

4) Adjunct Instructor Permit: This is for employment as a teacher half-time or less. Adjunct instructors are not eligible for benefits.

5) Other Approaches: This ALSDE website describes other approaches for seeking teacher certification.

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UAB SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Alternative Master's Program (AMP)

CONTENTS   page

Welcome to the Alternative Master's Program (AMP) at the School of Education (SOE), University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). The purpose of UAB's AMP is to guide prospective teachers in meeting the evolving needs of school-aged learners in today's rapidly changing society and to deliver cutting-edge instruction through a standards-based, inquiry-focused approach. This approach prepares educators to use state-of-the-art instructional strategies in their own classrooms. This program combines online support from Canvas with a variety of delivery formats.

Program Name
At UAB, this initial certification program is called the Alternative Master's Program (AMP). The AMP is synonymous with "fifth-year program." Fifth-year means that certification candidates are starting a teacher certification program after having completed a four-year undergraduate (UG) program; it does not mean that they start and finish this program in one year. Some candidates are able to complete the AMP in 5 or 6 terms, i.e., about 2 years. However, other candidates have extensive responsibilities (e.g., full time teaching positions) and often need 3 years (or more) to finish the AMP.

Location. The SOE is housed in the Education-Engineering Complex (EEC) at 1150 Tenth Avenue South. The SOE is close to two public schools (Glen Iris and EPIC) and within easy walking distance of street parking (free and metered). Across the street is the Abroms-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts.

Driving and Parking: website
When coming to campus, it is best to come with time to look for parking.

Candidate/Student
The words *candidate* and *student* are used in this packet. *Candidate* refers to current and future SOE students. The word *student* usually refers to learners in instructional settings who are being taught by SOE candidates.

AMP Information Packet
The information in this packet corresponds to UAB policies and procedures in effect on the date of the packet. More recent versions of this packet take precedence over what might be stated here. This packet also represents codes and regulations mandated by the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE). To provide schools with educators prepared to meet the changing needs of today's society, the ALSDE frequently updates its codes. Hence, UAB also periodically updates its certification checklists. If an updated certification checklist offers advantages to already admitted candidates, they may request switching to a newer certification checklist.

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Requirements for Seeking Admission to UAB for Pursuing AMP

1) Becoming Informed

a) Read this information packet and mark questions that you may have. Reread the packet and look for answers to your questions.

b) Visit the website for the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. Under "Graduate," click on Arts Education.

2) Cumulative, unrounded Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.5 —*GPA is set and regulated by the ALSDE; it is not negotiable.*

a) The ALSDE requires an unrounded cumulative GPA of 2.5 for admission to initial certification programs such as the AMP.

b) Cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on the transcript issuing a BA/BS degree (or 3.0 GPA on transcript issuing a graduate degree).

c) Transcript with the GPA that provides eligibility for AMP admission must be from a regionally accredited college (e.g., SACS).

d) NOTE: GPA cannot be "raised" by taking additional courses after graduation. In this case, another degree must be earned.

3) Official Transcripts sent to the School of Education (SOE)

a) Request official transcripts from all colleges attended (incl. dual enrollment), even if just one course is on this other transcript.

b) Have official transcripts from each college attended (except for UAB) emailed to SOEtranscripts@uab.edu
(OR mailed to **SOE Office of Student Services** (OSS), 1720 2nd Ave. South—EEC 311; Birmingham, AL 35294-4460)

c) *International Transcripts: Course-by-course evaluation with GPA and, also, with awarding of degree (Basic, about $160+).*
VERY IMPORTANT: The ALSDE will only accept foreign transcripts after being evaluated by one of the following services:
Center for Applied Research, Evaluation, and Education, http://www.iescaree.com/
Educational Credential Evaluators, https://www.ece.org/
International Education Evaluations, https://myiee.org/
International Education Research Foundation, https://ierf.org
Josef Silny and Associates, www.jsilny.com
World Education Services, www.wes.org

d) *International Applicants: Meet all requirements*

4) Background Clearance with the ALSDE

Background clearance: First, check here (type your name and scroll to end). If clearance is not listed, go to this **site**, scroll to **Background Clearance Based on Fingerprint Review,** and follow instructions.

5) Exams required by the ALSDE for unconditional admission: SUBJECT TO CHANGE (valid on date of this packet)

a) **Admission exam to UAB's AMP: Praxis Subject Assessment** (formerly called Praxis II) 800-772-9476
➔ *GRE and MAT are **NOT** required by UAB for admission to AMP, and the Core Skills test has been eliminated.*

b) **Preparation:** Read Praxis website, view videos, learn rules (e.g., valid photo ID, no jewelry, signed statement, locker), Free Study Companion, and purchase study guide for targeted exam.

c) **Testing sites in the Birmingham area:** UAB (936 19th Street South, B'ham), Click *National* Tests; Prometrix (601 Beacon Parkway West, Homewood); and Jeff State Community College (Carson Road, Center Point).

For some of the Praxis subject assessments, at-home testing is available.

d) **Registration:** Register. Your registration name must be **identical** to the name on your valid photo ID. Because dates fill quickly, you must register ASAP. Be sure to take exams at least one month before UAB's application deadline.

e) **Score Reports:** When registering for these exams, request for score reports to be sent to UAB and to the ALSDE**.** After the test, a score usually appears on the screen. Though *unofficial*, this probably represents your official score. Depending on your subject test, you can access your score online from 1 to 3 weeks after taking the test. Your score reports will not be mailed. Be sure to download and save electronic and paper copies for your own files. Fees are charged to reorder reports.

6) ALSDE's Test Codes and ALSDE Passing Scores: Planning.

Scroll down to "Tests Required for Specific Certification Areas" and, in the drop-down menu, click on your subject.

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Admission as a Degree-Seeking Student

1. **Create Application Account/Portal with the Graduate School at:** www.uab.edu/graduate
   a) Click APPY at the top right and then follow instructions.
   b) During this first stage of the application process, you will be creating your Applicant Portal.
   c) After this, go to the online application dashboard where you will now begin your application (and all future applications).
   d) If you need help, please contact the Graduate School at 205-934-8227 or by emailing gradschool@uab.edu.

2. **Select Master's degree.** After that, select your program from among the following options, always followed by Alternative MA program:

   > Arts Education - Alternative Master's Program. ***Concentration:*** Visual Arts *(certification P-12)*

   Term: e.g., Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Summer 2025, … *(TERM will appear after you select a concentration.)*
   Admission Exams: Select the exams that you have taken or plan to take (e.g., Praxis Subject).
        If you have already received your unofficial exam score reports, upload a PDF. If not, submit without uploading a score report.
   Education Background: Identify all community colleges, colleges, and universities that you have attended (if even on another transcript)
   Transcripts: Expedite your application by uploading a PDF of your unofficial transcripts from all colleges attended (except for UAB)
   Personal Essay (statement of purpose, academic interests, career goals, relevant background experience): Upload essay as a PDF.
   Resume/CV: Update your resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV), save it as a PDF, and then upload it.
   References (*waive right*): Include names and emails of three recommenders. UAB will automatically email the reference form to them.
        NOTE: Reference forms should **NOT** be completed by parents or close relatives, even if they have a different last name.
   In-state Residency: If you believe you are a resident of Alabama, respond "yes" to ***Do you claim to be a resident of Alabama?*** Provide the following information: birth state, high school graduation state, dates resided in Alabama, address, and reason for relocating to Alabama. If you are classified as a non-resident and believe this is false, you can submit a residency reclassification form.
   Disciplinary and Criminal History: Respond to all questions and provide explanations if needed.
   Application Fee: $50 ($60 for int'l applicants). Pay online using a credit card or debit card. If you need help, contact the Graduate School.

3. **100% Complete** Once payment is submitted, you must go back to the application, sign electronically, and click SUBMIT button to send your application to the Graduate School. After your application is successfully submitted, you will receive a confirmation email.

4. Be sure to submit your application by the deadline for when you want to start. (NOTE: Official test scores can arrive a few days later.)
        November 15 (admission to spring)   **April 15** (admission to summer)   **July 15** (admission to fall)

5. *International applicants*: Pass the TOEFL, the IELTS, or the Level 5 classes at INTO UAB's English Language Programs.
        Meet requirements for international students.

6. **Interview:** When called for a Zoom interview, applicants should be professionally dressed (such as when doing a job interview).

7. **Application Status**: Check your application account periodically and/or contact the Graduate School, 205-934-8227, gradschool@uab.edu.

8. **Program Review:** After ALL materials arrive at the Graduate School, the application is reviewed by the targeted program in the SOE.

9. **Admission email:** After your application is processed, you will receive an email from the Graduate School with the subject line: "UAB Graduate School Admission Decision". This email prompts you to go to your application account and retrieve this letter, which includes the following:
        Your student number (letter "B" followed by 8 digits) *NOTE: You will need this number for identification purposes*.
        Your program (e.g., High school AMP, Elementary AMP) and, if applicable, your concentration (e.g., Math)
        Your status as an Alabama resident (with in-state tuition) or as a non-resident (with out-of-state tuition)

10. **BlazerID:** Go to BlazerNet Central: and process your BlazerID (or reactivate a former BlazerID).
         Your BlazerID also serves as your UAB email. Check your UAB email regularly and use it in official communication with UAB.
         If you have linked your new UAB email to your home email, check frequently to make sure this connection is working properly.

11. **Faculty Advisor:** After being admitted as a degree-seeking student, you should contact your faculty advisor: Dr. Spezzini.

12. **Financial Aid** (if needed): To be eligible for a student loan, graduate students must enroll in at least 5 graduate credit hours for that semester.

13. **HEALTH**: All non-online students (degree-seeking and non-degree seeking) must obtain medical clearance. After you are admitted, you will receive an email about obtaining medical clearance. It will have links to UAB's Student Health and Wellness (SHW) website. Links to these SHW webpages are also available on your BlazerNET account.
    You must meet the medical clearance deadline. If not, you will be blocked from registering for class.
    Which immunizations do you need? To find out, go to Medical Clearance and answer these questions:

-When did/will you matriculate (begin classes) at UAB?	Summer term 2016 or later	Prior to summer term 2016
-Are you a clinical or non-clinical student?	**Non-clinical (no patient contact)**	Clinical (patient contact)
-Are all of your courses completely online?	Yes, all courses are completely online.	**No, at least one class will be on campus.**
-Are you a United States citizen?	Yes, I am a U.S. citizen.	No, I am not a U.S. citizen

    Level 1 Immunization. Most AMP students are classified as Level 1 immunization: **MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Acellular Pertussis), Varicella (Chickenpox/Shingles); and TB (Tuberculosis) screening.** Immunizations and TB screening are available at SHW (1714 Ninth Avenue South) for a fee. Make an appointment by calling 205-934-3581 or by accessing the Patient Portal you have questions, contact medclearance@uab.edu
    Submitting health records. Go to the Patient Portal, click on Immunization Clearance, and find a submission portal. Upload scanned documents as JPEG, JPG, PNG, or GIF. Call for help. An alternative submission way might be faxing forms to 205-996-7468.

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Test-Taking Tips

1) Free Webinars: ETS offers free live webinars to help candidates succeed as they prepare for teacher licensure. These webinars offer in-depth information, examples of study plans, and the opportunity to ask questions. Topics include test overviews, free resources for test preparation, and tips for reducing test anxiety. Registration opens approximately two weeks prior to the webinar date, and we encourage candidates to participate and register early. https://www.ets.org/praxis/prepare

2) Study materials: Students should study for a Praxis test by purchasing study materials, which can usually be purchased directly from by the Educational Testing Service. In fact, they are usually offered online after registering for the Praxis. Test preparation materials can also be bought at the UAB bookstore and other major bookstores. Students are encouraged to take several practice tests (included in purchased test preparation materials) in a secluded area and by setting a timer for the allotted time. Excellent study materials are available at this Praxis website: Resources

3) Disability Support: If students have a disability, they should register with UAB's Disability Support Services (205) 934-4205. This takes time. So, if students plan to seek a disability designation at UAB, they must start this process at least 3 months before the test date. Once students have been designated by UAB's Student Disability Services as having a disability, they will be allowed to take the Praxis with accommodations. The exact accommodation depends on the type of disability.

4) Arriving on Time: Test takers should arrive at the test center at least 30 minutes before the test is scheduled to start. Test-takers must be inside the designated testing room before the time indicated on the instructions. For example, if test-takers are told to arrive by 10:30, this means that the door of the testing room closes at 10:30 and no one else is permitted to enter. Another option is to register for at-home testing. However, when doing so, you are responsible for any technology glitches.

5) Default Response: If test takers do not know the answer to a question, they should mark a pre-selected default response (e.g., "C") rather than leaving it blank.

Non-Degree Seeking Status

UAB Graduate School, 205-934-8227 gradschool@uab.edu

Applicants (secondary & K12 single subject) who do not meet degree-seeking application deadline and wish to start taking courses that semester.

1. **Instructions:** Read the instructions for non-degree seeking students.
2. **Non-degree application**: Submit a non-degree seeking application five business days before the start of the targeted term.
3. **Degree choice:** After clicking "Start new application", respond to the four key questions as follows:
   a. For which of the following are you applying? **Non-Degree Seeking**
   b. Intended Program of Study: **Education Non-Degree**
   c. Concentration: **Not Applicable – the selected program does not offer concentration options**
   d. Term: Select the term when you would like to start as a non-degree seeking student.
4. **Payment:** Pay $40 online (debit card or credit card) and click SUBMIT.
5. **Transcripts:** Non-Degree students must submit a copy of their transcript from a regionally accredited university showing that a bachelor's degree or higher has been awarded. This transcript may be unofficial and must be uploaded within the application prior to submission. If you would like to submit an unofficial copy of your transcript after submission, please send it via email to gradschool@uab.edu. Your application cannot be processed until the Graduate School has received a copy of your transcript. If official transcripts are submitted, these will serve later for degree-seeking admission.
6. **Acknowledgement of non-degree policies:** Go to Graduate School forms and click on the third link called "Acknowledgement of non-degree policies." This is required for finalizing admission as a non-degree seeking student.
7. **Fingerprints:** Follow instructions in this packet on page 6, step 4 (background clearance). You must have this clearance to do field experiences. Your first field experience often takes place in the first semester, and this requires background clearance.
8. **Admissions:** Once you have completed your application by paying the fee and submitting a copy of your unofficial transcript showing a bachelor's degree or higher has been awarded from a regionally accredited university, the Graduate School will process your application within 1-3 business days. Once an admission decision has been rendered, you will be notified via email and will need to log back into the application dashboard to view your decision. You will find crucial information within your decision letter, such as a link to complete the Acknowledgement of Non-Degree Policies form, your BlazerID, and information regarding required overrides that are required for non-degree seeking students to enroll.
9. **No financial aid:** When taking courses as a non-degree seeking student, you are NOT eligible for student loans.
10. After obtaining degree-seeking student status from UAB's Graduate School, submit form "Change Non-Degree Credit to Degree-Seeking Credit" to have your completed courses count towards your degree. To access this form, return to the Graduate School forms website and then scroll down to "Change Non-Degree Credit to Degree-Seeking Credit."

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Professional Dispositions, Field Experiences, Diversity, edTPA, and more

1) Professional Dispositions
Throughout the AMP, candidates must demonstrate a high level of professional dispositions worthy of the teaching profession. Inappropriate dispositions will result in being exited from the SOE. The first dispositions assessment usually takes place in your first semester. Subsequent disposition assessments take place until reaching the internship semester.

Good teacher candidates …
-display positive traits related to personality, motivation, decision making, communication, and critical thinking;
-have poise, use acceptable manners and mannerisms, are neat and appropriate in appearance, are personable, possess a sense of humor, are enthusiastic, and display personal energy, vitality, and good social skills;
-are able to clearly articulate their motives and rationale for entering the teaching profession;
-demonstrate the ability to make decisions in a rational and logical manner;
-clearly articulate or explain their ideas and speak clearly and correctly using standard English; and
-demonstrate the ability to think critically.

2) Field Experiences and Diversity
Candidates must complete 150-220 clock hours of field experiences to be eligible for their student teaching internship. These field experiences, which are similar to labs and rotations in other professions, are an integral part of many AMP courses. The placements, which are arranged by the course instructor, provide candidates with experience working in diverse settings with respect to grade levels, rural/suburban/urban, socio-economic status, and special needs students.

3) edTPA: educator Teacher Performance Assessment
The ALSDE requires edTPA as a final assessment for issuing teacher certification. UAB has a dedicated team and well-established curriculum to support all students through the edTPA process. As of the first semester, AMP candidates begin learning about edTPA. Candidates submit their edTPA portfolio during their student teaching internship.

4) Class Schedules and Registration
Schedules are posted in October (spring term) and March (summer and fall terms). Candidates should register as soon as possible. However, before doing so, all candidates must consult with their faculty advisor. Schedules are subject to change. If courses do not have minimum enrollment, they will be canceled.

5) Duration: How long will it take to complete the AMP?
There is no single answer. Much depends on your program and on the number of classes you take each semester. Full time students typically finish in 5 or 6 semesters (i.e., 2 years). Part-time students often take 3 years. UAB's limit is 5 years.

6) Employment: Is it possible to work full time while completing the program?
The answer depends on your targeted teaching field, your work schedule, your goals, and the specific courses involved. Many courses require school-based field experiences that must be completed during the hours that public schools are in session. It is important to discuss your situation with your faculty adviser as early as possible in your program.

Is it possible to work full time during the student teaching internship?
Being a full-time art teacher with the Interim Employment Certification (IEC) is the only employment permitted while student teaching. In our art education program, most visual arts interns have full-time employment as art teachers in a public school. If students do not have a full-time art teaching position by the time of their internship semester, they will need to take a leave of absence from their non-teaching jobs (both part-time and full-time) in order to do 15 weeks of full time student teaching. It is important to decide very early in your program if you will be able to meet this internship commitment.

7. Seeking Employment as a Teacher

ALSDE: Go to job listings and also search for certified positions on school district websites.

UAB's Career & Professional Development Services sponsors Education Career Fairs each April for students and alumni.

Student Teaching Internship

1. By the middle of the semester prior to the projected semester for doing student teaching, candidates **must**:
   a. **Submit a *Student Teaching Application*** by carefully following these instructions.
   b. All candidates MUST submit this application, even those with full time teaching positions.
   c. **Update** your application immediately if your targeted semester or teaching employment has changed.

2. Candidates must meet regularly with their advisor to make sure they stay on track for doing their student teaching as indicated in their student teaching application.

3. Before starting internship and throughout the internship semester, candidates must read the Student Teaching **website.**

4. Candidates must meet **ALSDE regulations** in effect at time of student teaching and/or employment as a hired intern.

5. **To be eligible for this student teaching internship,** candidates **must** have . . .

   - been **unconditionally admitted** to the AMP which occurs upon admission to UAB's Graduate School,
   - **completed all courses** in the AMP (with the possible exception of one or two ARS or ARH courses), and
   - **met all requirements** stipulated by OSS (EEC 311) and the Office of Clinical Experiences (EEC 219-D).

2. About four months before the start of the candidate's targeted internship semester, the Office of Student Services (OSS) conducts a student teaching **eligibility check** and then notifies the candidate of any missing items. As their internship approaches, candidates receive specific details of student teaching obligations, such as mandatory attendance of all student teachers at orientation sessions for their respective internship term (either fall or spring).

3. Candidates must enroll in the internship course and also the corresponding internship seminar. They should select the number of credit hours listed on their certification checklist. The seminar will guide you with the edTPA process.

4. Candidates must do their student teaching internship **full-time for 15 weeks**, which is almost the entire length of a school semester. They will be placed with cooperating teachers who are full-time teachers exclusively in the targeted teaching field, have taught within the targeted teaching field full-time for at least 3 years, and preferably hold Class A certification in this teaching field. Candidates will be formally observed about 4 or 5 times by a UAB supervisor. For K-12 subjects like art, one placement will be about 7½ weeks in an elementary school and another one about 7½ weeks in a secondary school. Candidates in K-12 teaching fields will be observed at least twice in each of these two settings.

5. Another option for meeting this Student Teaching requirement is to be hired full time in a SACS-accredited school. If hired as a teacher, your employment should be **less than 50 miles** from UAB in order for the School of Education to provide on-site supervision of your student teaching internship. If your employment site is further than 50 miles away, you must consult as soon as possible with the Director of Clinical Experiences, Dr. Sheila Ingram (mcgee81@uab.edu).

6. Employment as a full-time teacher during the internship semester must be for teaching the entire day in the teaching field of the targeted certification area. For candidates in K-12 teaching fields, this can be done as follows:
   a. Candidates in K-12 teaching fields need to be teaching approximately half the time in one or more elementary grades (K-6) and teaching the other half of the time in one or more secondary grades (6-12), or vice versa. This can be done while employed at a middle school for teaching at least one elementary grade level (e.g., 5th or 6th grade) and at least one secondary grade level (e.g., 7th grade or higher) or as an itinerant teacher at two or more schools (e.g., an elementary school and a high school). These hired interns will enroll in their internship course during either the Fall semester or the Spring semester of their employment year.
   b. Interns can be employed as a full-time teacher during the school year at either the elementary or secondary level and then placed as a student teacher at the other level for about half a day for a full semester (such as in art or music) or during a summer program in a public school that is at least 6 weeks long (or the equivalent) and where there are at least 15 students per class. Such placements must be approved several months in advance by the advisor, the program director, and the student teacher director. NOTE: The summer option is usually only for ESL interns who teach during a school district's English learner summer program.

   NOTE: Interns **must be employed with the IEC** and cannot teach any subject outside of their certification area.

7. All student teacher candidates (including those in hired positions) should visit the following website before and during their internship semester and keep themselves informed about any updates: Student teaching internship

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Applications and Deadlines

1) Application for Admission Graduate School (LHL G03) www.uab.edu/graduate click *APPLY* (green top)

Projected Term for Admission	Degree-Seeking Admission* (pages 2 and 3)
Summer (starts May and June)	April 15
Fall (starts late August)	July 15
Spring (starts early January)	November 15

Subject to change

2) Application for Student Teaching Internship

All interns (including hired interns) must submit a student teaching application by the midpoint of the preceding semester. Failure to submit a student teaching application by the deadline will postpone student teaching by one semester.

Eligibility to be approved to student teach:
Eligibility for student teaching is posted at the above website. As candidates are nearing completion of their coursework, they should check this website for any updates in the eligibility requirements.

3) Application for Degree. Graduate School forms
Scroll down and click on "Application for Degree – Master's and EdS".
SOE graduate students must submit their Application for Degree about **six months before they intend to graduate**. Failure to do so will delay their graduation by at least one semester.

Anticipated Graduation	SOE Deadlines
Spring	*November 1st*
Summer	*April 1st*
Fall	*July 1st*

Information and instructions are provided at this website:

Important deadlines

SOE students must meet SOE deadlines and not the Graduate School's.

The School of Education (SOE) recommends students to UAB's Graduate School for graduating with a master's degree.
After approving the recommendation, the Graduate School awards the master's degree.

Requirements:
Completion of degree program (based on the corresponding certification checklist) with GPA of 3.25 or higher
Satisfactory completion of key assessments
Satisfactory professional dispositions throughout program

4) Application for Certification Office of Student Services (OSS): EEC 311 (Tel 205-934-7530)
During the student teaching semester, candidates receive detailed information about the certification application process.

Anticipated graduation	Due date for submitting to OSS
Spring	*April 1st*
Summer	*August 1st*
Fall	*November 1st*

Basic information is provided at the bottom of this website:

Important deadlines

If students have specific questions regarding certification, they should contact Ms. Tashara Walker tawalker@uab.edu

The SOE recommends candidates to the ALSDE for alternative **Class A Teacher Certification** in the targeted teaching field.
After approving the recommendation, the ALSDE issues the certification. This process may take several months.
Certification eligibility expires if candidates do not submit application within 60 months of graduation.

Requirements
-Completion of the certification checklist without substitutions
-Field experiences (as determined by the program) prior to the student teaching internship
-Student Teaching internship: 15 weeks fulltime in the teaching field of targeted certification area
-Fulfillment of all criteria stipulated by the ALSDE in its teacher certification codes and regulations.

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Tuition (2023-24)

UAB homepage (www.uab.edu): Type "tuition" in Search box or click this tuition link.

Face-to-Face classes	Each semester hour of coursework	Each 3-hour course
In-state residents	$468	$1,404
Out-of-state residents	$1,142	$3,426

Online courses	Each semester hour of coursework	Each 3-hour course
In-state & out-of-state	$555	$1,665

Fees (2023-24): The most common fees are as follows:
field supervision $100, internship $75, lab (clinicals) $50; graduation $60; transcript $10;
payment plan $25, late payment $50, reinstatement $50 - $150

Links to Important Information

Academic Calendar:
Class Schedule: google UAB class schedule
Class Registration and Tuition Payment: google UAB BlazerNET
Financial Aid
SOE scholarships
SOE students
Technology support: askIT@uab.edu

"To-Do" List (Summary of page 2)

		Check
1.	**Read this AMP information packet (preferably twice), complete page 13, and send this signed page to Dr. Spezzini.** Keep this information packet for future reference.	____
2.	Look at your transcript from a regionally accredited college and make sure you have a 2.5 cumulative GPA unrounded for your undergraduate degree, or a 3.0 GPA for a graduate degree. Please note that your GPA cannot be raised by taking courses AFTER graduating.	____
3.	Meet all admission requirements: a) Have your fingerprints taken at an agency indicated by the ALSDE at this site. Your background clearance will post at the ALSDE teacher certification portal. b) Order official transcripts from all colleges attended (even if just one course) and have them sent to the SOE's Office of Student Services at SOEtranscripts@uab.edu	____ ____
4.	Take the ESOL Praxis #5362 so that the score report is received at UAB, preferably before the application deadline. Access the updated information at the Praxis website (scroll to "tests required for specific areas"). Register for the Praxis subject test in your teaching field (scroll down) and access your scores online.	____
	Applying for Admission (Summary of page 3)	
5.	Submit degree-seeking application at the Graduate School website by clicking APPLY at top right, before deadline (November 15 for spring, April 15 for summer, July 15 for fall): list 3 people as references and pay fee online.	____
6.	Periodically check status of application at the application webpage. If needed, follow up with your references.	____
7.	After receiving your admission email from the Graduate School, do the following: a) Process a BlazerID at BlazerID Central. If returning to UAB, you must reactivate your BlazerID. b) Follow all other instructions in the admission letter c) Obtain medical clearance at the Student Health website's immunization clearance	____ ____ ____
8.	***Applicants who are non-native speakers of English*** (*regardless of citizenship*): Take language exam, TOEFL or IELTS.	
9.	***International applicants***: Meet criteria at International Student and Scholar Services	

I am interested in learning more about UAB's AMP for teaching Art, P-12

Name: First & Middle _____ (preferred_____); Last_____ (former_____)

Date of Birth_____ Home email_____ Work email_____

Home Phone_____ Cell_____ Work Phone_____

Home Address _____ City_____ State_____ zip_____

Undergraduate degree: major_____ minor_____ college/univ._____ year graduated_____

Graduate: degrees_____ major_____ minor_____ college/univ._____ year graduated_____

Former graduate courses, if any: _____

Current employment: _____

Experiences teaching or tutoring, if any: _____

Experiences with other cultures, if any:

Read

I have read this AMP Information Packet and am aware of the following:

1) Applicants should read and follow the stipulations in this AMP information packet and keep themselves informed regarding any changes.
2) All schedules, procedures, regulations, and test scores described in this AMP packet are **valid only up until the date on this packet**.
3) For information about other approaches to certification (e.g., emergency), candidates must contact the ALSDE and not a university.
4) Before registering for an exam, applicants should check the ALSDE website for current exam codes and scores.
5) Policies are established by the ALSDE; these policies are subject to change; and all candidates must abide by all such changes.
6) Admission application MUST be submitted to UAB by the deadline: It is usually OK for exam scores to arrive a few days after the deadline.
7) When communicating with UAB staff by email, candidates should use professional email etiquette, identify themselves, and provide some background. After obtaining a UAB email, they must check it frequently and always use it in official communication.
8) Candidates cannot take more than 12 credit hours with non-degree status.
9) AMP candidates must take all education courses on their certification checklist at UAB (**no substitutions**) and follow all procedures in effect during their program in order to be awarded a master's degree from UAB and alternative Class A teacher certification from the ALSDE.
10) If recommended by a course instructor or the program director, candidates must take an academic writing course: e.g., GRD 727.
11) Candidates must demonstrate a high level of professional dispositions worthy of the teaching profession. Failure to do so will result in being exited from the SOE.
12) Candidates must maintain a 3.25 GPA. The Graduate School exits candidates after the second semester of academic probation (below 3.0).
13) Before the internship, candidates must successfully complete all field experiences (150-220 hours) in placements arranged by instructors.
14) Candidates must confer with their SOE faculty advisor or program director whenever they have questions concerning their program.
15) Advisors and program directors give advice, but they are not responsible for a candidate's program or progress towards degree.
16) When doing their student teaching internship, candidates must adhere to the ALSDE policies and regulations in effect at that time (and not those in effect on the date of this information packet).
17) If AMP candidates are hired with the Interim Employment Certificate (IEC), they must teach almost the entire day in their teaching field for meeting requirements of the IEC. During their internship, they must be hired with an IEC and teach 100% of the day in their teaching field.
18) If candidates are in a P-12 field and hired with an IEC, their teaching position during internship must include both elementary and secondary with at least half a day at each level. If not, they must also student teach half a day for a semester or during an approved summer program.
19) To do the internship, prospective student teachers and hired interns MUST submit a **Student Teaching Application** by the middle of the semester before intending to do student teaching, and they must meet all requirements on their checklist and the student teaching website.
20) Candidates must submit their **Application for Degree** online at least **6 months before they plan to graduate.** Failure to do so will delay their graduation by at least one semester.
21) Candidates must submit an **Application for Certification** to the OSS in their final semester. Certification eligibility expires in 60 months.
22) To be eligible for certification upon graduating, candidates must have at least a **3.25 GPA** on their degree-issuing transcript.
23) During their internship semester, applicants must pass all components on edTPA, a nationally scored multi-faceted assessment, in order to be eligible for certification. If moving to another state, applicants must have earned scores on the edTPA and Praxis required by that state.
24) Upon discontinuing studies for more than a year, even with leave of absence, candidates must follow the program in effect upon re-entry.
25) To be considered for admission to the AMP, candidates must meet several criteria which include the following prerequisites:
27) Cumulative unrounded 2.75 GPA on degree-issuing undergraduate transcript from regionally accredited college (or 3.0 for MA degree).
28) Fingerprints taken at one of the ALSDE's designated places and background clearance posted on the ALSDE certification portal.
29) Passing score on the Praxis subject assessment in the targeted teaching field as required by the ALSDE at the time of admission.
30) International students & non-native English speakers: Pass TOEFL, IELTS, or Level 5 at INTO-UAB's Academic English Program.

Sign: _____   **Date:** _____