

# **Certification Information**

## **Department of Middle Grades and Secondary Education**

### **Middle Grades Education**

#### **Introduction**

Thanks for your interest in Valdosta State University for obtaining a teaching certificate. Admission requirements into a certification program are a bachelor's degree, an overall GPA of 2.5, and have passed or exempted the GACE basic skills assessment. Exemptions for the GACE basic skills assessment are achieved by high scores on the SAT (1000), ACT (43) or GRE (1030).

At the completion of this program you will be eligible to teach middle grades science, language arts, math or social studies, at the 4 – 8 grades levels.

**Certification Evaluation:** A review of all previous course work will be compared with the required courses as listed on the attached pages to determine an individualized certification plan leading to your middle grade certificate. Professional development, relevant work experiences, similar courses, or other activities may be used to satisfy some of the required courses. You are expected to provide all college transcripts and any other documentation needed to verify which course expectations have been met and which courses will be included in your plan. There is a \$35 fee for this plan, which will represent a contract that lists all requirements needed for you to obtain the certificate.

The writer of your certification plan will also serve as your advisor throughout completion of your program. After you receive the plan, you should review the courses to ensure that you have not completed similar courses or professional development activities. After your plan is finalized, you and your advisor can develop a tentative long-range schedule for completing the required courses.

**Certification Test Requirements:** The middle grades certificate requires successful completion of the GACE content assessment tests that relate to your concentration areas.

Test Title

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Middle Grade Science

Middle Grades Social Studies

Middle Grades Language Arts

Middle Grades Math

These tests should be taken as you complete the content courses listed in your certification plan.

**Questions??** Contact Dr. Barbara Stanley, Dept Head Middle Grades Education