

Proposed Option in Elementary/Middle School Mathematics Education

Degree: Master of Arts

Major: Mathematics

Option: Elementary/Middle School Mathematics Education

The requirements for the Master of Arts Degree with the Elementary/Middle School Mathematics Education option are 32 semester hours (30 hours if thesis is written) selected and approved by the Mathematics and Computer Science Department from the following:

At least eight semester hours from the Basic Courses in Education*;

At least eight semester hours chosen from Mathematics 4800, 5635, and 5810;

At least six semester hours of courses selected from Mathematics 4750-5335;

Three semester hours of Mathematics 5400, three semester hours of Mathematics 5410, and four semester hours of Independent Study;

And two years of teaching experience.

*Selected from:

EDF 5500 -- Curriculum Development

EDF 5510 -- Social Found. of Education

EDF 5520 -- Understanding the Individual

EDF 5530 -- Phil. Of Ed: Interpretive -or- EDF 5535 -- Phil. Of Ed: Clinical

EDF 5540 -- History of Ed. Thought

EDF 5550 -- Comprtv and Intl Education

Rationale:

Elementary and Middle School teachers need more education in mathematics in order to development curriculum, design courses and lessons, supervise curriculum and instruction, and assess mathematics programs. In Illinois, more school districts are changing the organization of elementary and middle schools to subject area specialists that teach and supervise mathematics. These teachers need additional content and methodology in mathematics appropriate for grades Pre-K through 8. The mathematics specialists teach mathematics, supervise other teachers of mathematics, develop

mathematics curriculum, evaluate instruction and curriculum in mathematics, and assess mathematics programs.

This degree is designed to prepare students for 1.) supervision of curriculum and instruction in elementary and middle school mathematics, 2.) more advanced graduate study in the field, and 3.) the role of a master teacher and curriculum specialists of mathematics in Pre-K-8.

The option in elementary/Middle School mathematics Education, a predominantly summer program, strengthens the professional preparation of early childhood, elementary, and middle level teachers. Special problems courses required by the option allow students to share their experiences and to revitalize their teaching methods.

Effective date: Summer 2004

Approved by department _____ March 31, 2003 _____

Approved by COSCC _____ May 2, 2003 _____

Approved by CGS _____ COTE: _____