

## Proposed Option in Mathematics Education - Elementary/Middle School

Degree: Master of Arts

Major: Mathematics

Option: Mathematics Education-Elementary/Middle School

### **Admission Requirements:**

To be eligible for degree candidacy, applicants must meet all the requirements for admission to the Graduate School (see "Admission to Graduate Degree and Certificate Programs"). In addition, applicants must submit evidence of successful completion of accredited teacher education programs from Eastern Illinois University or other equally accredited institutions. Applicants must also possess a valid teaching certificate. Two years teaching experience is highly recommended. Note: This is not a certificate granting program. Those interested in earning an endorsement in middle level education should take MLE 5110 and MLE 5150.

### **Degree Requirements:**

The requirements for the Master of Arts Degree for the Mathematic Education - Elementary/Middle School 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 selected from the Basic courses in Education. See catalog or contact Mathematics Education graduate coordinator for current list.

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.

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.

Approved by department \_\_\_\_\_ March 31, 2003\_\_\_\_\_

Approved by COSCC \_\_\_\_\_ May 2, 2003\_\_\_\_\_

Approved by CGS \_\_ November 4, 2003\_\_ COTE: