

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

College of Continuing Studies
Ed.S. in Secondary Science Education Online Program
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Program courses, requirements, and admissions:

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SECONDARY EDUCATION SCIENCE CONCENTRATION (ED.S.) *Online Degree Program*

THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA

College of Education and
College of Continuing Studies

CLASS AA CERTIFICATION

Department of Curriculum
and Instruction:
Secondary Curriculum, Teaching
and Learning (SCTL)





Overview

The College of Education at The University of Alabama offers the Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) in Secondary Education Science Concentration as an online degree program to prepare science teachers to advance their certification, become more effective instructors who facilitate student learning through action research in their classrooms, as well as to provide competent science education leadership throughout their school system and region.

Through this distance program, students may take courses entirely online or partially by participating in some face-to-face sessions on the Tuscaloosa campus. Through either option, students can get involved with a variety of science education projects to enhance their professional skills through the Alabama Science Teaching and Learning Center and the Alabama Virtual Center for Online Learning Research. Graduates of the program may be eligible for Class AA endorsement* in the area concentration of their choice from the following teaching fields:

- Biology Education
- Chemistry Education
- Physics Education
- General (Comprehensive) Science

Unique Program Features

The Capstone College of Education is fully accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Alabama State Board of Education. This accreditation enables our program graduates to be eligible for reciprocal Certification Agreements* in most of the United States, as well as being recognized overseas for teaching in other countries.

This program also aligns with National and State Science Education Standards that call for inquiry-based learning and new and innovative teaching paradigms. Ed.S. candidates develop expertise in secondary science education curriculum and instruction, educational foundations, research, and science to become highly qualified leaders in the classroom and will have the opportunity to develop a diversity of professional competencies including:

- Writing for publication and grant proposals
- Making presentations at professional conferences
- Leading and developing science education professional development workshops
- Developing and using online learning materials in teaching and professional development
- Using appropriate technology for science pedagogy and research

Program Admission Requirements

Acceptance to the Ed.S. in Secondary Education Science Concentration is only open to applicants who meet the following admission requirements:

- Admission to The University of Alabama Graduate School
- An earned Master's or higher level degree with a minimum 3.5 GPA
- Minimum score on the 50th percentile on the Millers Analogies Test (MAT) or comparable score on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- Also considered are professional/academic recommendation letters, educational experience in teaching and leadership, a purpose statement, and writing samples

**AA Certification in the Ed.S. in Secondary Science Education is only open to applicants who have prior Master's Degree A certification in secondary science education. If the applicant did not receive a Master's degree and certification in Alabama, the completion of this Ed.S. degree will not provide Alabama AA (Ed.S.) level certification. Those seeking licensure outside of Alabama must inquire with the certification agency in the state where Ed.S. level certification is sought.*

Degree Requirements

The Ed.S. in Secondary Education Science Concentration Class AA Certification* option consists of 30 hours of semester-credit beyond the Master's degree which can be completed in less than two years of full-time study.

Required Courses (30)

Science Education (6 Credit Hours)

CSE 665 - Secondary School Science	3
CIE 625 - Seminar in Research in Science Education	3

Foundations (3 Credit Hours)

BEF 503 - History of American Education	3
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Research (12 Credit Hours)

BER 540 - Statistical Methods in Education	3
CIE 620 – Designing and Conducting Classroom rearch	3
CSE 697 - Educational Specialist Degree Research	6

Science (9 Credit Hours)

The remaining courses consist of nine credit-hours in graduate science content courses from the candidate's teaching field (advisor-approved courses in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, general science approved courses such as geology) 9

Up to 9 approved hours in “teaching field graduate science courses” can be transferred into the program from other advisor-approved institutions if they meet the following conditions:

- The teaching field graduate courses must be advisor pre-approved first from an NCATE-accredited institution of equivalent value, and
- Appropriately relate to the certification subject teaching field.