

# Middle Grades 6-8 in Math/Science

UT supports specialized preparation programs for middle grades education (6-8) in the content areas of mathematics and science that enable teacher candidates to meet the academic and developmental needs of this unique population of students. Both math and science must be represented in the program. The middle grades are crucial for laying the foundation for success in college or careers. In fact, eighth-grade academic achievement is the best predictor for college and career readiness and highlights the need for the rigorous preparation of middle grades math and science teachers. However, teaching middle grades is a lifelong undertaking that is initiated in college course work, refined through field experiences, and enhanced during professional teaching.

## Admission Requirements

- Maintain a cumulative 2.75 GPA, all college work calculated
- Complete 60 credit hours, including AP, dual & transfer credit
- Satisfactory CORE scores (if applicable)
  - Passing scores on the CORE:
    - Reading - 156
    - Writing - 162
    - Math - 150
  - Register online at [ets.org/praxis](https://ets.org/praxis)
- Students with an ENACT of 21 or higher or a RSAT composite score of 1020 are exempt
- Professional Attitudes, Dispositions, & Competencies - completion of online form
- Background Check - all applicants will be required to complete a fingerprint scan and background check
- Interview with Admissions Board - **April & November**
- ACT/SAT scores **MUST** be on file regardless of whether a student is exempt from the CORE

Electronic Application -

<https://cehhsadvising.utk.edu/licensure/>

For Fall semester apply between August 15 - September 30

For Spring semester apply between January 15 - February 28

For appointments: <https://cehhsadvising.utk.edu/academic-advising/>

332, Bailey Education Complex

865-974-8194



# Middle Grades Education Minor

Educational Psychology 210 is highly recommended and can be used as a social science. All courses must be completed with a C or better.

- **Educational Technology 486 (3 hrs)**  
Integrating Technology into the Curriculum
- **Educational Psychology 401 (3 hrs)**  
Professional Studies: Applied Educational Psychology
- **Special Education 402 (3 hrs)**  
Professional Studies: Special Education and Diverse Learners
- **Theory & Practice in Teacher Education (1 hr)**  
Field Study in Education (Spring)
- **Middle Grades subject content in Math/Science (6-12 hrs)**
  - Math Education 445 (Algebra)
  - Math Education 446 (Geometry)
  - Science Education 445 (Physical/Earth Science)
  - Science Education 446 (Life Science)

**Total: 16-22 hrs**

## The Professional Year

The following conditions must be met to progress to the professional year:

- B.A. in Mathematics, the Natural Sciences or Geology (Environmental Studies), including require licensure courses
- Minimum 2.5 GPA in major and second complimentary subject
- Minor in Middle Grades Education
- Minimum 2.80 GPA in Middle Grades Education minor
- Minimum 2.75 cumulative GPA, all college work calculated

### Fall Only Courses

- TPTE 574 (2 hrs)**  
Analysis of Teaching for Professional Development
- TPTE 575 (4 hrs)**  
Professional Internship in Teaching
- TPTE 543 (3 hrs)**  
Middle Grades: Concepts and Practices
- Science Ed 543 or Math Ed 543 (3 hrs)**

### Spring Only Courses

- TPTE 575 (8 hrs)**  
Professional Internship in Teaching
- TPTE 591 (4 hrs)**  
Clinical Studies

**Total: 24 hrs**

### Teacher Licensure is granted when the following have been completed:

- The professional Year
- Reading Ed 543 (this course **may** be completed prior to the internship year or the summer following the internship year). Recommended prior to internship due to teaching responsibilities.
- Passing scores on the appropriate Praxis II exams

### To complete the Master's degree:

- The professional Year (24 credits)
- Reading Ed 543 (3 hrs)
- TPTE 517 (3 hrs)
- Additional elective courses (6 credits); consult with faculty advisor for course options. Credits may be completed before or after the conclusion of the professional year.