

# 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
- Background Check - all applicants will be required to complete a fingerprint scan and background check
- Professional Attitudes, Dispositions, & Competencies - completion of online form
- Interview with Admissions Board - **April & November**
- ACT/SAT scores **MUST** be on file.

Electronic Application -  
<https://cehhsadvising.utk.edu/licensure/>

For Fall semester apply between August 1 - September 30  
For Spring semester apply between January 1 - February 28

## Getting InVOLved

These programs are a great way to get involved as well as provide excellent field experience. Feel free to visit the website or contact the program coordinators.

- **Education 100**  
Instructor: Lisa Emery, lemery@utk.edu
- **Black Educators of Tomorrow**  
Demetria Mells, dmells@utk.edu
- **Student Tennessee Educators Association**  
Laura Stetler-Brown, lstetler@utk.edu

**VOLink:** [utk.campuslabs.com/engage](https://cehhsadvising.utk.edu/engage)

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 203 (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 required licensure courses
- Passing score for the PRAXIS exam for primary content area
- 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.

### 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.