

WKU Curriculum Contract

MASTER OF ARTS IN MATHEMATICS #049

Contact Information:

Last,	First	Middle	WKU ID Number
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Street Address	City	State	Zip Code
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Preferred Phone Number w/ Area Code	E-mail Address
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Specific degree requirements with advisement sheets attached.

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY --- MA in Mathematics

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM

This online program is intended for students who are secondary teachers who already hold teacher certification and are seeking rank change through attainment of a Master's degree. This degree does not give a candidate initial teacher certification, nor is it intended to prepare a candidate for doctoral studies in mathematics. This program is designed to develop Teacher Leaders who can positively impact student learning in their classrooms and schools. Courses and experiences include Professional Learning Communities in which candidates interact with other graduate students from various content areas and grade levels to discuss and work on real world challenges and promising practices they encounter in schools.

The program requires 18 hours of graduate level mathematics and 13-16 hours of teacher leader coursework. Candidates are required to successfully complete comprehensive exams in mathematics content and complete an action research project that focuses on a classroom, school, or district issue.

Required Courses

Mathematics – 18 hours

1. The following courses are required:
MATH 501 Introduction to Probability and Statistics I (3 hours)
MATH 503 Introduction to Analysis (3 hours)
MATH 511 Algebra from an Advanced Perspective (3 hours)
MATH 512 Geometry from an Advanced Perspective (3 hours)
2. Six hours of elective mathematics courses from the following list: MATH 405G, 406G, 409G, 415G, 417G, 421G, 423G, 431G, 432G, 435G, 439G, 450G, 470G, 475G, 500, 504, 509, 510, 514, 517, 523, 529, 531, 532, 535, 536, 539, 540, 541, 542, 550, 560, 570, 590, 599, STAT 549. These are all three hour courses.

A maximum of 9 hours at the 400G-level may be included in the entire program. Comprehensive exams in mathematics are required. A candidate who chooses to do a thesis is required to complete 6 hours of MATH 599 Thesis Research and Writing and to give an oral defense of the thesis.

Secondary Education – 13-16 hours

1. Professional Education Core – 10-16 hours. Courses denoted with an asterisk are required courses.

*TCHL 500 – Foundations of Teacher Leadership (3 hours)

Important Note: While enrolled in TCHL 500, master's candidates will use several documents, including their KTIP assessments or in-kind examples, dispositions self-

surveys, referrals from school personnel, and their respective School Improvement Plan, to develop with their respective program advisors individualized programs of study of 31-34 hours related to Kentucky Teacher Standards and professional goals.

*TCHL 530 – Curriculum Development (3 hours)

TCHL 545 Classroom Instructional Strategies and Management (3 hours)

TCHL 555 School and Classroom Assessment (3 hours)

*TCHL 559 Action Research Design (1 hour)

*TCHL 560 – Action Research Capstone for Teacher Leaders (3 hours)

All candidates must complete either TCH 545 and 555 or pass proficiency evaluations for these courses. TCHL 500, 530, 559, and 560 are required for all candidates, and there are no proficiency evaluations that may be substituted for these courses.

2. Education Electives – 0-3 hours. Candidates who successfully complete the proficiency examinations for TCHL 545 or TCHL 555 may graduate with 31 hours. However, candidates who successfully complete the proficiency examinations for TCHL 545 and TCHL 555 must substitute at least one education course with advisor approval to have a minimum of 31 hours to graduate.

Total Hours = 31-34

Admission Requirements

To be admitted to the M.A. program, applicants must meet the following criteria:

(1) satisfy one of the following conditions:

- have a GAP score of at least 600,
- have a GRE general score of at least 300, or
- if applicants have graduated from WKU with a degree in mathematics, a GPA of at least 3.3 in their undergraduate major.

(2) a bachelor's degree in mathematics, OR the completion of the following undergraduate courses, with at most one deficiency:

- (a) a calculus sequence through multivariable calculus,
- (b) linear algebra,
- (c) discrete mathematics,
- (d) probability or calculus-based statistics,
- (e) abstract algebra, and
- (f) geometry.

Applicants must also hold or be eligible for a teaching certificate* for Secondary Mathematics (Grades 8-12). A copy of the certificate or statement of eligibility must be submitted with the application.

*Kentucky teachers whose certificates have expired may be admitted into the program, but they may enroll in no more than six hours before they must apply to the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board for re-issued certificates. After completion of six hours, a candidate admitted with an expired certificate must submit a copy of the re-issued certificate before being allowed to register for any additional courses. Applicants from out-of-state with

expired certificates must complete the requirements for their respective states to renew their certificates and submit a copy of the reissued certificate.

Midpoint Assessment Requirements

Secondary Education Mid-Point Assessment Requirements: Candidates are expected to enroll in TCHL 500 at the beginning of their program and in TCHL 560 toward the end. Candidates should consult with their advisors regarding the optimal sequence of course work to meet their professional goals. Candidates must achieve an average of 3 on all Critical Performances and an average score of 3 on dispositions even though a candidate's program of studies does not include the courses. Additional course work may be required based on the assessment results.

Program Completion requirements

Comprehensive exams or thesis in mathematics are required. A candidate who chooses to do a thesis is required to complete 6 hours of MATH 599 Thesis Research and Writing and to give an oral defense of the thesis.

Secondary Education Completion Requirements:

1. Successfully complete TCHL 560 (Course grade of C or higher).
2. Give acceptable presentation of action research in approved venue.
3. Achieve a minimum 3.0 GPA overall and in secondary education course work.

Delineation of Unit/Program Transition Points – ADVANCED PREPARATION

Transition Point 1: Admission to Education Preparation Programs			
Data Reviewed	Minimal Criteria for Admission/Continuation	Review Cycle	Reviewed By
<u>Unit Level Data:</u> 1. Admission Application to Graduate Studies 2. Undergraduate Degree 3. GPA and/or GRE 4. Valid teaching certificate or statement of eligibility for teaching mathematics in the 8-12 classroom.	1. Completion of application 2. Evidence of degree 3. have a GAP score of at least 600, have a GRE general score of at least 300, or if applicants have graduated from WKU with a degree in mathematics, a GPA of at least 3.3 in their undergraduate major. 4. Applicants to the MA in Mathematics program must hold or be eligible to hold a teaching certificate in secondary mathematics. Applicants whose certificates have expired may be admitted, but they may enroll for only six hours before they must apply to the EPSB for reissued certificates. After completion of six hours, a candidate admitted with an expired certificate must submit a copy of the revised certificate before being allowed to register for any additional courses.	Each month	Graduate Studies
Transition Point 2: Mid-Point Assessment Requirement			
Data Reviewed	Minimal Criteria for Continuation	Review Cycle	Reviewed By
<u>Program Specific Data:</u> 1. GPA 2. Graduate course completion 3. Critical performance scores 4. Disposition scores	1. 3.0+ overall 2. Enrollment in final courses in major 3. 3.0+ overall 4. 3.0+ overall	1. Annually 2. - 4. Each semester	1. Graduate Studies 2.-4. Program Faculty
Transition Point 3: Program Exit			
Data Reviewed	Minimal Criteria for Exit	Review Cycle	Reviewed By
<u>Program Specific Data:</u> 1. GPA 2. Course complete 3. Successful completion of comprehensive exams or thesis 4. Successful completion of THCL 560 – Action Research Capstone for Teacher Leaders (course grade of a C or higher) and present research results in an approved venue.	1. 3.0+ overall 2. Degree Program of Study completed 3. Grade of passing on exams or thesis 4. Grade if C or higher in TCHL 560	1. Annually 2. - 4. Each semester	1. Graduate Studies 2.-4. Program Faculty

By signing below, the candidate ensures that he or she has been advised of, understands, and agrees to adhere to all program requirements, including assessment requirements, of the program.

Candidate's Name (printed)

Education Advisor's Signature/Date

Candidate's Signature/Date

Specialization Advisor's Signature/Date
