Why Southern Miss?

- All educator preparation programs at The University of Southern Mississippi are accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Programs are also accredited by the Mississippi Department of Education through the Mississippi Educator Preparation Program Accreditation Review.
- Convenient schedule
- No GRE requirement
- Academic preparation in a research-extensive university
- Strong history of teacher education for more than 100 years
- Substantial scholarships and loans are available for teacher education programs, and students are encouraged to apply.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Department of Curriculum, Instruction and Special Education
118 College Drive, #5057 | Hattiesburg, MS 39406
601.266.4572 | cisear@usm.edu

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.usm.edu/cise/licensure
Have you always wanted to teach but already graduated from college with a non-teaching degree?

Do you want to be an integral part of our nation’s progress by inspiring students toward academic growth?

If so, one of Southern Miss’ three distinct alternate route pathways for teacher licensure may be right for you.

WHAT IS AN ALTERNATE ROUTE TEACHER LICENSURE?

Alternate route teacher licensure is a pathway to teacher licensure other than completing a traditional program of teacher education. Alternate route licensure is designed to capitalize on content expertise in an area of middle and/or high school preparation.

PATHWAYS AT SOUTHERN

Students can pursue an initial teacher licensure through one of three alternate route pathways at Southern Miss: the Jump Start Program (JUMP), the Teach Mississippi Institute (TMI), or the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT).

JUMP START (JUMP)

JUMP is an option for a current University of Southern Mississippi undergraduate student to pursue while completing a content-specific undergraduate degree. A junior or senior may apply to enter as a non-degree graduate student and take one teacher education course each semester while completing his/her bachelor’s degree to easily transition into TMI/MAT.

TEACH MISSISSIPPI INSTITUTE CERTIFICATE (TMI)

TMI is an option for individuals who want to seek a certificate rather than a degree. The plan of study includes 12 credit hours. Course delivery may include a teaching assignment in a classroom through a cooperating public school if candidates have no teaching experience. Teach biology, business, chemistry, English, French, German, home economics, marketing, mathematics, physics, social studies, Spanish, special education (grades 7-12) or speech communication.

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING (MAT)

The MAT is an option for a student who has a bachelor’s degree in an area other than education and who is seeking an initial license to teach in a secondary content area and earn a master’s degree. During the program, the student will earn initial licensure, seek full-time employment with a Mississippi school district, and be supervised by Southern Miss faculty. Teach art, biology, business, chemistry, elementary education (grades 4-6), English, French, German, home economics, marketing, mathematics, music, physical education, physics, social studies, Spanish or speech communication.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS*

- Complete application.
- Submit official transcripts.
- Have a 2.75 GPA.
- Pass the CORE, or have an ACT composite of 21+ with no scale score below 18 (all on the same test date).
- Pass the Praxis II.
- Submit letter(s) of recommendation.
- Complete background check.
- No GRE requirement

*Please see website for specific admissions requirements as well as instructions for submission by program.