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Revised 10/24/2008

FYI

Master of Arts in Teaching

MARY BALDWIN COLLEGE

CONTACT

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Online information www.mbc.edu/mat

OVERVIEW

For more than 160 years, Mary Baldwin College has provided the highest educational standards for training teachers. It follows that MBC would create a bold program for students seeking a master of arts in teaching. The MAT program, inaugurated in 1992, utilizes the inquiry method of learning within an environment-based education process.

A unique feature of the MAT program is the use of Teaching Partners, certified classroom teachers who co-teach each licensure course with a MAT faculty member. This blends theory and practice in every class and takes teaching to a higher level. Students can earn a master's degree, teaching certifications, and add-on endorsements at centers throughout Virginia in Charlottesville, Richmond, Roanoke, and at the main campus in Staunton.

EDUCATION

MAT students may choose classes in non-specific order scheduled at times and locations convenient for them. They work to complete 39 semester hours (more for add-on endorsements) that include 18 hours of liberal arts inquiry courses and 21 hours of professional studies courses. Graduates of the program will have demonstrated knowledge in areas such as technology, child abuse differentiated education, and more.

MAT is unique. The inquiry method of learning asks and answers key questions posed by scholars within their fields of expertise. Each class is taught by teaching partners — a graduate faculty member and an experienced classroom teacher, who demonstrate how knowledge gained in each course — is applied in an actual school classroom. In partnership with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's Office of Environmental Education, MAT offers environment-based education to engage students' curiosity and encourage them to use the world around them as a context for learning. Through and across many disciplines, students develop key skills such as critical thinking and clear communication.

LICENSURE

Students may qualify to earn teaching certification for elementary (PK-6), middle school (6-8), elementary and middle school (PK-8) and special education (K-12). Some students may also choose to earn an add-on endorsement in gifted education or in special education as well. .

NON-LICENSURE In addition to the initial licensure option, *MAT for Experienced Educators* allows those involved in education in a variety of contexts to earn a masters degree, grounded in the liberal arts, but flexible enough to meet their vocational needs.

MAT LIFE Students in MAT include bright men and women who have just finished undergraduate degrees, those making career changes, and educators who wish to take their teaching to a higher level. The range of ages, backgrounds, and experience create an excellent environment for educational discovery and exploration.

GRADUATES By the fall after graduation, virtually all graduates have been hired into school systems in Virginia and in states across the nation.

Two 1999 MAT graduates were recognized with First-Year Teacher of the Year awards in Henrico County, Virginia. A 1998 graduate was awarded one of nine national Student Teaching Excellence awards from Phi Beta Kappa.

LEADERSHIP Teacher Carole Grove directs the MAT program. She attended Averett College and then earned a bachelor of arts in history and political science from Longwood College. She holds a master of education from Western Maryland College and doctor of philosophy from the University of Virginia. Grove's teaching career indicates a focus in special education and she has been widely published in that field. For nearly three decades she has trained teachers at James Madison University, Bridgewater College, and Mary Baldwin College.

MBC Founded in 1842, Mary Baldwin College is a national leader in personalized, transformative, liberal education. The historic Residential College for Women, offered on the college's main campus in Staunton, Virginia, is complemented by adult degree and graduate programs for men and women, offered on campus as well as at five regional centers statewide.

LOCATIONS

Mary Baldwin College, Staunton, VA ▪ 540-887-7333 ▪ mat@mbc.edu

MBC Charlottesville Regional Center at Piedmont Virginia Community College ▪ Charlottesville, VA ▪ 434-961-5422 ▪ mat@mbc.edu

MBC Hampton Regional Center at Thomas Nelson Community College ▪ Hampton, VA ▪ 757-825-2723 ▪ hampadp@mbc.edu

MBC Richmond Regional Center ▪ Richmond, VA ▪ 804-282-9111 ▪ mat@mbc.edu

MBC Roanoke Regional Center at the Roanoke Higher Education Center ▪ Roanoke, VA ▪ 540-767-6170 ▪ mat@mbc.edu

MBC Weyers Cave Regional Center at Blue Ridge Community College ▪ Weyers Cave, VA ▪ 540-453-2345 ▪ wcadp@mbc.edu