University Calendar 2023-2024

FALL

August 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	B					
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
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	H					
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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October 2023

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29	30	31				

November 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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		NC	CC	H	CC	
26	27	28	29	30		
W	E	E	E	E		

December 2023

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	CC	CC	CC	CC	CC	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	CC	CC	CC	CC	CC	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	H	CC	CC	CC	CC	
31						

SPRING

January 2024

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February 2024

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March 2024

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	NC	NC	CC	CC	CC	
31						

April 2024

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		G				

May 2024

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	H					

SUMMER

May 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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	H					

June 2024

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30						

July 2024

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	W	E	E	E	E	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	E		G			GR
28	29	30	31			

August 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	B					
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

LEGEND

B-Classes Begin (Full and 1st Half)
B2 - Classes Begin (2nd Half)
BD - Classes Begin (December Session)
CC-Campus Closed
E-Exams
FC-Fiddler's Convention
G-Grades Due
GR-Graduation
H-Holidays
NC-No Classes
W-Last Day to Withdraw--

HOLIDAYS:

Sept 4 Labor Day
Nov 21-24 Student Break
Nov 22-24 Campus Closed

Nov 23 Thanksgiving Day
Dec 11-Dec 31 Campus Closed
Dec 25 Christmas Day

Jan 1 New Year's Day
Jan 15 Martin Luther King Day
Mar 25-29 Spring Break

Mar 20-22 Campus Closed
May 27 Memorial Day
June 19 Juneteenth

July 4 Independence Day

Athens State University

Founded 1822

2023-2024 Graduate Academic Catalog

Vol. VIV, No. 1

ACCREDITATION

Athens State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award bachelor's and master's degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Athens State University.

The College of Education at Athens State University is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), 1140 19th St., N.W. Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20036. The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) became the sole accrediting body for educator preparation providers on July 1, 2013, replacing the former NCATE accreditation body.

The College of Business at Athens State University is nationally accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), 11520 West 119th Street, Overland Park, KS 66213, (913) 339-9356.

Athens State University is approved by the Alabama State Department of Education for the training of early childhood, elementary, collaborative, physical education, secondary, and postsecondary school teachers. The Alabama State Department of Education is a member of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education Certification.

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A Non-Profit, State Institution of Higher Learning

This catalog is the annual announcement of the graduate academic programs, requirements, and regulations of Athens State University. Students enrolling in the University are subject to the provisions stated herein. The rules, regulations, policies, fees and other charges, courses, programs of study, and academic requirements that appear in this catalog were in effect at the time of its publication and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all information. The contents are published for informational purposes only, and do not constitute a contract between the University and any student, applicant for admission or other person. Statements regarding courses, programs of study, fees, and conditions are subject to change without advance notice.

Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity Statement

Athens State University, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action. Athens State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, gender, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, sexual orientation, disability, religion, genetic information, or veteran status in employment, or admissions to or participation in educational programs and activities. Inquiries or concerns may be addressed to the Office of the Vice President for Financial Affairs, 300 N. Beaty St., Athens, AL 35611, 256-216-3303.

Accessibility/Disability

Athens State University complies with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 including all updated regulations and guidance. Athens State University strives to provide a dynamic and appropriate instructional environment and workplace to meet the needs of students, employees and citizens of the communities served. It is the policy of the University that a good faith effort shall be made to meet the accommodation requests of persons with disabilities. Athens State University employees and citizens should contact the Office of Human Resources, (256) 216-3314, to complete the procedure for requesting an accommodation. Students with disabilities may contact Accessibility Services (formerly Disability Services), located in the Sandridge Student Center Room 122, (256) 233-8143, accessibility.services@athens.edu.

Harassment and Discrimination

If any person feels he/she has been harassed or discriminated against, the person should follow the University's Harassment and Discrimination Policy and Procedure. Complaints of sexual misconduct should follow the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedure. The University can only take action against alleged offenders and protect the University from future incidents if occurrences of harassment and discrimination are reported in a timely fashion.

Privacy of Student Records - Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

Athens State University complies with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 as amended. FERPA sets forth the requirements pertaining to the privacy of student records, and the rights of students with respect to their education records. For complete FERPA information, see the Records section of this catalog or the University's online Policy Library.

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Introduction and General Information

Athens State University Vision Statement

Athens State University will be the premier destination for transfer students seeking the highest quality education and cutting-edge delivery at the most affordable cost. As the upper division university in Alabama, building on a tradition that began in 1822, Athens State University will be the catalyst for positive change in the lives of its students. (The Vision Statement was approved by the Board of Trustees on April 19, 2013.)

Athens State University Mission Statement

The University advances the best interests of its students and the State of Alabama through teaching, service, research and other creative activities to empower students to make valuable contributions in their professional, civic, educational, and economic endeavors. Through innovative communication and course delivery for high-quality undergraduate and select graduate programs, Athens State University provides a supporting environment for each student, demonstrating the importance of the diverse and interdependent nature of our state and society. Athens State University changes the face of Alabama by changing the lives of its students. (The Mission Statement was approved by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees on March 10, 2015, and was reaffirmed by the Board on January 15, 2021.)

Institutional Goals

1. To emphasize a student-centered approach to teaching, learning, and University life by expanding educational opportunities and social mobility through high quality instructional and student support services that are both accessible and affordable.
2. To promote a sense of belonging that results in lifelong associations with the University.
3. To foster and strengthen effective partnerships with educational, governmental, business, charitable, and civic organizations.
4. To recruit and retain a diverse and highly qualified faculty and staff committed to excellence in all University pursuits.
5. To encourage an atmosphere of diversity and to protect the free exchange of ideas.
6. To maintain and improve University facilities and programs through public funds and philanthropic initiatives and to ensure effective stewardship of resources.
7. To conduct University affairs in a manner that is transparent, deliberative, and ethical.
8. To evaluate, support, and effectively utilize emerging technologies.

Learning Goals

1. **Global Understanding**
   Graduates of Athens State University will understand human cultures, the natural world, and the connections of a global society in the 21st century.
2. **Effective Communication**
   Graduates of Athens State University will read, write, speak, and listen effectively.
3. **Lifelong Learner**
   Graduates of Athens State University will desire to learn for a lifetime.
4. **Intellectual and Practical Skills**
   Graduates of Athens State University will think critically and creatively, independently and cooperatively, qualitatively and quantitatively.
5. **Ethical Responsibility**
   Graduates of Athens State University will engage in moral and ethical reasoning and will be proactive in their efforts to build a more just world.
6. **Human Diversity**
   Graduates of Athens State University will recognize and value human difference as well as understand how those differences enrich communities.
7. **Digital Citizenship and Information Literacy**
   Graduates of Athens State University will appropriately utilize and embrace emerging and relevant technologies and will demonstrate information literacy that will enhance their personal and professional lives.
8. **Civic Engagement**
   Graduates of Athens State University will be prepared to participate effectively in civic, charitable, and governmental affairs.
9. **Disciplinary Knowledge**
   Graduates of Athens State University will have an in-depth understanding of a discipline that will prepare them for careers or further studies, showing evidence of applying quality research to real situations.

Brief History of Athens State

Athens State University is the oldest college in the state of Alabama. The institution was founded in 1822 by local citizens who purchased five acres of land, erected a building, and established Athens Female Academy. In 1842, ownership of the institution was transferred to the Tennessee Conference of the Methodist Church. The institution then came under the jurisdiction of the North Alabama Conference of the United Methodist Church when the Conference was established in 1870.

On May 10, 1974, the Board of Trustees requested permission from the North Alabama Conference of the United Methodist Church that the institution be allowed to seek affiliation with the State of Alabama. The Conference, at its annual meeting in June, 1974, granted the Board of Trustees permission and authorized the transfer of the institution to the State of Alabama.

In June 1975, the institution was accepted by the Alabama State Board of Education subject to the appropriation of operating funds by the Alabama Legislature. Later that year, the Legislature appropriated funds for the operation of the institution to serve the graduates of state junior, community, and technical colleges/institutes.

Through these changes in governance and purpose, the institution's name has changed several times in its history. Athens Female Academy, upon transfer to the Tennessee Conference of the Methodist Church in 1842, became Athens Female Institute. Then in 1889 after transfer to the newly formed North Alabama Conference, the Institute became known as Athens Female College. In 1931, the College became coeducational and was renamed Athens College. In 1975, when the institution became part of the state educational system, it was renamed Athens State College, marking the initiation of a new era of for the institution as an upper-division institution. In 1998, an act of the Alabama Legislature renamed the College as Athens State University.

By an act of the Alabama Legislature effective October 1, 2012, Athens State University was removed from governance under the Alabama State Board of Education and Department of Postsecondary Education, and from membership in the Alabama Community College System. On that date, an autonomous Board of Trustees assumed all authority over the University.

The long history of service by the University is the foundation upon which the future of the University rests.

Athens State University Campus Buildings and Other Facilities

Alabama Center for the Arts
In fall 2012, Athens State University, in partnership with the City of Decatur, Morgan County, and Calhoun Community College opened the Alabama Center for the Arts at 133 Second Avenue in downtown Decatur, Alabama. Phase I, the 44,000 square foot Visual Arts building, provides facilities for college courses that lead to Associate of Science and Bachelor of Arts degrees. Class offerings include art appreciation, painting, drawing, computer graphics, sculpture, ceramics, pottery and courses supporting a teaching major leading to K-12 licensure for art instructors.

In August 2016, this collaborative effort continued with the opening of Phase II, the Performing Arts building. This facility is a continuation of the partnership between Calhoun Community College and houses programs in music and theatre. This facility encompasses approximately 44,000 square feet and includes a 140-seat recital hall, a 300-seat black box/studio theatre, recording studios, a music lab and a computer lab, three multi-purpose smart classrooms and faculty offices. College courses taught in this facility lead to Associate of Science and Bachelor of Arts degrees with class offerings that include music appreciation, dramatic literature, theatre appreciation, acting, various music classes, jazz, chorale, and other performing arts.

AMSTI ("Moran") Building
Purchased by the University in 208 and located at 1115A Highway 31 South about 3 miles south of the main campus, the AMSTI building contains offices and storage areas for the Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative (AMSTI) Region 2, and for Alabama Science in Motion (ASIM) specialists and equipment. AMSTI and ASIM provide resources and training to area K-12 schools.

Beaty-Mason House
Built in 1826 by the founder of Athens, Robert Beaty, the Beaty-Mason House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The house, a few blocks south of the main campus, served as the home for four generations of the Beaty-Mason family before being purchased and renovated by the University in 1958. The house served as the President's residence until 2010.

Brown Hall
Completed in 1912, Brown Hall is named for Florence Brown, a teacher who cared for those affected by a 1909 campus typhoid epidemic. Miss Brown lost her life as a result of her efforts, and her parents donated funds in her memory for the building of Brown Hall as a new women's dormitory. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Bullington House (President's Home)
Currently serving as the President's Home, the Bullington House was built in 1910 on the corner of Bryan and Beaty Streets on what was originally a portion of the estate of the McConnell family. The house, an example of the Free Classic architectural style, was purchased by the University in 2006 and was originally used for administrative offices before becoming the President's Home in 2010.

Carter Physical Education Center
Built in 1965 and originally serving as the hub for the University's athletic programs (which were discontinued in 2004), the Center is named for former Alabama State Representative Tommy Carter and his wife JoAnn in recognition of their support to the institution. The Center houses classrooms and the Athletic Museum. In addition to its use for physical education activities, the Center gymnasium is used for graduation exercises and for a variety of meetings and community events.

Chasteen Hall
Chasteen Hall, just off the main campus on the corner of Clinton and Hobbs Streets, currently houses the offices for the Adult Degree Program and the Testing Center, as well as various classrooms and computer labs. The building is named for Dr. James R. Chasteen, President of Athens State (1981-1990), and his wife Melba. Originally owned by then Athens College, the building was sold and served as both a grocery store and a hardware store for many years before being repurchased by the University.

Classroom Building
The Classroom Building, housing a student lounge, and interactive and multi-purpose classrooms, was completed in the fall of 1998. The building underwent renovations in 2018-2018 to reconfigure some of the first-floor classrooms into new spaces for the University technical support Helpdesk and Athens Teaching Learning and Innovation Space (ATLIS).

College Street Center
Purchased in November 2010, the Center was renovated in 2017 to house the offices and equipment for University Publications, Printing and Postal Services.

Founders Hall
Founders Hall currently houses the Office of the President, offices for Financial Affairs, and faculty and staff offices for the College of Arts and Sciences. The iconic building of the University, Founders was built in 1842 by the Tennessee Conference of the Methodist Church on five acres of land donated by the Maclin/Hobbs family. This era of the institution represents the transition of the institution's control to the Conference from the private female academy first established in 1822. A variety of additions completed over the years have tripled the dimensions of the original building. In addition to the various offices, Founders also houses a parlor and chapel, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Freehauf House
Built in 1920 and located at 415 Hargrove Street on the northeast corner of the campus, the Freehauf House was purchased by the University in 2005.

"Grey" House
Purchased by the University in June 2015, this building at 307 North Beaty Street currently houses the offices of the Vice President for University Advancement and University Advancement staff.

Kares Library
The Athens State University Library opened in 1996, with the majority of the funds for its construction coming from private donations. In addition to the Library collection and offices, the building houses the University Writing Center, a Learning Commons area, and the Dr. Elva Bell McLin Archives Room. The Library was named as the Kares Library in May 2019 in recognition of the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kares. Mr. Kares is a 1968 alumnus of Athens College.

Maintenance Building
Completed in 1986, the Maintenance Building is located just off Hobbs Street on the east side of the campus. The building houses offices for physical plant staff, shipping and receiving areas, and equipment storage areas.

McCain Hall
Currently home to offices for faculty and staff in the College of Education, McCain Hall was completed in 1962. McCain Hall underwent a complete renovation and was rededicated in 2011. Originally serving as a women's dormitory, the building is named for Dr. Virgil B. McCain, President of the institution from 1959 until 1965.

McCandless Hall
Housing the University Auditorium and serving as a facility for concerts, plays, and lectures for the campus and community, McCandless Hall was built in 1912 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Hall underwent a complete renovation in 2013 to both restore original features and add modern facilities to ensure equal access for patrons. The Auditorium features a tracker-action pipe organ dating back to 1892.

Patton House
The Patton House at 413 Hargrove Street was purchased by the University in 2006. The House currently contains offices for staff associated with the University's 2022 Bicentennial campaign.

Sanders Hall
Currently home to offices for faculty and staff in the College of Business, Sanders Hall was built in 1921; a total renovation was completed in 2010. Originally a women's dormitory, the Hall is named for Col. W. T. Sanders, who presided over the institution's Board of Trustees from 1896 to 1921.

Sandridge Student Center
Serving as the primary center for students and student support services, the Sandridge Student Center was built in 1967 on the foundation of the 1918 gymnasium and swimming pool. The Center was named for Dr. Sidney E. Sandridge, President of the institution (1970-1981), upon his retirement. In addition to a student lounge area and cafeteria, the Student Center houses the Offices of Admissions, Registrar - Student Records, and Student Financial Aid, the Student Success and Career Development Centers, Accessibility Services, and the University Bookstore. The Sandridge Center underwent extensive renovations in 2018-2019 to reconfigure offices spaces and provide more of a "one-stop" experience for Athens State students.

Security Office
Once known as the "Little White House", this small cottage just south of Founders Hall now houses the offices of Campus Security. The structure has served many purposes through its history, including use as a Greek house and for faculty housing.

Smith House
Located at 433 East Pryor Street, the Smith House is home to the offices for the Director of Public Relations, and the offices of Marketing and Communications. The Smith House was purchased by the University in 2005.

Waters Hall
Waters Hall was completed in 1957; an expansion and total renovation was completed in 2010. The building is named in honor of Mr. N. H. Waters, who was President of the institution's Board of Trustees in 1957, and a loyal supporter of the institution. Waters Hall features classrooms, computer and science labs, and offices for College of Arts and Sciences faculty and staff.

Admission to Graduate Programs at Athens State University

Admission to any of the graduate programs offered by the University is accomplished by completing the appropriate application form, paying any required application fees, and furnishing the required official credentials and documentation.

Admission to specific graduate programs offered by the Colleges of the University may require submission of additional forms or documentation; see the appropriate College's section of this catalog for details.

For questions regarding admission, contact the Office of Admissions: (mail) Athens State University Office of Admissions, 300 North Beaty Street, Athens, AL 35611; (phone) 256-233-8130; (email) gradadmissions@athens.edu. Prospective students may also visit the Admissions webpage and apply online https://www.athens.edu/admissions/. The Office of Admissions is located on the lower-level of the Sandridge Student Center.

Applying for Graduate Admission – Degree-Seeking

Applications for graduate programs of study are considered on a competitive basis as related to all the elements of the application package. Due to the advanced nature of graduate-level programs, different requirements and standards are used for admission to graduate programs at the University. The requirements and standards are listed below and are based on comparable practices at other institutions of higher education that offer programs at the graduate level.

Unconditional Admission Requirements for Degree-Seeking Graduate Students

A graduate degree-seeking student applying for admission to graduate programs at Athens State University must:

- Submit a completed graduate admissions application.
- Submit official transcript(s) from all colleges or universities attended from which a bachelor's degree was conferred. The institution must be accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Coursework taken from all colleges/universities outside of the United States must be evaluated by a current member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES).
- Additional transcript requirements may vary by graduate program or financial aid need.
- Official transcripts must indicate that the student is in good standing at all institutions attended and document the minimum overall grade-point average as required by the program. If an Athens State graduate student was put on academic dismissal in one graduate program, they may not be admissible in another Athens State graduate program.
- Submit all additional documents required by the program selected on the graduate application. If the program requires additional documents or allows prospective students to apply by submitting portfolios in lieu of test scores, all required supporting documents must be submitted as part of a complete application.
- Have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Meet all program requirements.

Note: Submission of an application and all required documents does not guarantee admission to the program until all requirements for admission to the program are reviewed and verified by the department offering the program.

Conditional Admission Requirements for Degree-Seeking Graduate Students

A graduate degree-seeking student who meets unconditional admission standards except submission of complete and final official transcripts is considered a conditional admit at Athens State University and must:

- Submit official transcript(s) from all colleges or universities attended from which a bachelor's degree was conferred. The institution must be accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.*
  OR
- Submit transcripts from at least one institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education documenting in-progress courses and an official letter from that college or university confirming bachelor's degree conferral when the in-progress courses are completed.*
  *Coursework taken from all colleges/universities outside of the United States must be evaluated by a current member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES).
- Official transcripts must indicate that the student is in good standing at all institutions attended and document the minimum overall grade-point average as required by the program.
- Meet all other program specific requirements for conditional admission.

Note: A student who is admitted under the conditional admission category will be denied eligibility to enroll in subsequent terms until all regular admissions requirements are met.

Admitted on Exception Requirements for Degree-Seeking Graduate Students

A graduate degree-seeking student who does not meet unconditional admission, but demonstrates reasonable potential for success following academic departmental review of composite factors (bachelor's degree, GPA, GMAT score, etc.), and who have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 may be admitted on exception. Students admitted on exception must:

- Meet all other program specific requirements for admitted on exception.

Note: Admitted on Exception status will be removed by the academic program coordinator upon successful completion of a minimum of six (6) semester hours of graduate coursework with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Irregular Postgraduate Admission Requirements (Non-Degree)

A student who applies, but is not admitted to the Graduate program may, on the recommendation of the department or division concerned, seek admission as an irregular postgraduate (IPG) student through undergraduate admission, for the purpose of attempting to qualify for admission to the graduate program. An applicant who is denied admission must not assume that this procedure is available to all; specific instructions will be given to the those who are eligible. Work taken as an irregular postgraduate cannot be counted as graduate credit at the time it is taken or at a later date. IPG students register as undergraduates and receive undergraduate credit for all work completed. Upon completion of the required program of IPG studies (no less than 12 semester hours of advanced-level undergraduate credit taken), the student must request a review of the application for admission to graduate program within 12 months of the initial requested entrance date or a new application must be submitted.

Note: Financial aid may be available for undergraduate coursework taken under this admission status but is not guaranteed. A review of your financial aid history by the Athens State Office of Student Financial Aid will determine any eligibility.

Restricted Admission Requirements for Degree-Seeking Graduate Students

A graduate degree-seeking student who does not meet the admission requirements for unconditional admission (e.g., does not meet minimum GPA, does not meet minimum test scores, or is not eligible to return to previously attended college or university) may be granted restricted admission after an individual assessment review by the academic program coordinator. Admissions reviews will only be performed once the following required documents have been submitted:

- A completed Admissions application and payment of non-refundable application fee; and
- A decision appeal letter to the academic program coordinator; and
- Official transcript(s) from all previously attended colleges or universities received by Athens State University. Students whose transcripts show courses in-progress will not be reviewed or considered for restricted admission.

Note: Restricted admission students may receive academic restrictions/conditions, may be admitted on academic probation, and/or may be expected to follow a specific plan for academic success. Students who fail to follow the conditions/plan will be denied eligibility to enroll for subsequent terms by the academic program coordinator.

Readmission of Former Students in Good Standing

A degree-seeking student at the graduate level who has previously attended Athens State University, is currently in good standing, and is returning after an absence of two or more semesters (excluding summer term) or more semesters (excluding summer term) will be required to:

- Complete a readmission application.
- If the returning student has attended another college or university during the absence from Athens State University, official transcripts must be provided to the Office of Admissions.

Permanent Resident Students Admission Requirements for Degree-Seeking Graduate Students

In addition to meeting the requirements for one of the above graduate admission categories, a Permanent Resident Student applying for graduate admissions as a degree-seeking student must provide:

- A copy of their Permanent Resident Card.

International Students Admission Requirements for Degree-Seeking Graduate Students

F-1 VISA International Students:

In addition to meeting the requirements listed above for unconditional or conditional graduate Admission, all international students will be required to meet all F-1 VISA requirements for admission into any Graduate Program:

- Official copies of transcripts from each college/university attended in the United States, and/or an official copy of the course-by-course evaluation performed by an evaluation agency that is a member of NACES for any college credit taken outside of the United States; and
- Official documentation of the completion of TOEFL with a minimum score of 500 (pBT), 62 (iBT) or 173 (cBT) if transferring from outside the Unites States; or Duolingo score of 90; and
- Official documentation showing proof of health and life insurance while in the United States; and
- A letter from a banking institution verifying financial status; and
- Copies of visa, I-94, and current I-20; and
- A completed Affidavit of Support form.

Non-Resident International Students:

An international student who is staying in their home country and taking online courses at Athens State University. In addition to meeting the requirements for any admission categories, student must provide:

- Official copies of transcripts from each college/university attended in the United States, and/or an official copy of the course-by-course evaluation performed by an evaluation agency that is a member of NACES for any college credit taken outside of the United States; and
- Official documentation of the completion of TOEFL with a minimum score of 500 (pBT), 62 (iBT) or 173 (cBT) if transferring from outside the United States; or Duolingo score of 90.

Applying for Admission – Graduate Certificate-Seeking

An individual who wishes to pursue completion of one of the graduate-level certificate programs offered by Athens State may be admitted as a graduate certificate-seeking student and should limit enrollment to courses required for the certificate, or prerequisites for these courses. Individuals admitted as graduate certificate-seeking students are not eligible for financial aid.

Graduate Certificate-Seeking Admission Requirements

- Submit completed Admissions application and payment of non-refundable application fee; and
- May require official transcript(s) from all previously attended colleges or universities.

Applying for Admission – Graduate Non-Degree Seeking

A student who does not meet the requirements for one of the above admission categories as a degree-seeking graduate student may be admitted as a non-degree seeking graduate student. Records are kept of the work completed and credits are transferable. Non-degree seeking graduate students are ineligible for federal aid funding under Title IV.

Non-Degree Seeking Admission Requirements

Students seeking admission as non-degree seeking students must:

- Submit a completed graduate non-degree seeking admissions application and pay any required application fees.
- Submit official transcripts from the last institution attended, and from at least one institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education documenting conferral of a bachelor's or higher degree. Official transcripts must indicate that the student is in good standing at the last institution attended.
- Meet all other program specific requirements for non-degree seeking admission.

Note: Students admitted as non-degree seeking students will only be allowed to register for graduate courses in a given term subject to space availability and/or cohort restrictions. Non-degree seeking students may complete no more than one-half of the total program hours; in order to register for additional courses, students must submit a degree-seeking application and all required materials, and be approved for degree-seeking status.

Non-degree seeing students will not be awarded a graduate degree from Athens State University.

Transfer of Academic Credit (Graduate)

Athens State University accepts graduate transfer credit. Coursework must be relevant to the degree or major a student plans to pursue at Athens State University. The evaluation process for content and level of instruction of transfer coursework begins with the Registrar's Office to ensure student competencies in the coursework. Institutions must be accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for inclusion in the student's records and possible fulfillment of some degree requirements. **Official transcripts from accredited institutions must be submitted to the Admissions Office for evaluation when applying for admission to any graduate programs at Athens State.**

Graduate transfer credit from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education is only articulated to the Athens State transcript for use in an Athens State graduate program after review and approval from graduate program faculty using the Curriculum Adjustment process. The transfer graduate credit is reviewed to ensure the content and level of instruction of the transfer coursework are equivalent to similar coursework offered at Athens State and required for the graduate degree program. However, the acceptance, articulation, and application of any graduate transfer credit towards graduate program requirements are subject to several restrictions, as published in the Transfer and Acceptance of Academic Credit policy in the University's online Policy Library:

- With approval of the Faculty Advisor, College Dean and Provost, a maximum of six (6) hours graduate coursework may be transferred in from another institution accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for credit toward a graduate degree. On a case-by-case basis, more than 6 hours may be approved by the College Dean and Provost for course substitutions.
- Coursework that is more than five (5) years old at the time of application for graduation may not be used for fulfilling graduate course requirements.
- Only grades of A and B for graduate coursework are eligible for transfer to Athens State University.

Academic Records – Registrar's Office (Student Records)

For questions regarding academic records/transcripts, contact the Office of the Registrar (Student Records): (mail) Athens State University Office of Student Records, 300 North Beaty Street, Athens, AL 35611; (phone) 256-233-8131; (email) registrar@athens.edu. Students may also visit the Student Records webpage at https://www.athens.edu/resources/student-services/registrar/.

Permanent Academic Record

An Athens State student's permanent academic record will consist of the Athens State University transcript, and **may** include the following: admission application, official transcripts from colleges and universities previously attended, graduation application, degree audit forms, documentation which may affect the release of student's records and any disciplinary action that would directly affect the student's enrollment in the institution. Financial records are not considered part of the student's permanent academic record.

Notification of Rights under FERPA

Athens State University complies with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 as amended. FERPA sets forth the requirements pertaining to the privacy of student records. The law governs the release of education records and access to the records.

Responsibility for the protection of the privacy of education records rests primarily with the University Registrar and the Office of Records. FERPA defines education records to include records, files, documents, and other materials that contain information directly related to students and those that are maintained by an educational agency or institution, subject to certain restrictions under the Act.

A student's permanent education (academic) record consists of the Athens State University transcript, and **may** also include the following: admissions application, official transcripts sent to the University from other colleges and universities attended, graduation application, degree audit forms, documentation affecting the release of a student's records, and documentation of any disciplinary action that would directly affect the student's enrollment at the University. Financial records are not considered to be part of a student's permanent academic record.

FERPA affords eligible students certain rights with respect to their education records. An "eligible student" is a student who is 18 years or older or who is attending a postsecondary institution.

These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records, subject to any limitations under the Act, within 45 days after the day the University receives a request for access. Students should submit to the University Registrar/Office of Records an Education Record Review Request Form. The Registrar will make arrangements for access and will notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. The Registrar or designee shall be present during the inspection. If the requested records are not maintained by the Registrar, the Registrar shall advise the student of the correct University official to whom the request should be addressed. Copies of a student's education records may be obtained for a prepaid fee.

2. The right to request the amendment of the portions of the student's education records that the student believes are inaccurate or misleading. A student who wishes to request that the University amend a record should submit to the University Registrar/Office of Records (or other appropriate official) a written statement which clearly identifies the part(s) of the record they want changed, why it should be changed, and any documentation that supports the request. The student will be notified in writing of the University's decision to amend or not amend. If the University's decision is not to amend, the student will be notified of a hearing process that they may initiate regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing process and procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

Note: FERPA was not intended to provide a process to be used to question substantive judgments which are correctly recorded. The FERPA right to request the amendment of records is not intended to allow a student to contest, for example, a grade in a course because the student feels a higher grade should have been assigned.

3. The right to provide written consent before the University discloses personally identifiable information from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

FERPA allows disclosure of information **without consent** under the following provisions:

- Disclosures to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A "school official" is a person employed by the University in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person serving on the board of trustees; a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; a person or company that the University has contracted as its agent to provide a service (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agency); or a person assisting school officials in performing their tasks. A school official has a "legitimate educational interest" if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities.

- Disclosures of directory information. “Directory information” is information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed.

  If a student does not want directory information disclosed, the student must submit to the University Registrar/Office of Records a Directory Information Opt-Out Form within the first 15 days of the semester. Completing this form and notifying the Registrar/Office of Records covers only the disclosure of directory information from centralized records. Students who are members of individual organizations such as fraternities, sororities, clubs, etc. must also notify those organizations to restrict the disclosure of directory information.

  Athens State University has defined directory information as the following:
  - Student name and hometown
  - College/School and major/minor fields of study
  - Dates of attendance, class level, and enrollment status
  - Degrees, honors, and awards received
  - Participation in officially recognized organizations, activities, and sports

- Disclosures allowed under other exceptions of the Act. The University may disclose information **without** prior consent:
  - To officials of another school, upon request, where the student seeks or intends to enroll.
  - To authorized representatives of the U.S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as the State postsecondary authority that is responsible for supervising the University’s State-supported education programs. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of the Act, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of personally identifiable information to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf.
  - In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid.
  - To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the University, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction.
  - To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions.
  - To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena.
  - To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to the requirements of the Act.
  - To a victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, subject to the requirements of the Act. The disclosure may only include the final results of the disciplinary proceeding with respect to that alleged crime or offense, regardless of the finding.
  - To the general public, the final results of a disciplinary proceeding, subject to the requirements of the Act, if the University determines the student is an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense and the student has committed a violation of the University’s rules or policies with respect to the allegation made against him or her.
  - To parents of a student regarding the student’s violation of any Federal, State, or local law, or of any rule or policy of the University, governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance if the University determines the student committed a disciplinary violation and the student is under the age of 21.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the University to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:
Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

5. The right to review records of requests for disclosure of personally identifiable information from the student’s education records.

Requests for Official or Unofficial Transcripts

Official transcripts may be requested online through the National Student Clearinghouse Transcript Service. Students can choose electronic (only available to students who first attended Athens State January 1996 or later) or mail delivery options, and can specify multiple recipients during a single order session. Processing and other fees vary by delivery type and number of recipients. To request unofficial or official transcripts directly from the Office of Records, students must complete and submit the standard Athens State transcript request form available through the Office of Records transcript request webpage, and must pay any required transcript fees. Details on all transcript request options can be found on the Registrar's Office transcript request webpage.

Holds on Grades or Transcripts

A student failing to meet financial obligations to the University may have semester grade reports, transcripts, and all other academic transactions put on hold until the financial obligations are cleared through the Office of Financial Affairs. Such financial obligations may include: unpaid fees, overdue library books, damaged or unreturned University equipment, and unpaid student loans.

Academic Policies

Students admitted to Athens State University assume responsibility for being familiar with the academic policies and procedures of the University and the requirements for the degree and major that is being pursued. Additional information and other policies related to academics and educational programs can be found in the online Athens State University Policy Library.

Academic Advising

Upon admission to Athens State University, each student is assigned a faculty advisor. Students should confer with their advisor at least once each semester. Although each student assumes final individual responsibility for meeting all degree requirements, the advisor will offer guidance in planning the student's academic program. Any adjustments to the program of study require the completion of a Curriculum Adjustment form and approval by the appropriate academic administrators.

Academic Calendar

Athens State University operates on the semester system, with two semesters (fall and spring) comprising the regular academic year. Following the spring semester, the University also offers a summer term comprised of a variety of class sessions and formats. The two semesters comprising the regular academic year (fall and spring) will each be at least 15 calendar weeks in length, excluding pre-registration. The summer term will be at least 10 weeks in length, excluding pre-registration.

Academic Credit

The standard unit of college credit awarded at Athens State University is the semester hour. Course descriptions found in this catalog indicate the number of semester hours which may be earned for a particular course. Transfer credits earned in quarter hours will be evaluated on the basis that one quarter hour equals two-thirds semester hours. (e.g., a five quarter hour course would equal 3.3 semester hours). See the Admissions section of this catalog for additional details on transfer credit.

Academic Honesty

Athens State University, like all institutions of higher learning, can function effectively only when the members of the University community treat one another with honesty, fairness, respect, and trust. It is the responsibility of every student at Athens State University to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct (the full policy is found in the Student Affairs section of the online Athens State University Policy Library) and the provisions of the Code related to academic dishonesty and student conduct, and to follow and support the enforcement of the Code.

Audited Courses

A graduate student may enroll in a graduate course for audit on a space available basis and with the approval of the Dean of the College. Fees for audited courses are the same as for courses taken for credit. Audited courses do not count toward the minimum class load required for eligibility for financial aid and/or veterans' benefits.

Change of Major/Specialty Track (Concentration)/Catalog Year

A student who wishes to make any changes to their current graduate program (changes to declared major, concentration, or catalog year) must consult with gradadmissions@athens.edu. A new graduate application may be necessary. Students are strongly encouraged to confer with faculty advisors before requesting any changes. **Note:** A change of major requires the student to fulfill the degree requirements for the new major as specified in the catalog in effect on the date of the change request. Addition of majors or concentrations may require moving to a newer catalog if the added major or concentration did not exist under the student's current catalog.

Course Attendance/Participation

It is accepted academic philosophy that sustained course attendance is essential to the overall educational value of a course of study in higher education. To achieve the maximum benefits from educational activities, Athens State University expects regular attendance, or online involvement and participation in the case of distance learning, from all students. **Students receiving financial aid or veterans benefits are required to attend classes according to the regulations of the federal government or the Veterans Administration.**

Attendance policies and participation requirements for a particular course are published in the course syllabus and are set by the course instructor. It is therefore important that each student secure a copy of the course syllabus and be familiar with the contents. A student's performance in relation to the published requirements and class attendance regulations will affect the grade earned in the course. Any student who must miss an examination has the responsibility for notifying the instructor as soon as is practicable. It is the decision of the instructor whether a missed exam may be "made-up."

Course Cancellation

Athens State University reserves the right to cancel any course without advance notification.

Course Hour Load/Overload

The course hour load for a full-time graduate student is 9 semester hours in any semester or term. The course hour load for a half-time graduate student is six (6) semester hours in any semester or term. The maximum course load for any graduate student is 12 semester hours in any semester or term. Course overloads will not normally be approved for graduate students. In extenuating circumstances, a graduate student may submit a request for an overload to the appropriate College Dean for review and approval.

Curriculum Adjustment Form

Course substitutions, course equivalences, and/or student curriculum adjustments require the student's advisor to submit the appropriate curriculum adjustment form. **Adjustments will not be made without the appropriate signatures required.** Once the form is submitted and signed at the appropriate levels it will be sent to the Registrar/Records Office for processing.

Degree Completion – Time Limit Requirement

A student who does not complete the requirements for a degree within a 5-year period from the date of entry must then follow the degree requirements published in the catalog which is issued when they begin their sixth year of enrollment. This process is repeated every five years until the student graduates.

Degree Options – Graduate Programs

Athens State University offers the Master of Arts, Master of Education, and Master of Science and Master of Accountancy degrees at the graduate level. Students should refer to the academic College sections of this catalog for specific degree options and requirements.

Distance Learning – Online Courses and Online Course Content

Athens State University offers a variety of courses and course content through **Canvas**, the University's primary platform for delivery of online course content. The College of Business currently offers all of its majors online and many online courses are offered through the College of Education and the College of Arts and Sciences. **Students should consult an advisor before registering for an online course to ensure that they meet both the academic and technology requirements for the online course.** All courses offered in online formats meet the same requirements and quality standards as those offered in traditional classroom formats. All services of the University, such as library services, bookstore services and learning lab services, are available to both distance learning and traditional students through the University website, phone, or email.

All students enrolled in at least one regular course during any semester are **automatically enrolled** into a self-paced orientation course designed to familiarize students with Canvas. While completion of this non-credit course is completely voluntary, all students, particularly new students who may be unfamiliar with online course technology or who are less confident in their computer skills, are strongly encouraged to complete the course.

Final Grade Appeals

A student wishing to appeal a final grade must show **clear and convincing evidence** that:

- The grade was assigned in error, or;
- The faculty member did not assign the grade based on the grading policies and course requirements published in the course syllabus, or;
- The faculty member made changes in grading policies or course requirements without due notice and explanation.

Students cannot use this appeal process to review final course grades that are the result of an academic penalty or sanction for an academic violation of the *Student Code of Conduct.* For additional details, see the policy document Final Grade Appeals.

General University Requirements for Graduation

Every student planning on completing a graduate degree/major program at Athens State University must satisfy all University requirements and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Coursework that is more than five (5) years old at the time of application for graduation may not be used for fulfilling graduate course requirements or a degree. A maximum of two C's in courses required for the graduate degree will be applied for fulfilling course requirements or a degree.

To be eligible to receive a graduate degree, a student must:

- Complete all degree requirements. (NOTE: Transfer students may only transfer a maximum of six (6) semester hours of graduate coursework into the University. All other graduate coursework must be completed at Athens State University.)
- Attain a minimum institutional grade point average of 3.0 on all graduate coursework attempted at Athens State University.
- Complete all course requirements for the degree or major(s).

Grades

(For additional details see the policy document Athens State University Grading System.)
Grades of **"A"** or **"B"** represent levels of accomplishment that indicate a graduate student is performing satisfactorily.
Grades of "**C**" do not represent a satisfactory level of accomplishment**. Only two final course grades of C are allowed to count towards fulfillment of graduate degree program requirements.**

Grades of "**D**", **"F" or "FN"** do not represent a satisfactory level of accomplishment and may be assigned when a student either: fails to meet the minimum course requirements specified in the course syllabus or assigned by the instructor, or; voluntarily discontinues class attendance without officially withdrawing. Final course grades of "**D**", "**F**" or **"FN"** will not count towards fulfillment of graduate course requirements and will require the student to repeat the courses.

A grade of "**I**" (incomplete) will be given only under extenuating circumstances, and only through consultation with and by written permission of the instructor. To obtain an incomplete in a course, a student must have completed at least 50% of the work required for the course. If an "**I**" is given, the time limit allotted for a student to complete the course requirements is at the discretion of the instructor, but will generally be no later than the end of the next semester. If the course requirements are not completed in the time frame allotted, the grade of "I" becomes an "F" unless the time limit is extended by the instructor.

A grade of "**W**" will be assigned only when a student officially withdraws from a course before the date of the first day of final exams as published in the academic schedule for the term of enrollment. See "Withdrawal from Courses" below or the policy document Withdrawal from Courses.

A grade of "**AU**" will be assigned to students auditing graduate courses. A graduate student may enroll in a graduate course for audit on a space available basis and with the approval of the Dean of the College. Fees for audited courses are the same as for courses taken for credit. Audited courses do not count toward the minimum class load required for eligibility for financial aid and/or veterans' benefits.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

GPA Categories

Several types of grade point averages may be calculated depending on the program or major a student is pursuing. **GPAs appear on the Athens State transcript unless otherwise noted.**

- **Transfer** – calculated for all coursework completed at other postsecondary institutions. This GPA is calculated and used to determine eligibility for admission. See policy document Transfer and Acceptance of Academic Credit for additional details.
- **Semester** – calculated for all coursework completed at Athens State University in a particular semester or term.
- **Institutional** – calculated for all coursework completed at Athens State University.
- **Program/major specific** – calculated for specific coursework (e.g., courses required for teacher certification) in Colleges or departments that have special requirements in the program or major. This GPA is calculated and used only to determine eligibility or fulfillment of College or departmental requirements, and does not appear on the Athens State transcript.

Quality Points for Letter Grades

For each hour of credit in a course, quality points are awarded based on the letter grade earned for the course. Quality points are assigned as follows:
"**A**" – 4.0 Quality Points per semester hour
"**B**" – 3.0 Quality Points per semester hour
"**C**" – 2.0 Quality Points per semester hour
"**D**" – 1.0 Quality Point per semester hour
"**F**" – 0.0 Quality Points per semester hour
"FN" – 0.0 Quality Points per semester hour
The total number of quality points earned for a course is calculated by multiplying the quality point value for the letter grade earned by the number of semester hours the course was worth. For example, a student earning the grade of "A" in a 3-semester hour course would be awarded 12 quality points. A student earning the grade of "C" in a 4-semester hour course would be awarded 8 quality points.

Calculation of GPA

GPAs are calculated by dividing the total number of quality points earned by the total number of completed hours in the category. For example, a student that has completed 24 semester hours at Athens State and who has earned 81 quality points would have an institutional GPA of 3.38. **GPAs are rounded to the second decimal place**. A sample GPA calculation for a typical semester is seen below.

Course Hours	Grade Earned	Quality Points
3	A	12
3	B	9
3	D	3
1	B	3
2	C	4

Semester GPA = Total Quality Points / Total Completed Hours = 31/12 = 2.58

Graduation (Commencement) Application

To apply for graduation, students must complete the online Graduation Application form by the deadline published in the Important Dates for each semester. Students may apply by logging into the Banner Self-Service (Athens State Online) account. Students will not be able to apply for graduation until the first day of the semester. Students are also strongly encouraged to complete the Graduating Senior Exit Survey available online.

Failure to notify the Office of Records in a timely manner of the intent to graduate may result in a student's graduation being postponed until the end of the subsequent semester.

Commencement ceremonies are held at regularly scheduled times at the end of each semester as determined by the University.

Registration for Courses

Students may register for courses using the Athens State Online system during periods prior to the beginning of each semester or term. The online registration periods are published in the academic schedule for each semester or term. **Registration for graduate courses may be limited due to class or cohort size restrictions.**

For a period following online registration periods as specified in the schedule for each semester or term, students may late register for courses, or courses may be dropped and other courses added, provided required payments are made. Veteran students receiving benefits or students receiving financial aid are strongly encouraged to confer with either the Veterans Affairs Advisor or the Office of Student Financial Aid prior to making any schedule changes**.**

Repeated Courses

Students should be aware that course repeats, regardless of the reason, are frequently looked upon unfavorably by employers, honor societies, and graduate schools. Any graduate course originally taken at Athens State University **must** be repeated at Athens State University for the repeated course to count towards program requirements.

Students are encouraged to contact their academic advisor before repeating any courses. **Special regulations pertain to students receiving veteran's benefits or financial aid: those individuals must confer with the Veterans Affairs Advisor or the Office of Student Financial Aid prior to registering for a course repeat.**

Second Degree

Students who have earned a previous graduate degree at another institution or Athens State and who seek a second degree must meet all admission requirements for the second degree program, complete all catalog requirements for the major in that degree, and must complete a minimum of one-third of the hours required for the second degree at Athens State University. No more than six (6) semester hours of graduate transfer coursework from any other institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education may be applied to requirements in an Athens State University graduate program. In addition, the graduate transfer coursework must have been completed within the last five (5) years, and the student must have earned a grade of B or higher in the graduate transfer coursework.

Standards of Academic Performance

The University standards for satisfactory academic performance are designed to assist the student in meeting and maintaining a level of achievement that will assure reasonable progress toward graduation. As specified in the General University Requirements for Graduation, all graduate students must maintain a minimum institutional grade point average of 3.0 for graduation.

While academic performance at other institutions is considered for admission to the University, the academic status of an Athens State student is based only on the student's performance in coursework taken at the University.

Categories for the academic status of a graduate student are:

- **Good Standing** – assigned to a student whose cumulative institutional graduate GPA is 3.0 or above, and whose institutional graduate GPA for any semester/term is not below 3.0.
- **Academic Probation** – assigned to a student whose institutional graduate GPA in a semester/term is below 3.0. This status will also be assigned to a student already on academic probation in a semester/term who earns a 3.0 graduate GPA or above in a subsequent term, but whose cumulative institutional graduate GPA is still below 3.0. Students should be aware that in order to earn a degree in any graduate program, good standing status must be achieved and maintained prior to the semester of graduation. This status will also be assigned to a graduate student who is admitted conditionally with a transfer GPA less than 3.0.
- **Academic Suspension, One Semester** – assigned to a student already on academic probation in a semester/term and whose graduate GPA in the subsequent semester/term is below 3.0. The student will be suspended for one semester. Students should be aware that suspension may affect progress through the curriculum, depending on the program schedule. A graduate student is allowed one suspension.
- **Academic Dismissal** – assigned to a student who receives a second suspension of one semester.

Under exceptional conditions, a graduate student may appeal an academic suspension or dismissal by writing a formal letter of appeal to the appropriate College Dean. Consideration of reinstatement will be on a case-by-case basis and will be approved only once per student by the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs. If approved, reinstatement may be based on special conditions and is subject to the regulations and standards in effect at the time of re-enrollment.

Students receiving financial aid who have their aid suspended for failure to meet requirements for satisfactory academic progress must file a **separate** appeal with the Office of Student Financial Aid for consideration of reinstatement of aid. For additional details, see the Student Financial Aid section of this catalog or the Financial Aid section of the University website.

Students on academic probation or suspension cannot receive permission to take coursework from another institution. Credit earned at another institution may not be used to clear probation or suspension status at Athens State University. For additional details, see the policy document Standards of Academic Performance.

Student Classification

- **Degree Seeking** – A student who has met all requirements for unconditional admission to a graduate program at Athens State.
- **Non-degree Seeking** – A student admitted in order to achieve a limited objective and who is not pursuing a degree. Students admitted as non-degree seeking students will only be allowed to register for graduate courses in a given term with approval of the department and subject to spa**ce availability and/or cohort restrictions. Students admitted as non-degree seeking students may complete no more than two (2) graduate courses; in order to register for additional courses, students must apply for admission as a degree-seeking student and meet all requirements for degree-seeking status.**

Withdrawal from Courses

A student may officially withdraw from an individual course **before** the date of the first day of final exams as published in the academic schedule for the semester or term of enrollment. A student who officially withdraws from a course after the late registration/change of schedule period but before the first day of final exams will be assigned a grade of "W" for the course and the grade will be entered on the Athens State transcript. A "W" grade will **not** be assigned after the withdrawal deadline.

Absence from a course does not constitute an official withdrawal. A student enrolled in a course that stops attending and does not officially withdraw will receive a grade of "F". Under no circumstances will a grade of "W" be changed to a grade, or a final grade be changed to a "W."

Students **must** process all official withdrawals using the procedure established by the Office of the Registrar and published on the University website. Failure to do so may result in a failing grade for a course.

Students are encouraged to contact their academic advisor before withdrawing from any courses. Students should be aware that withdrawal may affect progress through the curriculum, depending on the program schedule. **Special regulations pertain to students receiving veteran's benefits or financial aid: those individuals must confer with the Veterans Affairs Advisor or the Office of Student Financial Aid prior to initiating a withdrawal action.**

Tuition and Fees

Tuition and fee rates are subject to change at any time, subject to the approval of the Athens State University Board of Trustees. Tuition rates for the 2023-24 academic year were not finalized at the time of catalog publication. Information on current tuition and fee rates can be found on the Athens State University website. Information on the estimated cost of attendance can be found on the Athens State University website.

Payment due dates for each semester or term can be found in Athens State Online and in the Important Dates listing on the University website for each semester or term.

In-State Tuition

In-state tuition rates apply to all students who can certify a specific address or location in the State of Alabama (or in Bedford, Franklin, Giles, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marshall, Maury, Moore, or Wayne county in Southern Tennessee) as their primary established residence for a period of at least one year immediately preceding the first day of classes for the academic term of admission, or who are otherwise classified as Alabama residents for tuition purposes as defined by state law and the University's Establishing Residency for Tuition Purposes policy.

In compliance with 38 U.S.C. §3679 (c), Public Law 114-315, the Choice Act, and other provisions of 38 U.S.C., in-state tuition rates may also apply to veterans, members of the United States Armed forces, or their dependents, and students who are eligible for certain benefits or educational assistance under 38 U.S.C. Additional details can be found in the Veterans Affairs section of this catalog.

Out-of-State Tuition

Out-of-state tuition rates apply to all students classified as non-Alabama residents for tuition purposes. A student who was classified as a non-Alabama resident for tuition purposes upon initial admission but whose residency circumstances have changed may apply for reclassification, with the burden of proof for documenting the change falling on the student. Additional details and deadlines for applying for reclassification can be found in the Establishing Residency for Tuition Purposes policy.

Non-Traditional Tuition

The Non-Traditional tuition rate applies to all courses taught 100% online or in blended format as well as directed studies, internships, practicums and work experience, regardless of the residency status of the student.

Refunds

Current information about refunds can be found in the Refunds of Tuition and Fees policy in the University Policy Library.

Refunds in Compliance with Federal Regulations

The University complies with federal regulations relative to refund of tuition and other institutional charges and the return of funds for Title IV (financial aid) recipients (see below).

Refunds for Alabama National Guard Members and Reservists Called to Active Duty

Students who are active members of the Alabama National Guard or reservists or who are active duty military who are called to active duty in the time of national crisis shall receive a full tuition refund at the time of withdrawal, if such student is unable to complete the term due to active duty orders or assignment to another location.

Federal Regulations on Return of Funds for Students Receiving Title IV Aid (Financial Aid)

Title IV funds are awarded to students under the assumption that the student will attend school for the entire period for which the assistance is awarded. When a student fails to complete the term, the student may no longer be eligible for the full amount of Title IV funds he or she was scheduled to receive, and the institution and/or the student may be required to return funds according to federal regulations. For additional details, see the Student Financial Aid section of the catalog or the Financial Aid Regulations on the University website.

Returned Checks/Returned Automated Clearing House (ACH) Payments

If a student's check is not paid on presentment or is dishonored, the student will be assessed a bad check fee. Athens State University may electronically debit or draft a student's account for this charge. Also, if a student's check is returned for insufficient or uncollected funds, the check may be electronically re-presented for payment. Returned checks cannot be re-deposited by the Office of Financial Affairs. After the second returned check, the Office of Financial Affairs will **not** accept a personal check for tuition and fees payment. Payment must be made using cash, money order, credit card, or cashier's check.

Holds on Grades or Transcripts

A student failing to meet financial obligations to the University may have semester grade reports, transcripts, and all other academic transactions put on hold until the financial obligations are cleared through the Office of Financial Affairs. Such financial obligations may include: unpaid fees, overdue library books, damaged or unreturned University equipment, unpaid student loans, and parking fees. A student may also be withdrawn from classes and not permitted to register until pending financial obligations have been cleared.

Student Financial Aid

The Office of Student Financial Aid supports the University goal of providing postsecondary education opportunities by assisting qualified Athens State University students in the pursuit of their educational goals with funds from grants, scholarships, loans, and work-study programs from federal, state, and private sources. The Office is committed to:

- Ensuring compliance with federal, state and institutional regulations and policy requirements governing student financial aid services;
- Maintaining funding sources by ensuring program integrity through ongoing staff training and continuing education, external audits, and self-evaluations;
- Maximizing funds available for Athens State University students to meet their costs of attendance, supplementing the efforts of students and parents in meeting educational goals; and
- Providing quality financial assistance services effectively and efficiently.

For questions regarding financial aid, contact the Office of Student Financial Aid: (mail) Athens State University Office of Student Financial Aid, 300 North Beaty Street, Athens, AL 35611; (phone) 256-233-8122; (email) finaid@athens.edu. Students may also visit the Financial Aid webpage at https://www.athens.edu/admissions/financial-aid/. The Student Financial Aid Office is located on the lower-level of the Sandridge Student Center.

Financial Aid for Degree-Seeking Graduate Students

The only financial aid funds available to degree-seeking graduate students are Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans (also known as Direct Stafford Loans) and Federal Graduate Direct PLUS Loans.

Federal Student Direct Unsubsidized Loans

Federal Student Direct Unsubsidized Loans are available to graduate degree-seeking students; there is no requirement to demonstrate financial need. The Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan Program allows degree-seeking graduate students to receive loans with the following benefits:

- Loans have a low fixed-interest rate.
- No repayment is required while the student is enrolled.
- Loan acceptance is not based on the student's credit history.
- Students may borrow up to $20,500 per year (as of this catalog's publication).

Students who are required to take undergraduate prerequisites prior to full admission to a graduate program will be eligible for loans as long as they have not reached their aggregate undergraduate loan limit. As of this catalog's publication, students are eligible to borrow up to $12,500 per year in undergraduate loan funds.

Eligibility Requirements for Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans

- Student must be a U. S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Student must be registered with Selective Service (if required).
- Student must be accepted for admission to a graduate program as a degree-seeking student.
- Student must be enrolled as a degree-seeking graduate student in at least six (6) semester hours.
- Student must maintain satisfactory academic progress (see below).
- Student must not in be in default on a federal student loan or owe a repayment of Title IV federal aid funds.
- Student must not be receiving aid at more than one school during the same enrollment period.

Federal Graduate Direct PLUS Loans

Federal Graduate Direct PLUS Loans may be available to graduate and professional students. A student must exhaust all Direct Unsubsidized Loan eligibility for the year before applying ($20,500 per year as of this catalog's publication). Eligibility depends on the cost of attendance minus all resources including any unsubsidized loans. Students are not eligible if they have adverse credit without a credit worthy co-signer. Interest accumulates while attending school, but loan payments are deferred while enrolled at least halftime.

A new Master Promissory Note and entrance counseling will have to be completed for first time Grad PLUS borrowers. **Direct PLUS loans are not available to students taking undergraduate prerequisites to be admitted into a graduate program.**

Basic Steps for Applying for Aid

Students must apply for aid each academic year. Additional details can be found on the Student Financial Aid webpage: Transfer Guide and Process.

Apply for a U.S. Department of Education Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID)

Apply for an FSA ID at https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch . Click the "FSA ID" link to create an FSA ID; you will be asked to create a username and password and enter your email address. You will receive a secure code by email at the address you entered asking you to confirm your email address with the code. The FSA ID will be your electronic signature for the FAFSA, renewal FAFSA, and Master Promissory Note for loans. Parents of dependent students must also have their own FSA ID to sign the FAFSA electronically.

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Students can apply for Federal Aid at https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa. This application is required to determine a student's eligibility for federal grant and loan programs. The results of this application are mailed to each student and electronically transmitted to each institution listed on the student's application. **Athens State University's School Code is 001008.**

Apply for a Direct Student Loan

Students requesting loan funding for the first time must fulfill the one time **online** requirements of Entrance Counseling and completion of a Master Promissory Note at www.studentaid.gov. The Master Promissory note requires a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) number to complete. The Financial Aid Office receives direct electronic confirmation of the completion of these requirements.

Federal Requirements on Satisfactory Academic Progress for Graduate Students Receiving Aid

All graduate students must comply with the Federal Requirements for Satisfactory Academic Progress as outlined below:

Graduate Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

1. Graduate students must maintain a cumulative 3.00 GPA of all graduate coursework
2. All students must successfully complete 67% of all coursework attempted. All W's, I's, F's, repeated coursework and audited coursework count as unsuccessful completions. See the Impact of Withdrawal on Financial Aid page for additional details.
3. Students must complete their first graduate degree's requirements within 150% of the usual time frame for degree completion. Athens State University generally requires 30 semester hours to earn a first graduate degree.
    - If you are seeking a second degree, you must complete the requirements within 130% of the time frame for the degree. An advisor's plan of study is required to be on file in Financial Aid for all students pursuing an additional degree. You must follow this plan. Example: if the plan of study calls for an additional 20 hours of study, financial aid will be available for no more than 26 semester hours of credit beyond the first degree. You must maintain a 3.00 on all course work and complete 67% of all coursework attempted. If you do not follow your degree plan or you exceed 130% of the second degree, financial aid will be placed on Maximum Timeframe Suspension (**MAX**.) No further aid will be available.

If at the end of a semester of enrollment, your completion rate is lower than 67% and/or your cumulative GPA falls below 3.00, your status will be **WARNING**. (See information below regarding **WARNING** status.) If at the end of your **WARNING** semester you fail to regain compliance with **SAP,** your status will be **SUSPENDED**. (See information below regarding how to appeal a **SUSPENDED** status.)

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Potential Timeline

1. **WARNING Status**– The first time you fall short of meeting the required completion ratio or GPA(s) or you are nearing the Maximum Timeframe to complete your degree, your status will be **WARNING**. You remain eligible to receive financial aid while in **WARNING** A **WARNING** status is for one semester only.
2. **SUSPENDED Status** – After attending one semester on **WARNING** status, if you do not meet the required completion ratio or required GPA(s), your status becomes **SUSPENDED** status. You are no longer eligible to receive any financial aid until the required standards are met or you successfully appeal.
3. **MAX Status** – If you receive a **MAX** status, you are no longer eligible for financial aid. You may wish to discuss with your advisor the option of a first undergraduate degree in liberal studies with the hours on your transcript.
4. **PROBATION Status** – After being placed on a **SUSPENDED** status, **AND** you have successfully appealed and financial aid has been reinstated, the student is eligible to receive financial aid. This status is only for one term and quite often will carry conditions and/or stipulations for continued eligibility.

Reinstatement Process

A student has two options to seek to regain federal financial aid eligibility:

1. Regain Satisfactory Academic Progress by completing courses that raise your Completion Ratio and/or cumulative GPA to the outlined standards using payment methods other than federal financial aid.
2. Complete a Financial Aid Suspension Appeal form and submit all required supporting documentation for consideration.* See more information below.

***Please note**: The process, detailed below, is for appeals related to the suspension and reinstatement of financial aid. Students who have also been suspended from the University for unsatisfactory academic performance must file a **separate** appeal concerning the University suspension. Additional information on this process can be found in the Standards of Academic Performance policy.

Student Appeals

Students on **SUSPENDED** status may submit an appeal for aid reinstatement due to extenuating circumstances. Student appeals **must** include:

- A completed Financial Aid Suspension Appeal form.
- A typed explanation of:
    - Unusual or mitigating circumstances that you believe prevented or hindered you in making satisfactory academic progress; **AND**
    - What has changed and/or corrective actions and steps being taken to prevent future problems.

- Supporting documentation relevant to the circumstances and your request for reinstatement of aid (e.g., doctor's statements, hospital discharge records, death certificate, etc.).
- **RECOMMENDED**: At least one letter of support from someone (**not a family member**) who can attest to the extenuating circumstances (e.g., medical doctor, clergy, professional, etc.).

The appeal documentation must be provided to the Office of Student Financial Aid **no later than 30 days prior to the tuition payment deadline for the upcoming semester**. Failure to provide all documentation within the prescribed dates will result in a delayed determination.

Once the Office of Student Financial Aid has made a decision on your appeal, you will be notified via your Athens State University email account. If you have an approved appeal, your status will be **PROBATION**. Many times, conditions are required. Generally, **PROBATION** continues until you have regained SAP, provided you have no W's, I's or F's in the enrollment periods of the probation. Failure to follow all conditions related to your probationary status will result in financial aid being terminated.
If you have previously had your financial aid suspended and you are appealing for a second time, the appeal and all supporting documents will be sent to the Financial Aid Suspension Committee. The Committee will review the appeal and notify the student via Athens State University email account. The Committee's decision is final and there will be no further appeal reviewed for that financial aid suspension case. The Committee reviews appeals on an intermittent basis which could result in an appeal review taking at least two weeks.

If your appeal is denied or you decide not to appeal, you must complete the hours necessary and achieve the grades required to return to compliance with SAP.

Federal Regulations on Return of Funds for Students Receiving Title IV Aid (Financial Aid)

The federal regulations in effect at the time of publication of this catalog are given below. Regulations are subject to change; for additional details, see the Financial Aid Regulations on the University website.

Title IV funds are awarded to students under the assumption that the student will attend school for the entire period for which the assistance is awarded. When a student fails to complete the term, the student may no longer be eligible for the full amount of Title IV funds he or she was scheduled to receive, and the institution and/or the student may be required to return funds according to federal regulations. The Title IV program included in these regulations that apply to a graduate student at Athens State University are Federal Direct Loans. Federal Work-Study funds are not included.

Federal refund regulations require Athens State University to determine the amount of aid "earned" by each student receiving Title IV funds who withdraws from all classes prior to the 60% point in the term. A student completing 60% of the term is considered to have "earned" 100% of the Title IV funds the student was scheduled to receive during the period.

Any student earning a passing grade in at least one course for the term are not subject to the federal Return to Title IV Funds regulations. **Students are strongly encouraged to consult the Office of Student Financial Aid prior to withdrawing or dropping out of the term.**

Calculations are based on the student's official withdrawal date. For unofficial withdrawals, calculations are based on the last date of an academically related activity that the student participated in, the mid-point of the term, or the date the school determines the student ceased attendance due to illness, accident, grievous personal loss or other circumstances beyond the student's control. Unofficial withdrawals dates are determined by the faculty, identifying the last date of activity for courses where a student earned an 'F', 'I', or 'W'. The withdrawal date must be determined within 30 days of the end of the term, academic year or student's program, whichever is earlier.

The institution must return the amount of Title IV funds for which it is responsible no later than 45 days after the date of the determination of the date of the student's withdrawal. Athens State University offers all degree programs in a credit hour, term-based format. As a credit hour, term-based degree program, the following formula is used to compute aid to be returned:

(Days Enrolled / Days in Term) x Title IV Aid Awarded and Disbursed = **Aid Earned**
(Any break of five days or more is not counted in the days in the term)
Aid Disbursed – Aid Earned = **Aid to be Returned**

If a student earned less aid than was disbursed, the institution would be required to return a portion of the funds and the student would be required to return a portion of the funds. **When Title IV funds are returned, the student borrower will owe a debit balance to the institution.**

If a student earned more aid than was disbursed, the institution will owe the student a post-withdrawal disbursement, to be paid within 120 days of the student's withdrawal.

Responsibilities of Students Receiving Financial Aid

A student receiving financial aid has the responsibility to:

- Review and consider all information about a school's program BEFORE enrolling.
- Pay special attention to the application for student financial aid, complete it accurately, and submit it on time to the appropriate person, office or agency. Errors can delay or prevent receiving aid.
- Know all the deadlines for applying or reapplying for aid and meet them.
- Provide all documentation, corrections, and/or new information requested by either the Student Financial Aid Office or the agency to which the application was submitted.
- Notify the University of any information that has changed since an application was submitted for financial aid.
- Read, understand, and keep copies of all forms requiring signature(s).
- Repay any student loans. When a student signs a promissory note, the student is agreeing to repay the loan.
- Complete an entrance and exit interview for the University if the student has a Federal Direct Student Loan.
- Notify the University of any change in name, address, or attendance status. **If a student has a loan, the lender must also be notified of any changes.**
- Satisfactorily perform the work agreed upon, if the student is employed in a federal work-study job.
- Understand the University's refund policy as specified in this catalog.

Rights of Students Receiving Financial Aid

A student has the right to ask the University:

- For the names of the University's accrediting and licensing organizations.
- For a copy of the documents describing the institution's accreditation or licensing.
- About the University's programs, instructional, laboratory, and other physical facilities, and about the faculty.
- About the cost of attending, and about the University's policy on refunds to students who drop out.
- About the types of financial assistance that are available, including information on all federal, state, local, private and institutional financial aid programs.
- About financial aid personnel, where their offices are located, and how to contact them for information.
- About the procedures and deadlines for submitting applications for each available financial aid program.
- How the University determines financial need, including cost of education and resources available.
- How much of one's need, as determined by the University, had been met.
- How and when financial aid is received.
- To explain each type and amount of assistance in the financial aid package.
- About the interest rate on any student loan, the total amount to be repaid, the length of time for repayment and when repayment must start, and what cancellation or deferment provisions apply.
- If offered a federal work-study job— about the kind of job, the hours to be worked, the duties of the job, the rate of pay, and how and when wages are paid.
- To reconsider an aid package, if a student believes a mistake has been made, or if enrollment or financial circumstances have changed.
- About the requirements for satisfactory academic progress, and the consequences of unsatisfactory progress.
- About the special facilities and services that are available to persons with disabilities.

Veterans Affairs

The veterans educational assistance programs and services at Athens State University are based on the rules, regulations, policies and procedures of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and as such are subject to change without notice.

Athens State University is a participating member in the Principles of Excellence Program. Educational institutions participating in the Principles of Excellence program agree to the following guidelines:

- Provide students with a personalized form covering the total cost of an education program.
- Provide educational plans for all military and Veteran education beneficiaries.
- End fraudulent and aggressive recruiting techniques and misrepresentations.
- Accommodate Service members and Reservists absent due to service requirements.
- Designate a point of contact to provide academic and financial advice.
- Ensure accreditation of all new programs prior to enrolling students.
- Align institutional refund policies with those under Title IV, which governs the administration of federal student financial aid programs.

Athens State University does not engage in fraudulent and aggressive recruitment of military students including, but not limited to, providing compensation to individuals for securing military enrollments or engaging in high-pressure recruitment tactics.

For questions regarding veterans programs, contact the Office of Veterans Affairs: (mail) Athens State University, Office of Veterans Affairs, 300 North Beaty Street, Athens, AL 35611; (phone) 256-233-8271; (email) carolyn.carthen@athens.edu. Students may also visit the Veterans Affairs webpage at https://www.athens.edu/resources/student-services/veterans-affairs/. The Veterans Affairs Office is located on the lower-level of the Sandridge Student Center.

Veterans Educational Assistance Programs

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill.

- Montgomery GI Bill® - Active Duty Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 30 of Title 38, U. S. Code)
- Montgomery GI Bill® - Selective Reserve Educational Assistant Program (Chapter 1606, formerly Chapter 106, of Title 10, U.S. Code)
- Post 9/11 GI Bill® - Chapter 33
- Vocational Rehabilitation - Chapter 31: This program provides educational assistance to disabled veterans who are in need of vocational rehabilitation. To be eligible a veteran must have a service-connected disability entitling him/her to these benefits. An award authorization must be received by the Office of Veterans Affairs before benefits can be used.
- Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 35 of Title 38, U. S. Code): Paperwork for state benefits (tuition, fees, books) should be processed through the Athens State Business Office. Federal benefits (monthly checks) should be processed through the Office of Veterans Affairs.
- Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) - (Chapter 1607)
- Fry Scholarship - a provision of the Post 9/11 GI Bill®

Per Public Law 115-407 Sec. 103 for terms beginning August 1, 2019 and later, students utilizing VA education benefits shall not be charged a penalty, including assessment of late fees, denial of access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or be required to borrow additional funds because of the individual's inability to meet their financial obligations due to the delayed disbursement of a payment to be provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Selection of Major or Program

In consultation with a Student Success Center counselor or an academic advisor, each veteran or eligible dependent student must select and plan a program in accordance with the Athens State University catalog. Assistance in determining a course of study or a change of program will be furnished by the Office of Veterans Affairs in consultation with the appropriate academic advisor.

Repeated Courses for Veterans Receiving Educational Benefits

If a veteran student fails a required course, the student may receive payment for repeating that course. However, according to VA regulations, the student cannot repeat a course just to improve a passing grade and still receive payment for that course. (See also Repeated Courses in the Academic Policies section of the catalog.)

Standards of Academic Performance

Veterans or other eligible students receiving VA benefits are subject to the same standards of academic performance and conduct as are other University students. For additional information, see the Academic Policies section of the catalog.

Withdrawal Requirements

In addition to following the University's policy Withdrawal from Courses, students who receive veterans benefits must notify the Office of Veterans Affairs when withdrawing from a course or when dropping or adding courses during registration periods. Each withdrawal/drop resulting in a reduction in the course load must show the effective date of the change and the reason for the change.

Tuition Rates for Veterans and Members of the United States Armed Forces

In compliance with 38 U.S.C. §3679 (c), Public Law 114-315, the Choice Act, and other provisions of 38 U.S.C., in-state tuition rates apply to a student who, at the time of admission to the University:

- Is a member, the spouse of a member, or a minor whose supporting person is a member of the United States Armed Forces on full-time active duty stationed in Alabama under orders other than attending school; or
- Has been a member of the Alabama National Guard for a period of at least 2 years immediately preceding the first day of classes for the academic term of admission, and continues to be a member of the Alabama National Guard while enrolled at Athens State University; or
- Is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States, provided that the veteran has become a resident of Alabama (as evidenced by documentation of a physical address in Alabama while enrolled) and satisfies at least one of the following conditions:
  - The veteran has served on active duty for a continuous period of time, not less than two years, and has received an honorable discharge as verified by a United States Department of Defense Form 214 within five years of enrolling at Athens State University; or
  - The veteran is currently serving in a reserve component of the United States Armed Forces, as verified by a memorandum from the commanding officer of the veteran student; or
  - The veteran has been assigned a service-connected disability by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; or
- Is a veteran using educational assistance under either chapter 30 (Montgomery GI Bill® – Active Duty Program) or chapter 33 (Post-9/11 GI Bill®), of title 38, United States Code, who lives in Alabama while attending a school located in Alabama (regardless of his/her formal State of residence) and enrolls in the school within three years of discharge or release from a period of active duty service of 90 days or more, as well as
  - such person while he or she remains continuously enrolled (other than during regularly scheduled breaks between courses, semesters, or terms) at the same school. The person so described must have enrolled in the school prior to the expiration of the three-year period following discharge or release as described above and must be using educational benefits under either chapter 30 or chapter 33, of title 38, United States Code; or

- Is anyone using transferred Post-9/11 GI Bill® benefits (38 U.S.C. § 3319) who lives in Alabama while attending a school located in Alabama (regardless of his/her formal State of residence) and enrolls in the school within three years of the transferor's discharge or release from a period of active duty service of 90 days or more, as well as
  - such person while he or she remains continuously enrolled (other than during regularly scheduled breaks between courses, semesters, or terms) at the same school. The person so described must have enrolled in the school prior to the expiration of the three-year period following discharge or release as described above and must be using educational benefits under either chapter 30 or chapter 33, of title 38, United States Code; or
- Is anyone using benefits under the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship (38 U.S.C. § 3311(b)(9)) who lives in Alabama while attending a school located in Alabama (regardless of his/her formal State of residence); or
- Is anyone using transferred Post-9/11 GI Bill® benefits (38 U.S.C. § 3319) who lives in Alabama while attending a school located in Alabama (regardless of his/her formal state of residence) and the transferor is a member of the uniformed service who is serving on active duty; or
- Effective for courses and terms beginning after March 1, 2019, is anyone using educational assistance under chapter 31, Vocational Rehabilitation/Employment (VR&E).
- Effective for courses and terms beginning after August 1, 2022, is anyone using educational assistance under Chapter 35, VA Survivor's and Dependents' Educational Assistance.

This policy shall be read to be amended as necessary to be compliant with the requirements of 38 U.S.C. 3679(c) as amended. Information on the estimated cost of attendance can be found on the Athens State University website.

Complaint Policy for Students Receiving VA Education Benefits

For students receiving VA education benefits, any complaint against the school should be routed through the VA GI Bill® Feedback System by going to the following link: https://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/Feedback.asp. The VA will then follow up through the appropriate channels to investigate the complaint and resolve it satisfactorily.

Payments to Students Receiving Veteran Benefits

Receipt of Checks
A student who completes an Application for Education Benefits or Change of Place of Training Form at the beginning of the semester should expect a VA processing period of about 6 weeks. If the estimated time has elapsed, the student should contact the Office of Veterans Affairs immediately and, if the case warrants, an inquiry will be made to the Regional Office.

Payment
Athens State University does not participate in the advance payment plan for veterans or eligible dependents; therefore, tuition and fees must be paid in full by the published payment date. Veteran students receiving Vocational Rehabilitation are eligible to register without payment of tuition and fees providing that an award authorization from the VA Vocational Rehabilitation office has been received prior to the payment due date for the semester. Post 9/11 veteran students must provide a letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs showing the percentage for which he or she is eligible; this percentage will determine if the student will need to pay any tuition and/or fees.

Overpayments
Each veteran or dependent receiving benefits should be aware that it is his or her responsibility to comply strictly with the policies and procedures which govern the receipt of educational benefits. Any overpayment created through non-compliance with veteran policies is subject to repayment, and such overpayment can cause a delay in the payment of further benefits.

Responsibilities of Students Receiving Veterans Benefits

It is the responsibility of veterans and dependents receiving VA benefits to notify the Office of Veterans Affairs via email of the following:

- Catalog changes
- Change of address
- Changes in enrollment or class schedule (including drops and/or adds, withdrawals)
- Change of major or program
- Course substitution (approval must be obtained prior to enrolling in the course)
- Enrollment/class schedule for each semester or term, including any enrollment at other institutions as a Visiting or Transient student while attending Athens State University
- Projected graduation date
- Veterans educational benefits eligibility changes

Services for Students with Disabilities

Accessibility Services (formerly Disability Services) is the central contact point for Athens State students with disabilities. The goal of Accessibility Services is to ensure that University programs and services are accessible to qualified students with disabilities. Accessibility Services works with faculty and other members of the University community to provide individualized academic accommodations and support services while promoting student responsibility and self-advocacy.

It is the student's responsibility to self-disclose their disability, provide adequate documentation (if required), and to request academic accommodations/services from Accessibility Services.

For questions regarding services for students with disabilities, contact Accessibility Services: (mail) Athens State University, Accessibility Services, 300 North Beaty Street, Athens, AL 35611; (phone) 256-233-8143; (email) accessibility.services@athens.edu. Students may also visit the Accessibility Services webpage at https://www.athens.edu/resources/accessibility-services/. Accessibility Services is located on the second floor of the Sandridge Student Center, Suite 122.

Career Development Center

The Career Development Center provides assistance to Athens State students and alumni in career planning, development and job seeking strategies. The Center serves as a major link between students/alumni and potential employers. The Center can assist students in identifying and fulfilling their future goals and aspirations, and students can receive support in creating professional documents (resumes, cover letters, and social media profiles) and learning effective interview and job search techniques. The Center offers a variety of opportunities for students to meet with hiring employers and recruiters at career fairs, employer workshops, information sessions, and at campus recruiting events.

Handshake is the Athens State online career platform for connecting students with employers. This resource provides access to job openings and leads, information about upcoming career events and registration for events. To register for **Handshake** and services, visit the Career Development Center webpage at https://www.athens.edu/resources/student-services/career/ or https://athens.joinhandshake.com/login or call 256-233-8140. The Center is located on the second floor of the Sandridge Student Center, Suite 112.

College of Arts and Sciences

C. David Ragsdale, D.M.A – Dean

The table below summarizes the graduate degree, major, and specialty track (concentration) options offered by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Program Name	Degree Available	Specialty Track Available
Interdisciplinary Studies	MA	No
Religious Studies	MA	
- Non-Thesis Track		Yes
- Thesis Track		Yes
Computer Science	MS	
- Non-Thesis Track		Yes
- Thesis Track		Yes
Cybersecurity	MS	
- Non-Thesis Track		Yes
- Thesis Track		Yes

The current listings of Faculty and Staff in the College of Arts and Sciences and Faculty and Staff in the University Library can be found on the Athens State University website.

College of Arts and Sciences - General Information

The mission of the College of Arts and Sciences is to prepare students for entry into the job market or for continuing education in graduate or professional school. We are an academically diverse college, brimming with opportunities for all and our expert faculty and staff are dedicated to equipping students with the knowledge, experience, and credentials for fulfilling lives and successful careers. We pride ourselves on learning and growing together in ways that shape not only your future but also that of our state, region, nation, and the world.

The College of Arts & Sciences seeks to engage the intellect, excite the imagination, improve the scholarship of its students, and assist its students in developing:

- Appreciation of their cultural heritage and understanding of their world
- A knowledgebase conducive to self-growth and enriched life experiences
- Fundamental knowledge, research skills, and computer literacy essential to lifelong learning
- Competencies in written and oral communication

The College of Arts and Sciences consists of four Departments, uniquely situated on two campuses in Athens and Decatur. The departments of *Behavioral Sciences* (Psychology, Sociology, Criminal Justice, Homeland Security, Health Science, and Nursing), *Humanities and Social Sciences* (Religion, History, and English), and *Math, Computer Science, and Natural Sciences* (Biology, Chemistry, Math, Computer Science, and Computer Networking) are located on the beautiful and historic Athens campus, while the department of *Fine and Performing Arts* is located at the stunning Alabama Center for the Arts, in downtown Decatur.

Advising and Scheduling Information

Academic Advising

Upon admission to Athens State University, each student is assigned a faculty advisor. Students should confer with their advisor at least once each semester. Although each student assumes final individual responsibility for meeting all degree requirements, the advisor will offer guidance in planning the student's academic program. Any adjustments to the program of study require the completion of a Curriculum Adjustment form and approval by the appropriate academic administrators.

Scheduling

Due to possible cohort size restrictions, some sequencing of graduate courses may be necessary and not all courses required for a degree program will be available every semester. Graduate Students are strongly encouraged to contact their faculty advisor before withdrawing from any courses, as withdrawal from a course may affect a student's progress through the curriculum and impact timely program completion.

Graduate Degree Programs in the College of Arts and Sciences

Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies

This Graduate Program can be designed to be totally online, according to the goals of each student.
(See also the General University requirements for Admission to Graduate Programs on page 10 of this catalog.)

The Master of Arts is offered through the College of Arts and Sciences. The program is based on an interdisciplinary approach that allows students the flexibility to develop their own unique program of study by taking courses from any of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, or Education Graduate Programs. Primarily, the program serves the needs of those students seeking to enrich and satisfy their personal educational goals through non-predetermined graduate study. The curriculum is structured to produce graduates who possess a diverse range of coursework appropriate to any career that demands a person highly skilled in analytic reading, critical listening, and high-level communication abilities, ready for further university study or upper-level employment in their chosen field.

Students will choose courses from two or more areas of expertise, planning and discussing the course of study with the graduate advisor. An agreed plan will be developed and approved in the first semester of study. This plan can be changed at any time, with agreement of the student and graduate advisor.

It is also possible for students to use up to 6 hours of 400/500, (which are taken at the 500 level) courses taken during their undergraduate degree, to be counted toward the Masters. The student should apply for this credit during the final year of their undergraduate program, by applying to the Graduate program at Athens State University and designated the two courses that will be used toward the master's program.

Master of Arts Interdisciplinary Studies Program Goals

1. Research Excellence: The Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies degree offers students an opportunity to integrate a variety of methodological perspectives and modes of inquiry under a single degree program and course of study. Students choose courses according to their needs and career choices. They will gain an in-depth understanding of graduate-level research and current trends in interdisciplinary scholarship, as well as preparation for advancement in their chosen career field.
2. Cultural and Ethical Integrity: The program helps students be well-educated, critically thinking community members who consider actions in terms of ethical behavior and positively contribute to society, as well as participate in policy evaluation in meaningful ways.
3. Transformative Learning: By combining approaches and courses, students construct an innovative curriculum that crosses traditional disciplinary boundaries, often to answer a specific question or to address a theme of interest to the individual student.
4. Entrepreneurship: Students are encouraged to "think outside the box" and build their skills for the workforce of the future, while designing that future.

Program Requirements:

To be considered for admission to the online MA in Interdisciplinary Studies program, prospective students must:

- Complete an application for graduate admission and submit all official transcripts
- Have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Submit all additional documents required by the program, noted in the application
- Meet all published deadlines for submitting application materials

Prospective students who earned a bachelor's degree with a GPA below 3.0 but above 2.5 may be eligible for conditional admission.

Master of Arts Interdisciplinary Studies Degree Program

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Applicable University Requirements:
Students earning the Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies (MAIS) degree must satisfy all general University requirements and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Applicants to the program must have an earned bachelor's degree from an accredited university/college, or if they apply in the last year of their bachelor's degree, be pre-approved for using up to 6-hours of 400/500 level coursework in their master's program.

	Discipline/Course	Hours
	UNV 500 Research Methods for the Master of Arts Interdisciplinary Studies	3
	Graduate Courses Chosen and Planned with Advisor	27
	UNV 650 Capstone Seminar Interdisciplinary Studies	3
	Total Hours:	**33**

Master of Arts in Religious Studies

The Master of Arts in Religious Studies program is designed for any individual interested in the academic study of religion. The program is non-denominational and provides individuals an opportunity to learn about Religious Studies in a neutral setting. The program is designed to promote learning, critical thinking, and research in an open and honest environment.

Student in the program will gain a broad perspective on the study of religion that will encompass major religious traditions across the world. In addition, students will strengthen their knowledge and understanding of the subject matter through analysis of:

- Religious texts in terms of their historical and social development, as well as their literary value;
- The diversity of religious traditions and their significance for culture and society;
- Religious institutions and their operations;
- The individual's religious orientation in relation to the larger society.

The Master of Arts Religious Studies program is offered with two options (tracks):

- The Thesis Track is designed for students interested in pursuing doctoral degrees in religious studies or employment in research-related careers.
- The Non-Thesis Track is designed for students who are interested in developing a leadership career in faith communities and/or non-profit organizations, or who want to improve their opportunities of employment in related fields.

Admission Requirements for Master of Arts: Major in Religious Studies

(See also the General University requirements for Admission to Graduate Programs on page 10 of this catalog.)

Requirements for Degree-Seeking Students

For **unconditional admission**, a prospective student must:

- Have earned a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, with a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale), **AND**;
- Submit for review as a part of the application process:
    1. Response to essay question.
    2. Participate in a Zoom interview with religion faculty.
    3. Two professional recommendations preferably from faculty members.
    4. A writing sample (for example, a research paper written for an undergraduate course) that demonstrates the applicant's writing and research skills.

For **conditional admission**, a prospective student must:

- Have earned a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, with a minimum overall GPA of 2.75 (4.0 scale), **AND**;
- Submit for review as a part of the application process:
    1. Response to essay question.
    2. Participate in a Zoom interview with religion faculty.
    3. Two professional recommendations preferably from faculty members.
    4. A writing sample (for example, a research paper written for an undergraduate course) that demonstrates the applicant's writing and research skills.

A student admitted on conditional status will be admitted on academic probation and the maximum number of hours to be taken during the first semester is six. Conditional status will be removed only upon successful completion of a minimum of 9 semester hours of graduate coursework at Athens State with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Please Note: A student who has met the above requirements may be required to complete specific undergraduate prerequisite courses or their equivalents as determined by departmental review.

Requirements for Non-Degree Seeking Students

A student who does not meet the requirements for one of the above admission categories as a degree-seeking graduate student may be admitted as a non-degree seeking graduate student. Records are kept of the work completed and credits are transferable. **Non-degree seeking graduate students are ineligible for federal aid funding under Title IV.**

Students seeking admission as non-degree seeking students must:

- Submit a completed graduate non-degree seeking admissions application and pay any required application fees.
- Submit official transcripts from the last institution attended, and from at least one institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education documenting conferral of a bachelor's or higher degree. Official transcripts must indicate that the student is in good standing at the last institution attended.

Students admitted as non-degree seeking students will only be allowed to register for graduate courses in a given term subject to space availability and/or cohort restrictions. **Non-degree seeking students may complete no more than one-half of the total program hours**; in order to register for additional courses, students must submit a degree-seeking application and all required materials, and be approved for degree-seeking status. **Non-degree seeking students will not be awarded a graduate degree from Athens State University.**

Master of Arts – Religious Studies: Non-Thesis Track

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Arts degree with a major in Religious Studies – Non-Thesis Track:
Students earning the Master of Arts (MA) degree with a major in Religious Studies: Non-Thesis Track must satisfy all general University requirements for graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Religion Core Course Requirements

	Course	Hours
	RE 516 Interpreting the Text	**3**
	RE 527 Advanced Study of Jesus, Muhammad, and Buddha	**3**
	RE 600 Seminar in Biblical Studies	**3**
	RE 601 Seminar in History of Religions	**3**
	Total Core Requirement Hours:	**12**

Non-Thesis Track (Concentration) Course Requirements

In addition to the Religion core, students must complete all coursework for the Non-Thesis track.

Non-Thesis Track		
	Course	**Hours**
	Leadership and Community Service Courses: RE 510 Advanced Study of Leading Change in Faith Communities and Other Non-Profits RE 526 Advanced Study of Social Change and Transformational Leadership RE 602 Seminar in Leadership and Community Service	 **3** **3** **3**
	Biblical Studies Courses (at least one course required from this area): RE 509 Christian Thought in Early Centuries RE 512 Advanced Study of the Hebrew Prophets RE 513 Advanced Study of Psalms and Wisdom Literature RE 530 Biblical Hebrew Language and Grammar RE 531 Directed Studies in Translating Texts from Hebrew Bible RE 540 The Language and Grammar of the New Testament RE 541 Directed Studies in Translating New Testament Texts RE 542 The Parables of Jesus **History of Religions Courses (at least one course required from this area):** RE 501 History of Judaism RE 502 History of Islam RE 511 Age of the Reformation RE 528 Religion and Cultural Diversity **Additional Elective Course(s):** RE 552 Problems of Evil and Suffering RE 553 Directed Studies in Hebrew **Two additional courses from the above categories**	**3** **3** **6**
	Project Course RE 700 Religious Studies Project (minimum grade of B required)	 **3**
	Total Non-Thesis Track Requirement Hours:	**24**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Graduate Hours Required for Completion of Religious Studies Major – Non-Thesis Track	**36**

Master of Arts – Religious Studies: Thesis Track

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Arts degree with a major in Religious Studies – Thesis Track:
Students earning the Master of Arts (MA) degree with a major in Religious Studies: Thesis Track must satisfy all general University requirements for graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Religion Core Course Requirements

	Course	Hours
	RE 516 Interpreting the Text	**3**
	RE 527 Advanced Study of Jesus, Muhammad, and Buddha	**3**
	RE 600 Seminar in Biblical Studies	**3**
	RE 601 Seminar in History of Religions	**3**
	Total Core Requirement Hours:	**12**

Thesis Track (Concentration) Course Requirements

In addition to the Religion core, students must complete all coursework for the Thesis track.

Thesis Track		
	Course	
	Biblical Studies Courses (at least one course required from this area): RE 509 Christian Thought in Early Centuries RE 512 Advanced Study of the Hebrew Prophets RE 513 Advanced Study of Psalms and Wisdom Literature RE 530 Biblical Hebrew Language and Grammar RE 531 Directed Studies in Translating Texts from Hebrew Bible RE 540 The Language and Grammar of the New Testament RE 541 Directed Studies in Translating New Testament Texts RE 542 The Parables of Jesus	**3**
	History of Religions Courses (at least one course required from this area): RE 501 History of Judaism RE 502 History of Islam RE 511 Age of the Reformation RE 528 Religion and Cultural Diversity	**3**
	Additional Elective Course(s) RE 552 Problems of Evil and Suffering RE 553 Directed Studies in Hebrew **Two additional courses from the above categories**	**6**
	Thesis Research Course RE 701 Thesis Research (minimum grade of B required)	**6**
	Total Thesis Track Requirement Hours:	**18**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Graduate Hours Required for Completion of Religious Studies Major – Thesis Track	**30**

Computer Science

The Master of Science in Computer Science prepares students to be more productive in the computing field. Students in the degree program will gain a broad perspective of the computing field through a collection of core courses in computer science and focus on areas of emphasis in Software and Systems, Data and Visualization, Artificial Intelligence, and Communications and Cybersecurity. Two tracks are offered in the program: a project track and a thesis track.

Master of Science in Computer Science: Non-Thesis Track

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science in Computer Science Non-Thesis Track:
Students earning the Master of Science degree in Computer Science must satisfy all general University requirements or graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Computer Science Core Course Requirements

	Computer Science Core Courses	Hours
	CS 514 Programming Language Theory	**3**
	CS 518 Advanced Object-Oriented Programming	**3**
	CS 575 Theory of Computation	**3**
	CS 551 Advanced Principles of Software Engineering and Methods	**3**
	Select TWO elective groupings Software and Systems: CS 509 Advanced Computer Architecture CS 515 Operation Systems Design and Implementation CS 516 Embedded Systems Design and Implementation Data and Visualization (Choose 3): CS 513 Data Mining, Analysis, and Visualization CS 527 Advanced Database Systems and Information Retrieval CS 523 Computer Graphics and Image Processing ITE 525 Virtualization and Cloud Security Artificial Intelligence: CS 585 Intelligent Systems: Theory, Design and Implementation CS 577 Event Modeling and Simulation CS 586 Machine Learning: Theory and Methods Communications and Cybersecurity (Choose 3): CS 530 Principles of Computer Communication and Networks CS 553 Secure Software Testing CS 584 Applied Cryptography ITE 520 Cybersecurity Foundations	**18**
	Core Required Hours	**30**

Non-Thesis Track Course Requirements

In addition to the Computer Science Core Course Requirements, students must complete the additional coursework for the Non-Thesis Track.

	Non-Thesis Track	
	Course	**Hours**
	CS 598 Project Design and Development	**3-6**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Science degree in Computer Science Non-Thesis Option	**33-36**

Master of Science in Computer Science: Thesis Track

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science in Computer Science Thesis Track:
Students earning the Master of Science degree in Computer Science must satisfy all general University requirements or graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Computer Science Core Course Requirements

	Computer Science Core Courses	Hours
	CS 514 Programming Language Theory	**3**
	CS 518 Advanced Object-Oriented Programming	**3**
	CS 575 Theory of Computation	**3**
	CS 551 Advanced Principles of Software Engineering and Methods	**3**
	Select TWO elective groupings Software and Systems: CS 509 Advanced Computer Architecture CS 515 Operation Systems Design and Implementation CS 516 Embedded Systems Design and Implementation Data and Visualization (Choose 3): CS 513 Data Mining, Analysis, and Visualization CS 527 Advanced Database Systems and Information Retrieval CS 523 Computer Graphics and Image Processing ITE 525 Virtualization and Cloud Security Artificial Intelligence: CS 585 Intelligent Systems: Theory, Design and Implementation CS 577 Event Modeling and Simulation CS 586 Machine Learning: Theory and Methods Communications and Cybersecurity (Choose 3): CS 530 Principles of Computer Communication and Networks CS 553 Secure Software Testing CS 584 Applied Cryptography ITE 520 Cybersecurity Foundations	**18**
	Core Required Hours	**30**

Thesis Track Course Requirements

In addition to the Computer Science Core Course Requirements, students must complete the additional coursework for the Non-Thesis Track.

	Thesis Track	
	Course	**Hours**
	CS 597 Research Methods	**3**
	CS 599 Thesis	**1-3**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Science degree in Computer Science Thesis Option	**34-36**

Cybersecurity

The Master of Science in Cybersecurity is an interdisciplinary program designed to educate knowledgeable cybersecurity professionals. The program prepares students for analyzing, developing, and managing the cybersecurity of organizations. As such, it focuses on technical and management aspects of cybersecurity. Two tracks are offered in the program: a project track and a thesis track.

Master of Science in Cybersecurity – Non-Thesis Track

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science in Cybersecurity:
Students earning the Master of Science degree in Cybersecurity must satisfy all general University requirements or graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Cybersecurity Course Requirements

	Cybersecurity Core Courses	Hours
	ITE 520 Cybersecurity Foundations	**3**
	MCO 500 Cybersecurity Risk Management	**3**
	MCO 510 Cybersecurity Policy	**3**
	ITE 521 Secure Software Engineering	**3**
	ITE 522 Communications and Network Security	**3**
	ITE 523 Cryptography and System Security	**3**
	Elective Courses Students select three courses from the following, for a total of 9 credit hours. Data Analysis and Cloud Security CS 527 Advanced Database Systems and Information Processing CS 513 Data Mining, Analysis, and Visualization ITE 525 Virtualization and Cloud Security Software and Systems CS 530 Principles of Computer Communications and Networks CS 551 Advanced Principles of Software Engineering and Methods CS 553 Secure Software Testing Forensics ITE 524 Advanced Computer Forensics CS 577 Event Modeling and Simulation Cybersecurity Operations MCO 515 Cybersecurity Continuity Planning and Incident Reporting MCO 520 Asset Security and Cybersecurity Auditing MCO 525 Cybersecurity Leadership and Strategic Planning	**9**
	Core Requirement Hours	**27**

Non-Thesis Track Course Requirements

In addition to the Cybersecurity Core Course Requirements, students must complete the additional coursework for the Non-Thesis Track.

	Non-Thesis Track	
	Course	**Hours**
	CS 597 Project Design and Development OR MCO 597 Project Design and Development	**3-6**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Science degree in Cybersecurity Non-Thesis Option	**30-33**

Master of Science in Cybersecurity – Thesis Track

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science in Cybersecurity:
Students earning the Master of Science degree in Cybersecurity must satisfy all general University requirements or graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Cybersecurity Course Requirements

	Cybersecurity Core Courses	Hours
	ITE 520 Cybersecurity Foundations	**3**
	MCO 500 Cybersecurity Risk Management	**3**
	MCO 510 Cybersecurity Policy	**3**
	ITE 521 Secure Software Engineering	**3**
	ITE 522 Communications and Network Security	**3**
	ITE 523 Cryptography and System Security	**3**
	Elective Courses Students select three courses from the following, for a total of 9 credit hours. Data Analysis and Cloud Security CS 527 Advanced Database Systems and Information Processing CS 513 Data Mining, Analysis, and Visualization ITE 525 Virtualization and Cloud Security Software and Systems CS 530 Principles of Computer Communications and Networks CS 551 Advanced Principles of Software Engineering and Methods CS 553 Secure Software Testing Forensics ITE 524 Advanced Computer Forensics CS 577 Event Modeling and Simulation Cybersecurity Operations MCO 515 Cybersecurity Continuity Planning and Incident Reporting MCO 520 Asset Security and Cybersecurity Auditing MCO 525 Cybersecurity Leadership and Strategic Planning	**9**
	Core Requirement Hours	**27**

Thesis Track Course Requirements

In addition to the Cybersecurity Core Course Requirements, students must complete the additional coursework for the Non-Thesis Track.

	Thesis Track	
	Course	**Hours**
	CS 598 Research Methods	**3**
	CS 599 Thesis OR MCO 599 Thesis	**1-3**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Science degree in Cybersecurity Thesis Option	**31-33**

College of Business

Troy A. Adair, Jr., Ph.D. – Dean

Athens State University's College of Business is nationally accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), 11520 West 119th Street, Overland Park, KS 66213.

The table below summarizes the graduate degree, major, and specialty track (concentration) options offered by the College of Business.

Program Name	Degree Available	Specialty Tracks (Concentrations) Available	Micro-credential (Badge) Available
Accountancy	MAcc	No	
Acquisition and Contract Management	MS		
Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management	MS		
- Artificial Intelligence - Logistics Information Systems - Management		Yes Yes Yes	
Strategic Healthcare Management and Administration	MS	No	
Strategic Human Resource Management	MS		
- Diversity and Inclusion Management - People Analytics - Talent Development		Yes Yes Yes	
Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics	MS	No	
Certificate - Accountancy	Graduate Certificate	No	
Certificate - Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management	Graduate Certificate	No	
Certificate – Strategic Business Analytics	Graduate Certificate	No	
Certificate – Strategic Leadership	Graduate Certificate	No	
Micro-credential - Badge in Accounting Analytics			Yes

The current listings of Faculty and Staff in the College of Business and Faculty and Staff in the University Library can be found on the Athens State University website.

College of Business - General Information

The mission of the College of Business is to offer programs of study to students that will: prepare them for positions in business, finance, or government; enhance the professional development of those already employed; provide an academic framework for graduate study leading to professional positions; and offer select graduate programs through innovative communication and course delivery. The purpose of the College of Business is to provide quality education for all students, teaching them to think critically, to use technology efficiently, to be effective leaders, decision makers, and communicators; to maintain ethical standards, and to understand the global economy. To carry out its mission and support its purpose, the College of Business has established the following goals:

- Provide for continuous improvement of the programs within the College of Business in keeping with the standards set by Athens State University, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), and the Accreditation Council of Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP).
- Place excellence in teaching as the number one priority for serving students and for evaluating faculty.
- Encourage growth and diversity in the faculty and student body.
- Seek community and business relationships for advice and support of student and curriculum needs.
- Maintain cooperative relationships with other educational institutions to facilitate student transfer, maximize resource utilization and provide quality programs.
- Support a quality-based, equivalent learning environment for all students in all settings.
- Produce graduates who will be academically and professionally prepared by the quality teaching programs of the College of Business for work in an increasingly diverse, global environment.

Advising and Scheduling Information

Academic Advising

Upon admission to Athens State University, each student is assigned a faculty advisor. Students should confer with their advisor at least once each semester. Although each student assumes final individual responsibility for meeting all degree requirements, the advisor will offer guidance in planning the student's academic program. Any adjustments to the program of study require the completion of a Curriculum Adjustment form and approval by the appropriate academic administrators.

Scheduling

Due to possible cohort size restrictions, some sequencing of graduate courses may be necessary and not all courses required for a degree program will be available every semester. Graduate Students are strongly encouraged to contact their faculty advisor before withdrawing from any courses, as withdrawal from a course may affect a student's progress through the curriculum and impact timely program completion.

Admission Requirements for the Master of Accountancy (MAcc) Program in the College of Business

(See also the General University requirements for Admission to Graduate Programs on page 10 of this catalog.)

Requirements for Degree-Seeking Students

For **unconditional admission**, a prospective student must:

- Complete an application for graduate admission and submit all official transcripts, **AND**;
- Have earned a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, with a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale).

For **conditional admission**, a prospective student must:

- Complete an application for graduate admission and submit all official transcripts, **AND**;
- Have earned a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, with a minimum overall GPA of 2.5 – 2.99 (4.0 scale).

Students who do not meet the above requirements may be admitted **conditionally** after a review of the following factors by the program's Graduate Admission Committee:

- Bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education;
- Minimum overall GPA of 2.0 – 2.49 (4.0 scale);
- Graduate admission test scores (GMAT, GRE, or MAT), **OR** current resume reflecting a minimum of 3 years' professional work experience in the accounting field.

A student admitted on conditional status will be admitted on academic probation. Conditional status will be removed only upon successful completion of a minimum of 9 semester hours of graduate coursework at Athens State with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Please Note: A student who has met the above requirements may be required to complete specific undergraduate prerequisite courses or their equivalents as determined by departmental review. While not required, a bachelor's degree in accounting is preferred. In addition, the following courses (or equivalents) are prerequisites for some individual courses in the Master of Accountancy program:

Intermediate Accounting II
Federal Tax Accounting
Auditing
Cost Accounting or Managerial Accounting

Requirements for Non-Degree Seeking Students OR Graduate Certificate-Seeking Students

A student who does not meet the requirements for one of the above admission categories as a degree-seeking graduate student, or who wishes to pursue **only** individual courses, badges, or a graduate certificate, may be admitted as a non-degree seeking graduate student.
Records are kept of the work completed, and credits are transferable. **Non-degree or certificate-seeking graduate students are ineligible for federal aid funding under Title IV.**

A student seeking admission as a non-degree-seeking student or graduate certificate-seeking student must:

- Submit a completed graduate non-degree seeking or certificate-seeking admissions application and pay any required application fees.
- Submit official transcripts from the last institution attended and from at least one institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education documenting conferral of a bachelor's or higher degree. Official transcripts must indicate that the student is in good standing at the last institution attended.

Students admitted as non-degree seeking students will only be allowed to register for graduate courses in a given term subject to space availability and/or cohort restrictions. **Non-degree or certificate-seeking students may complete no more than one-half of the total hours required for the master's degree program**; in order to register for additional courses, students must submit a degree-seeking application and all required materials and be approved for degree-seeking status.

Non-degree seeking students will not be awarded a graduate degree from Athens State University.

Admission Requirements for Master of Science Programs in the College of Business

(See also the General University requirements for Admission to Graduate Programs on page 10 of this catalog.)

Requirements for Degree-Seeking Students

For **unconditional admission**, a prospective student must:

- Complete an application for graduate admission and submit all official transcripts, **AND**;
- Have earned a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, with a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale).

For **conditional admission**, a prospective student must:

- Complete an application for graduate admission and submit all official transcripts, **AND**;
- Have earned a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, with a minimum overall GPA of 2.5 – 2.99 (4.0 scale).

Students who do not meet the above requirements may be admitted **conditionally** after a review of the following factors by the program's Graduate Admission Committee:

- Bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education;
- Minimum overall GPA of 2.0 – 2.49 (4.0 scale);
- Graduate admission test scores (GMAT, GRE, or MAT), **OR** current resume reflecting a minimum of 3 years' professional work experience in in an appropriate field related to the program into which the student is seeking admission, as determined by the review of the Committee.

A student admitted on conditional status will be admitted on academic probation. Conditional status will be removed only upon successful completion of a minimum of 9 semester hours of graduate coursework at Athens State with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Please Note: A student who has met the above requirements may be required to complete specific undergraduate prerequisite courses or their equivalents as determined by departmental review.

Requirements for Non-Degree Seeking Students OR Graduate Certificate-Seeking Students

A student who does not meet the requirements for one of the above admission categories as a degree-seeking graduate student, or who wishes to pursue **only** a graduate certificate, may be admitted as a non-degree or certificate seeking graduate student. Records are kept of the work completed and credits are transferable. **Non-degree seeking or certificate-seeking graduate students are ineligible for federal aid funding under Title IV.**

Students seeking admission as a non-degree seeking student or graduate certificate-seeking student must:

- Submit a completed graduate non-degree seeking or certificate-seeking admissions application and pay any required application fees.
- Submit official transcripts from the last institution attended, and from at least one institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education documenting conferral of a bachelor's or higher degree. Official transcripts must indicate that the student is in good standing at the last institution attended.

Students admitted as non-degree seeking students will only be allowed to register for graduate courses in a given term subject to space availability and/or cohort restrictions. **Non-degree or certificate seeking students may complete no more than one-half of the total hours required for the master's degree program**; in order to register for additional courses, students must submit a degree-seeking application and all required materials, and be approved for degree-seeking status.

Non-degree seeking students will not be awarded a graduate degree or certificate from Athens State University. Certificate-seeking students are eligible only to be awarded a graduate certificate once all requirements are met.

Graduate Degree Programs in the College of Business

Master of Accountancy (MAcc)

The Master of Accountancy (MAcc) program will provide students with advanced knowledge and a diverse set of skills in current, developing, and emerging accounting topics. The program will help accelerate students' careers and prepare them to pursue leadership positions in public accounting, industry, government, and not-for-profit organizations. The MAcc helps prepare students for the Uniform Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Examination and to meet the 150-credit hour requirement for CPA certification in Alabama and many other states. It also provides a solid foundation to pursue other professional accounting certifications, such as the Certified Management Accountant (CMA) credential. Flexible and affordable, the program features a high-quality, cutting-edge curriculum and a uniquely-qualified faculty with industry experience and professional certifications that combine to bring the real world into the courses.

Master of Accountancy

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Accountancy degree:

Students earning the Master of Accountancy (MAcc) degree must satisfy all general University requirements for graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Master of Accountancy Core Course Requirements

	Course	Hours
	ACC 525 Accounting Information Systems	**3**
	ACC 540 Accounting Analytics I	**3**
	ACC 561 Tax Research	**3**
	ACC 571 Advanced Cost Accounting	**3**
	ACC 620 Internal Auditing	**3**
	ACC 640 Accounting Analytics II	**3**
	ACC 660 Accounting Ethics	**3**
	ACC 670 Corporate Controllership	**3**
	Total Core Requirement Hours:	**24**

Master of Accountancy Elective Course Requirements

In addition to the Master of Accountancy core requirements, students must complete 6 hours of additional electives from the choices below. It is recommended that course options be discussed with an accounting faculty advisor.

Master of Accountancy Electives		
	Course	**Hours**
	ACC 511 Government Contract Accounting I	
	ACC 512 Government Contract Accounting II	
	ACC 551 Forensic Accounting I	
	ACC 552 Forensic Accounting II	
	ACC 630 Financial Statement Analysis	
	ACC 650 Current Issues and Research in Accounting	
	Students may select, as electives, other courses from the Athens State graduate catalog or graduate-level courses transferred from another institution.	
	Total Master of Accountancy Elective Requirement Hours:	**6**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Graduate Hours Required for Completion of Master of Accountancy Major	**30**

Acquisition and Contract Management

The Master of Science in Acquisition and Contract Management degree program is designed for professionals from diverse backgrounds seeking a degree that prepares them with the strategic decision-making skills necessary for management positions in any organization. The master's degree in acquisition and contract management focuses on procurement, contract negotiations, cost principles, and subcontract formulation, among other topics related to acquisition and contract management. The objective of the master's program in acquisition and contract management is to meet the demand of working professionals who are pursuing upward mobility within their organization. Career paths for individuals who earn a master's degree in acquisition and contract management vary widely as the program is suited for any individual who is advancing their career in the private, public, and military sector.

Master of Science in Acquisition and Contract Management

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science in Acquisition and Contract Management:

Students earning the Master of Science (MS) degree in Acquisition and Contract Management must satisfy all general University requirements or graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Acquisition and Contract Management Course Requirements

	Professional Courses	Hours
	ACC 511 Financial Accounting	**3**
	ACM 500 Procurement and Contract Management	**3**
	ACM 520 Advance Procurement and Contract Management	**3**
	ACM 525 Contract Changes, Terminations and Disputes	**3**
	ACM 540 Government Contract Law	**3**
	ACM 580 Cost Principles and Control	**3**
	ACM 620 Contract and Sub Contract Formulation	**3**
	ACM 630 Contract Negotiations and Incentive Contracts	**3**
	ACM 695 Capstone Research for Contract Management	**3**
	LSM 600 Supply Chain Governance	**3**
	LSM 601 Procurement and Materials Management	**3**
	Total Professional Requirement Hours:	**33**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Science in Acquisition and Contract Management	**33**

Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management (GLSCM)

The Master of Science in Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management program is designed for the professional who seeks advanced preparation in logistics, inventory management, transportation, sales, and procurement. Core courses focus on the development of project management skills that are designed to prepare graduates for responsible leadership roles in technology and information-based workplaces.

Master of Science – Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science degree with a major in Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management:
Students earning the Master of Science (MS) degree with a major in Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management must satisfy all general University requirements for graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Logistics Core Course Requirements

	Course	Hours
	LSM 600 Supply Chain Governance	**3**
	LSM 601 Procurement and Materials Management	**3**
	LSM 602 Management of Distribution and Inventory	**3**
	LSM 603 Supply Chain and Logistics Strategies	**3**
	LSM 605 Supply Chain Resilience	**3**
	LSM 610 Case Studies in Logistics Capstone	**3**
	MGT 503 or BUS 503 Accounting and Financial Analysis	**3**
	Total Core Requirement Hours:	**21**

Specialty Track (Concentration) Course Requirements

In addition to the logistics core, students must complete all coursework for at least **one** of the following specialty tracks:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Logistics Information Systems
- Management

Artificial Intelligence Track		
	Course	**Hours**
	LAI 601 The Artificial Intelligence Evolution	**3**
	LAI 602 Work and Artificial Intelligence	**3**
	LIS 600 Logistics Information Systems Management	**3**
	Total Specialty Track (Concentration) Requirement Hours:	**9**

Logistics Information Systems Track (courses contain no less than 30% SAP content)		
	Course	**Hours**
	LIS 600 Logistics Information Systems Management	**3**
	LIS 601 Logistics/Supply Chain Information Assurance	**3**
	LIS 602 Enterprise Resource Planning	**3**
	Total Specialty Track (Concentration) Requirement Hours:	**9**

Management Track		
	Course	
	MGT 600 Operations Planning and Control	**3**
	MGT 601 Global Economics	**3**
	MGT/LDR 654 Strategic Thinking, Behavior and Leadership	**3**
	Total Specialty Track (Concentration) Requirement Hours:	**9**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Graduate Hours Required for Completion of Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management Major	**30**

Strategic Healthcare Management and Administration

The Master of Science in Strategic Healthcare Management and Administration provides an educational opportunity at the graduate level to equip healthcare leaders with the necessary knowledge and skills to strategically lead various types of healthcare organizations. Insurance companies, hospitals, long-term care facilities, public health agencies, outpatient facilities, doctors' offices, and many other employment settings require college-educated professionals with a solid foundation in business, an in-depth understanding of the healthcare industry and its impact on public health and the economy, and an ability to strategically lead for organizational success and sustainability. This program also prepares students for admission to doctoral programs related to healthcare leadership.

Master of Science – Strategic Healthcare Management and Administration

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science degree with a major in Strategic Healthcare Management and Administration:
Students earning the Master of Science (MS) degree with a major in Strategic Healthcare Management and Administration must satisfy all general University requirements for graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Strategic Healthcare Management and Administration Course Requirements

	Course	Hours
	BUS 503 Accounting and Financial Analysis	**3**
	HCM 510 Human Capital Management in Healthcare	**3**
	HCM 620 Health Information Systems and Analytics	**3**
	HCM 645 Quality Assurance & Performance Improvement	**3**
	HCM 652 Organizational Theory, Policy, and Ethics	**3**
	HCM 675 Strategic Planning and Implementation in Healthcare	**3**
	HCM 701 Healthcare Management & Administration Capstone Experience	**3**
	LDR 500 Influential Leadership	**3**
	LDR 654 Strategic Thinking, Behavior, and Leadership	**3**
	LDR 680 Human Capital Leadership	**3**
	Total Course Requirement Hours:	**30**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Graduate Hours Required for Completion of Strategic Healthcare Management and Administration Major	**30**

Strategic Human Resource Management

The Master of Science in Strategic Human Resource Management prepares graduate students for numerous managerial opportunities in the field of human resources. Students completing the program will acquire the knowledge and skills to lead complex and diverse organizations of all sizes by using comprehensive knowledge and applied competencies of human resources, risk management, human capital strategy, and employee relations to build cultural competence and drive effective performance management. A concentration is required for the program. Each concentration option is aligned with a highly marketable industry credential.

Master of Science – Strategic Human Resource Management

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science degree with a major in Strategic Human Resource Management:
Students earning the Master of Science (MS) degree with a major in Strategic Human Resource Management must satisfy all general University requirements for graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Strategic Human Resource Management Core Course Requirements

	Course	Hours
	HRM 501 Strategic HRM and Building Competitive HCM Advantage	**3**
	HRM 520 Employee & Labor Relations	**3**
	HRM 580 Workforce Planning & Staffing	**3**
	HRM 610 Total Rewards: Competitive Compensation & Benefits	**3**
	HRM 632 Business Continuity & Risk Management	**3**
	HRM 685 HR & Legal Framework of the Employment Landscape	**3**
	HRM 710 Human Capital Strategy & Performance Management (Capstone)	**3**
	Total Core Course Requirement Hours:	**21**

Concentration Course Requirements
In addition to the core requirements, students must complete all coursework for at least **one** of the following concentrations:

- Diversity and Inclusion Management
- People Analytics
- Talent Development

Diversity and Inclusion Management Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	HRM 560 Diversity & Inclusion and the Professional Consultant	**3**
	HRM 638 Inclusive Workplaces & Future Trends in Diversity Management	**3**
	HRM 694 Diversity & Inclusion Strategy and Deployment	**3**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**9**

People Analytics Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	BUS 525 Foundations of Business Analytics	**3**
	BUS 655 HR Analytics Portfolio	**3**
	BUS 675 Business Analytics Practicum	**3**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**9**

Talent Development Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	HRM 572 Design of Talent Development Capabilities	**3**
	HRM 641 Talent Development Return-on-Investment	**3**
	HRM 665 Talent Development Strategy & Deployment	**3**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**9**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Graduate Hours Required for Completion of Strategic Human Resource Management Major	**30**

Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics (SLBA)

Industries today rely on business leaders who have a strong technical and analytical background — problem solvers who know how to use data to influence decision-making and drive business innovation. Designed for working professionals, the Master of Science - Strategic Leadership & Business Analytics program provides an opportunity for individuals to enhance the professional knowledge, skills, and professional acumen needed to effectively draw upon strategic leadership models through the integration of business analytics to convert data into deployable, strategy-grounded actions for both public and private sector.

Master of Science – Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science degree with a major in Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics:

Students earning the Master of Science (MS) degree with a major in Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics must satisfy all general University requirements for graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics Course Requirements

	Course	Hours
	LDR 500 Influential Leadership	**3**
	BUS 503 Accounting and Financial Analysis	**3**
	LDR 654 Strategic Thinking, Behavior, and Leadership	**3**
	BUS 525 Foundations of Business Analytics	**3**
	LDR 680 Human Capital Leadership	**3**
	BUS 603 Business Analytics for Decision Making	**3**
	MGT 600 Operations Planning and Control	**3**
	BUS 675 Business Analytics Practicum	**3**
	LDR 690 Special Topics in Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics	**3**
	LDR 700 Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics Capstone Experience	**3**
	Total Course Requirement Hours:	**30**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Graduate Hours Required for Completion of Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics Major	**30**

College of Business Graduate Certificate Program

A grade of "C" or better must be achieved on all required courses. A maximum of two C's in courses required for the graduate certificate will be applied for fulfilling course requirements for the certificate. To be eligible to be awarded a graduate certificate, students must achieve a minimum institutional grade point average of 3.0 on all graduate coursework attempted at Athens State University.

Certificate in Accountancy

	Course	Hours
	Choose 5 of the following courses:	
	ACC 511 Government Contract Accounting I	**3**
	ACC 512 Government Contract Accounting II	**3**
	ACC 525 Accounting Information Systems	**3**
	ACC 540 Accounting Analytics I	**3**
	ACC 551 Forensic Accounting I	**3**
	ACC 552 Forensic Accounting II	**3**
	ACC 561 Tax Research	**3**
	ACC 571 Advanced Cost Accounting	**3**
	ACC 620 Internal Auditing	**3**
	ACC 630 Financial Statement Analysis	**3**
	ACC 640 Accounting Analytics II	**3**
	ACC 650 Current Issues and Research in Accounting	**3**
	ACC 660 Accounting Ethics	**3**
	ACC 670 Corporate Controllership	**3**
	Total Required Hours	**15**

Certificate in Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management

	Course	Hours
	LSM 600 Supply Chain Governance	**3**
	LSM 601 Procurement and Materials Management	**3**
	LSM 602 Management of Distribution and Inventory	**3**
	LSM 603 Supply Chain and Logistics Strategies	**3**
	LIS 600 Logistics Information Systems Management **or** MGT 600 Operations Planning and Control	**3**
	Total Certificate Requirement Hours:	**15**

Certificate in Strategic Business Analytics

	Course	Hours
	BUS 525 Foundations of Business Analytics	**3**
	BUS 603 Business Analytics for Decision Making	**3**
	BUS 675 Business Analytics Practicum	**3**
	Two courses from the following: BUS 503 Accounting and Financial Analysis BUS 655 HR Analytics Portfolio HCM 620 Health Information Systems and Analytics LDR 500 Influential Leadership LDR 654 Strategic Thinking, Behavior, and Leadership LDR 680 Human Capital Leadership LDR 690 Special Topics in Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics LIS 600 Logistics Information Systems Management MGT 600 Operations Planning and Control	**6**
	Total Certificate Requirement Hours:	**15**

Certificate in Strategic Leadership

	Course	Hours
	LDR 500 Influential Leadership	**3**
	LDR 654 Strategic Thinking, Behavior, and Leadership	**3**
	LDR 680 Human Capital Leadership	**3**
	LDR 700 Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics Capstone Experience	**3**
	One course from the following: HCM 510 Human Capital Management in Healthcare HCM 652 Organizational Theory, Policy, and Ethics HCM 675 Strategic Planning and Implementation in Healthcare HRM 501 Strategic HRM and Building Competitive HCM Advantage HRM 520 Employee and Labor Relations HRM 580 Workforce Planning and Staffing LIS 600 Logistics Information Systems Management LSM 603 Supply Chain and Logistics Strategies MGT 600 Operations Planning and Control MGT/LDR 654 Strategic Thinking, Behavior and Leadership	**3**
	Total Certificate Requirement Hours:	**15**

College of Business Micro-credentials (Badges)

Micro-credentials (Badges) are listed as an award on the student's academic transcript. Faculty Advisors/Department Chairs must notify the Registrar's Office of any students eligible for this award. A grade of 'C' or higher is required on all coursework, as indicated below.

Micro-credential – Accounting Analytics

Requirements for the Micro-credential (Badge) in Accounting Analytics **(a grade of "C" or better must be achieved on all required courses; please consult course descriptions for possible prerequisites):**

	Course	Hours
	ACC 540 Accounting Analytics I	**3**
	ACC 640 Accounting Analytics II	**3**
	Total Required Hours	**6**

Micro-credential – Forensic Accounting

Requirements for the Micro-credential (Badge) in Forensic Accounting I **(a grade of "C" or better must be achieved on all required courses; please consult course descriptions for possible prerequisites):**

	Course	Hours
	ACC 551 Forensic Accounting I	**3**
	ACC 552 Forensic Accounting II	**3**
	Total Required Hours	**6**

Micro-credential – Government Contract Accounting

Requirements for the Micro-credential (Badge) in Government Contract Accounting **(a grade of "C" or better must be achieved on all required courses; please consult course descriptions for possible prerequisites):**

	Course	Hours
	ACC 511 Government Contract Accounting I	**3**
	ACC 512 Government Contract Accounting II	**3**
	Total Required Hours	**6**

College of Education

Katherine Kandalec Holm, EdD – Interim Dean

The table below summarizes the graduate degree, major, and concentration options offered by the College of Education.

Program Name	Degree Available	Concentration Available
Career and Technical Education	**MEd**	
- Curriculum and Instruction		**Yes**
- Instructional Technology		**Yes**
- Leadership		**Yes**
Training and Development	**MEd**	
- Instructional Systems Design		**Yes**
- Instructional Media Development		**Yes**
- Leadership		**Yes**
- Human Performance		**Yes**
Certificate - Community College Teaching and Learning	**Graduate Certificate**	
Certificate - Online Teaching and Learning	**Graduate Certificate**	
Certificate - Training and Development	**Graduate Certificate**	

The current listings of Faculty and Staff in the College of Education and Faculty and Staff in the University Library can be found on the Athens State University website.

College of Education – General Information

Mission Statement

The mission of the College of Education is to prepare knowledgeable, collaborative, reflective educators.

Program objectives for the Master of Education with a major in Career and Technical Education include:

1. Address the growing regional, national, and worldwide demand for career and technical educators that possess the skills needed to function in a borderless environment.
2. Provide advanced opportunities for individuals to enhance professional knowledge, skills, and dispositions in career and technical education teaching and training without having to relocate.
3. Prepare individuals to develop and evaluate curricula and training materials in response to business and industry needs.
4. Prepare professionals with advanced knowledge, skills and abilities to effectively apply learning theory and research to practice.
5. Development committed and reflective professionals who contribute to the enhancement of teaching and training.
6. Prepare professionals who demonstrate sensitivity and effective interpersonal skills in working with culturally diverse populations.

Graduates of the M.Ed. with a major in Career and Technical Education program will be able to:

- Demonstrate advanced knowledge of career and technical education philosophies, concepts, and methodologies using literature and personal experience.
- Conduct and communicate workplace research as it relates to and informs the field of career and technical education.
- Demonstrate advanced professional writing, communication and presentation skills.
- Understand local and global societal issues and responsibilities in an evolving digital culture and exhibit legal and ethical behavior in their professional practices.
- Plan, market, administer, and evaluate a wide range of training and educational programs.
- Design and implement training aids and curriculum using andragogy/pedagogy and methodology that meet the needs of diverse learners.
- Serve adult students, colleagues, industries, and communities as expert educator sand trainers.
- Facilitate 21st century learning through progressive instruction, various learning designs and strategies, assessment, and the growing use of technology.
- Develop technology-based assignments that ensure real-world knowledge and immediate application on the job.

Program objectives for the Master of Education with a major in Training and Development include:

1. Developing systems-based learning environments focused on performance improvement.
2. Apply theoretical and practical knowledge to instructional processes for varied learners in a range of settings.
3. Prepare students with the theoretical and practical knowledge essential to developing effective training programs.
4. Apply appropriate instructional strategies and techniques to facilitate adult learning.
5. Instill the ethical and professional values essential to work within the field of education, training and development.
6. Apply practical experiences to the development of learning tools and environments.
7. Practice lifelong learning and continuous professional improvement and renewal.
8. Analyze current and desired organizational performance and identify gaps in performance and their root causes using various model and the principles of systems thinking.
9. Identify appropriate instructional and non-instructional interventions, aligned with identified gaps in performance and organizational constraints.
10. Design, develop, implement and manage the change process associated with the integration of instructional and non-instructional interventions in organization settings.
11. Envision, design, and deliver learning experiences and/or design projects.
12. Determine the aims, specifications, and scope of work.
13. Evaluate, document and improve learning designs.

Graduates of the M.Ed. with a major in Training and Development program will have potential career prospects in the following job markets:

- Training & Performance Specialist
- Organizational Development Specialist
- Instructional Designer
- Training Manager
- Learning & Talent Development Specialist
- Director or Learning and Development
- Learning Program Manager
- Talent Development Consultant
- Director of Change Management
- eLearning Specialist
- Training Lead
- Content Development Manager
- Talent Manager
- Talent Development Architect
- Learning Technology Manager
- Learning Specialist
- Performance Improvement Specialist
- Instructional Design Specialist

Admission Requirements for the Master of Education Program in the College of Education

(See also the General University requirements for Admission to Graduate Programs on page 10 of this catalog.)

Requirements for Degree-Seeking Students

For **unconditional admission**, a prospective student must:

- Have earned a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education AND have a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale).

For **conditional admission**, a prospective student must:

- Have earned a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education AND have a minimum overall GPA of 2.5 (4.0 scale); a GPA conditional exemption may be granted to a student that has a minimum overall GPA of 2.30-2.49 (4.0 scale).

A student admitted on conditional status will be admitted on academic probation. Conditional status will be removed only upon successful completion of a minimum of 9 semester hours of graduate coursework at Athens State with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Students admitted on a GPA conditional exemption will follow the same conditional status requirements.

Requirements for Non-Degree Seeking Students

A student who does not meet the requirements for one of the above admission categories as a degree-seeking graduate student may be admitted as a non-degree seeking graduate student. Records are kept of the work completed and credits are transferable. **Non-degree seeking graduate students are ineligible for federal aid funding under Title IV.**

Students seeking admission as non-degree seeking students must:

- Submit a completed graduate non-degree seeking admissions application and pay any required application fees.
- Submit official transcripts from the last institution attended, and from at least one institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education documenting conferral of a bachelor's or higher degree. Official transcripts must indicate that the student is in good standing at the last institution attended.

Students admitted as non-degree seeking students will only be allowed to register for graduate courses in a given term subject to space availability and/or cohort restrictions. **Non-degree seeking students may complete no more than one-half of the total program hours**; in order to register for additional courses, students must submit a degree-seeking application and all required materials, and be approved for degree-seeking status.

Non-degree seeking students will not be awarded a graduate degree from Athens State University.

Graduate Degree Programs in the College of Education

Career and Technical Education

The Master of Education (M. Ed) with a major in Career and Technical Education (CTE) is designed to provide a distinctive program to address the emerging need for practitioners and occupational trainers with knowledge specifically in Career and Technical Education, especially as it relates to the latest educational teaching and occupational training practices. This program aims to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to understand the adult learner, teaching trends, current issues in the field, and pedagogical and andragogical practices.

While this program provides a comprehensive understanding of the intended program outcomes, it does not lead to licensure, certification, or endorsement.

The M. Ed. with major in CTE program consists of an advanced 30-semester hour program of study with three concentration options: Curriculum and Instruction, Leadership, or Instructional Technology. The program requirements include a core of 15 semester hours, 9 hours in one of three concentrations, and an additional 6 semester hours of CTE electives.

Master of Education – Career and Technical Education (CTE)

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Education degree with a major in Career and Technical Education:
Students earning the Master of Education (MEd) degree with a major in Career and Technical Education must satisfy all general University requirements for graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Career and Technical Education Core Course Requirements

	Course	Hours
	CE 500 Principles and Philosophies of Career and Technical Education	**3**
	CE 510 Culture, Diversity, and Ethics in the Workplace	**3**
	CE 540 Organization and Coordination of Career and Technical Education	**3**
	ED 500 Research Applications for Career and Technical Education	**3**
	ED 510 Technology for Teaching and Training	**3**
	Total Core Requirement Hours:	**15**

Concentration and CTE Elective Course Requirements

In addition to the Career and Technical Education core, students must complete all coursework for **one** of the concentrations below, and additional CTE electives as detailed below.

Curriculum and Instruction Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Curriculum and Instruction Courses (3 courses required): CE 520 Curriculum Development CE 550 Performance Analysis and Assessment CE 620 Teaching and Training	**9**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**9**

Instructional Technology Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Instructional Technology Courses (3 courses required): ED 520 eLearning Design and Development I ED 540 Technology Integration for Teaching and Training ED 610 Technology for Educational Leaders	**9**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**9**

Leadership Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Leadership Courses (3 courses required): ED 530 Community Partnerships and Relations ED 560 Mindful Leadership ED 600 Industrial Management and Teambuilding	**9**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**9**

CTE Elective Course Requirements

In addition to the Career and Technical Education core and concentration requirements, students must complete 6 hours of additional electives from the choices below. Course options should be discussed with the faculty advisor.

CTE Electives		
	Course	**Hours**
	Elective Courses (all courses are 3 hours except as noted): CE 560 Course Construction and Evaluation CE 580 Coordination and Supervision of Career and Technical Education CE 600 Adult and Community Education CE 610 Work Site Training and Development ED 550 Learning Theory ED 570 Competency-Based Education ED 620 eLearning Design and Development II ED 630 Externship in Education ED 640 Creative Project (3-6 hours) ED 650 Quality Improvement in Education **Students may also choose electives from the courses required in concentrations other than their chosen concentration. Elective course options should be discussed with the faculty advisor.**	
	Total CTE Elective Requirement Hours:	**6**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Graduate Hours Required for Completion of Career and Technical Education Major	**30**

Training and Development

The Master of Education (M.Ed.) with a major in Training and Development is tailored to the working adult and is the only graduate program of its type in Alabama. The Training and Development program is designed for professionals who work as trainers, instructional designers, and program managers in business, industry, education, military, government and non-profit organizations. The degree emphasizes the use of strategic communication and instructional design and technology in workplace training and development. Program completers will gain foundational knowledge of theories underlying best practices for adult learning and how to effectively apply this information in the workplace.

The online Master of Training and Development degree program provides the opportunity to explore the following:

- Mastery of cutting-edge adult education tools and best practices for instructional design and curriculum development
- Human performance development knowledge and practice skills
- Program design, development and training skills
- Advanced understandings and skills in applications of learning theory incorporating principles, research and practice
- Skills and knowledge required to succeed in adult education and training careers

Concentrations in Leadership and Human Performance focus on the knowledge and applied processes used to effectively lead and improve workplace performance and individual learning in organizations. Concentrations in Instructional Systems Design and Instructional Media Development provide the information and skills training to analyze instructional tasks; design and deliver instructional programs; and perform evaluative procedures on instructional products and services.

Master of Education – Training and Development

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Education degree with a major in Training and Development:
Students earning the Master of Education (MEd) degree with a major in Training and Development must satisfy all general University requirements for graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

The Masters in Training and Development includes:

- 9 hours of core course requirements
- 24 hours in concentration areas

The Training and Development program concentrations include:

- Instructional Systems Design
- Instructional Media Development
- Leadership
- Human Performance

Training and Development Core Course Requirements

	Course	Hours
	ED 305 Research and Professional Communication	3
	CE 510 Culture, Diversity, and Ethics in the Workplace	3
	ED 515 The Adult Learner	3
	Total Core Requirement Hours:	**9**

Concentration and Training & Development Elective Course Requirements – Must select 2 concentrations

In addition to the Training and Development core, students must complete all coursework for **two** of the concentrations below.

Instructional Systems Design Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Instructional Systems Design Courses (4 courses required): ID 520 eLearning Design ID 620 Advanced eLearning Design & Instructional Strategies ID 500 Foundations of Development, Design & Performance ID 610 Personnel Training Design and Development	**12**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**12**

Instructional Media Development Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Instructional Media Development Courses (4 courses required): ID 530 Digital Asset Design and Creation ID 630 Digital Lesson and Training Development OR ID 635 Special Projects in Digital Lesson and Training Development ID 540 Multimedia Development for Digital Environments OR ID 545 Special Projects in Multimedia Development ID 640 Digital Training Delivery	**12**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**12**

Leadership Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Leadership Courses (4 courses required): ED 600 Industrial Management and Team Building ED 610 Technology for Educational Leaders ED 560 Mindful Leadership ID 610 Personnel Training Design and Development	**12**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**12**

Human Performance Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Human Performance Courses (4 courses required): ED 510 Technology for Teaching and Training CE 550 Performance Analysis & Assessment ED 690 Worksite Training Practicum ED 580 Training & Development in the Modern Workplace	**12**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**12**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Graduate Hours Required for Completion of Training and Development Major	**33**

College of Education Graduate Certificate Programs

A grade of "C" or better must be achieved on all required courses. A maximum of two C's in courses required for the graduate certificate will be applied for fulfilling course requirements for the certificate. To be eligible to be awarded a graduate certificate, students must achieve a minimum institutional grade point average of 3.0 on all graduate coursework attempted at Athens State University.

Certificate in Community College Teaching and Learning

	Course	Hours
	CE 570 Community College Organization and Leadership	3
	CE 520 Curriculum Development	3
	ED 550 Learning Theory	3
	CE 600 Adult and Contemporary Education	3
	ED 690 Worksite Learning Practicum	3
	Total Required Hours	**15**

Certificate in Online Teaching and Learning

	Course	Hours
	ED 510 Technology for Teaching and Training	3
	ED 520 eLearning Design and Development I	3
	ED 540 Technology Integration for Teaching and Training	3
	ED 620 eLearning Design and Development II	3
	ED 690 Worksite Learning Practicum	3
	Total Required Hours	**15**

Certificate in Training and Development

	Course	Hours
	ED 600 Industrial Management and Teambuilding	3
	CE 610 Worksite Training and Development	3
	CE 530 Culture, Diversity, and Ethics in the Workplace	3
	ED 580 Training and Development in the Modern Workplace	3
	ED 690 Worksite Learning Practicum	3
	Total Required Hours	**15**

Course Descriptions

This section lists the descriptions for all graduate courses offered at Athens State University.

Course descriptions are presented in alphabetical order by **discipline prefix**.

Accounting (ACC)
Acquisition and Contract Management (ACM)
Business (BUS)
Career and Technical Education (CE)
Computer Science (CS)
Education (ED)
Healthcare Management (HCM)
Human Resource Management (HRM)
Information Technology (ITE)
Logistics Artificial Intelligence (LAI)
Leadership (LDR)
Logistics Information Systems (LIS)
Logistics and Supply Chain Management (LSM)
Management (MGT)
Management of Cybersecurity Operations (MCO)
Religion (RE)
University Success (UNV)

The rules, regulations, policies, fees and other charges, courses, programs of study, and academic requirements that appear in this catalog were in effect at the time of its publication and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all information. The contents are published for informational purposes only, and do not constitute a contract between the University and any student, applicant for admission or other person. Statements regarding courses, programs of study, fees, and conditions are subject to change without advance notice.

Accounting (ACC)

ACC 501 Graduate Accounting Fundamentals I (3 Sem. Hrs.)
A graduate-level examination of key concepts in financial and cost accounting. The course provides a foundation for further study in the MAcc courses. This course is not recommended for students with an undergraduate accounting degree.

ACC 502 Graduate Accounting Fundamentals II (3 Sem. Hrs.)
A graduate-level examination of key concepts in federal tax accounting and auditing. The course provides a foundation for further study in the MAcc courses. This course is not recommended for students with an undergraduate accounting degree.

ACC 511 Government Contract Accounting I (3 Sem. Hrs.)
A graduate-level study of government contract accounting concepts, including federal government procurement from an accounting perspective, revenue and cost calculations for various government contract types, and calculations of various rates used by government contractors throughout the lifecycle of a contract.

ACC 512 Government Contract Accounting II (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: Government Contract Accounting I (ACC 511)
A graduate-level study of government contract accounting concepts, including the financial aspects of contract administration, accounting system requirements, government contract audits, and data analytics in government contract accounting.

ACC 525 Accounting Information Systems (3 Sem. Hrs.)
A graduate-level study of computerized accounting information systems with an emphasis on conceptual foundations, analytics, controls, applications, and systems processes.

ACC 540 Accounting Analytics I (3 Sem. Hrs.)
A graduate-level introduction to the language and methods of accounting analytics. Topics include descriptive statistics, diagnostics analytics, predictive analytics, and prescriptive analytics.

ACC 551 Forensic Accounting I (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisites: Intermediate Accounting II (AC 322 or ACC 501)
A graduate-level study of forensic accounting concepts, including the legal, regulatory, and professional environment, perpetrators of fraud, fraud schemes, and related topics.

ACC 552 Forensic Accounting II (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: Forensic Accounting I (ACC 551)
A graduate-level study of forensic accounting concepts, including detection and investigative techniques and tools, litigation, remediation, and other advanced related topics.

ACC 561 Tax Research (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: Federal Tax Accounting (AC 361 or AC 362 or ACC 502)
A graduate-level course that provides hands-on practice in tax research, from identifying the issues to communicating with clients. Emphasis will be placed on the sources of tax law, the utilization of research tools, and their application to real-world tax issues.

ACC 571 Advanced Cost Accounting (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisites: Intermediate Accounting II (AC 322 or ACC 501), Cost or Managerial Accounting (AC 315 or AC 471 or ACC 501)
A graduate-level course that demonstrates the practical application of advanced cost accounting concepts and how management can use the concepts to support the organization's strategy.

ACC 620 Internal Auditing (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisites: Intermediate Accounting II (AC 322 or ACC 501) AND Auditing (AC 401 or ACC 502)
A graduate-level course that demonstrates the practical application of internal auditing concepts and processes. Topics include internal audit standards, risk assessment, governance, ethics, and audit techniques.

ACC 630 Financial Statement Analysis (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisites: Intermediate Accounting II (AC 322 or ACC 501)
This course includes a detailed exploration of financial statement analysis, including the tools used to analyze financial statement information, how to interpret the results, and how to use the findings to critically evaluate financial performance and make decisions.

ACC 640 Accounting Analytics II (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: Accounting Analytics I (ACC 540)
This course prepares students to apply accounting analytics tools and communicate the findings and their relevance in

decision making. Topics include audit, managerial, financial statement, and tax analytics.

ACC 650 Current Issues and Research in Accounting (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisites: Intermediate Accounting II (AC 322 or ACC 501)
This course will include an in-depth evaluation of major cases throughout accounting history and a detailed analysis of current and developing issues.

ACC 660 Accounting Ethics (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisites: Intermediate Accounting II (AC 322 or ACC 501)
This course will be a detailed exploration of ethical issues in accounting, including identifying and responding to ethical dilemmas and enhancing ethical decision-making skills in accounting.

ACC 670 Corporate Controllership (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisites: Intermediate Accounting II (AC 322 or ACC 501) AND Cost or Managerial Accounting (AC 315 or AC 471 or ACC 501)
This course will provide a detailed exploration of the role of the corporate controller and the primary functions typically performed and managed by the controller in the areas of financial and management accounting.

Acquisition and Contract Management (ACM)

ACM 500 Procurement and Contract Management (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Overviews in depth the federal acquisition process and introduces basic concepts, policies and procedures incident to government contracting through the FAR and supplementing directives.

ACM 520 Advanced Procurement and Contract Management (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Covers principles, policies, concepts and procedures in management of contracts and subcontracts. Includes rules of interpretation, subcontracting terms and conditions, in-depth examination of significant contract clauses, patent/data provisions, risk allocation and assumption, impossibility of performance, product liability, warranties and claims.

ACM 525 Contract Changes, Terminations and Disputes (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Uses case studies and lectures to examine in-depth the post-award management problems associated with contract administration. Covers contract changes, terminations, disputes and other issues.

ACM 540 Government Contract Law (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Focuses on the method rather than the material. Uses the case method of study and basic source material to cover all facets of procurement law. Emphasizes legal methods, logic and the developmental concepts of procurement law.

ACM 580 Cost Principles and Control (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course uses case studies and lectures to educate students on foundations for a compliant job cost accounting system, to include segregation of cost by contract, direct cost charging, indirect cost groupings and proper allocation bases, identifying unallowable costs, properly documenting expenses, and penalties for unallowable costs. Specific types of costs, identified in the FAR, that are often subject to misunderstanding or judgmental interpretation will be discussed in detail. The course will discuss recent or proposed changes to relevant regulations, as well as evolving trends in government contract audit interpretations of the cost allowability provisions of FAR.

ACM 620 Contract and Sub Contract Formulation (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Studies in-depth the pre-award phase of the federal acquisition process. Uses class discussions and case studies to examine the management problems from the perspective of the contracting office, requiring activity, course, Congress and the contractors.

ACM 630 Contract Negotiations and Incentive Contracts (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Explores, analyzes and discusses negotiation concepts and techniques, and places them into practice using mock negotiations. Examines all types of contracts.

ACM 695 Capstone Research for Contract Management (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Advanced study and research of topical government contract management issues. Involves a significant research paper or challenging capstone project to demonstrate mastery over the complete curriculum.

Business (BUS)

BUS 503 Accounting and Financial Analysis (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is a comprehensive examination of financial statements and ratios and how the information they provide can be used to measure the operational success of a business or corporation. Emphasis on interpretation and analysis of financial information as a basis for managerial decision-making.

BUS 525 Foundations of Business Analytics (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is a graduate level introduction to the language and methods of business analytics. Topics include descriptive statistics, probability theory, hypothesis testing, sampling, ANOVA, time series analysis, simple and multiple regression, and index numbers.

BUS 603 Business Analytics for Decision Making (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course prepares students to apply business analytics tools and communicate the findings and their relevance in decision making. Topics include data wrangling, data visualization, data mining, descriptive analytics, predictive analytics, and prescriptive analytics.

BUS 655 HR Analytics Portfolio (3 Sem. Hrs.)
In this course, students will learn and apply knowledge and analytical models that assess HR and Human Capital Strategy (HCS). The value of data driven and intelligent HR to inform business decisions and HR policies will be reviewed, demonstrated, and applied to business cases. The role of the HR Leader as strategic business partner in defining and assessing HR practices that drive business results will be assessed and analyzed.

BUS 675 Business Analytics Practicum (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisites: BUS 525 and BUS 603
This course provides students with hands-on analytics experience through working with real-world data that develops and sharpens the skills needed to incorporate business analytics with strategic business decisions including analysis, critical thinking, presentation, problem solving, and teamwork. Skills in these areas are developed through discussion of the principles underlying best practices and applying the core tools to the completion of real-world projects and case studies.

Career and Technical Education (CE)

CE 500 Principles and Philosophies of Career and Technical Education (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will review and emphasize the importance of career and technical education (workforce education) to American society and the individual. The course will help students actively transfer CTE principles into practice. Students will formulate a philosophy of workforce education based on personally held principles and demonstrated principles.

CE 510 Culture, Diversity, and Ethics in the Workplace (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will examine issues of diversity (e.g., race, economic, ethnic, cultural, political, physical, and cognitive diversities), their influence on the culture of an organization and the ethical issues associated with each.

CE 520 Curriculum Development (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course presents usable principles for curriculum development. Secondary and post-secondary career and technical education as well as business and industry training curricula are included. Emphasis is placed on developing, creating, aligning, and evaluating curriculum with the overall goal of work-place relevance.

CE 540 Organization and Coordination of Career and Technical Education (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is designed to provide CTE professionals a framework to increase their knowledge and understanding of theoretical and practical information specific to organizing and administering CTE programs. The course will emphasize a number of management topics including budget development and management, program design and program evaluation.

CE 550 Performance Analysis and Assessment (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course examines analysis techniques in curriculum development with an emphasis on task analysis and related procedures. Coursework will include occupational and needs analysis, competency identification, objective writing and information mapping. Students will integrate task analysis with a total system for developing and revising vocational curriculum or job training programs.

CE 560 Course Construction and Evaluation (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will focus on curricula and practices in teaching and training. Content will challenge personally held ideas, assumptions, and practices related to curricula and its stakeholders. Products of learning include standards-based course, lesson, and assessment tools that are anchored to the mission, goals, and standards specific to the participants' instructional area.

CE 570 Community College Organization and Leadership (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course offers an overview of the American community college, with particular emphasis on the history, philosophy, and uniqueness of these institutions. State and local governance and finance are also examined. This course is designed for individuals who hold, or aspire to, key leadership and supervisory positions in a community college or for others who seek to learn more about the comprehensive nature of these institutions and their role in the post-secondary knowledge industry. This course will also examine recent developments in, and projections for the future of, the American community college.

CE 580 Coordination and Supervision of Career and Technical Education (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will provide an overview and summary of career and technical education from an administrative prospective.

CE 600 Adult and Community Education (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will provide an overview of adult and community education in the United States of America. Participants will review theory and principles of community education, case studies on quality learning experiences, funding mechanisms for adult and community education, and engagement in the community.

CE 610 Work Site Training and Development (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will prepare participants to evaluate employee-training needs for workforce knowledge and skills improvement.

CE 620 Teaching and Training (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course focuses on enhancing learning. Current trends and issues affecting learning environments are examined, including communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking. Participants develop and evaluate standards-based instruction, curriculum materials, and assessment strategies aligned to 21st century skills.

Computer Science (CS)

CS 513 Data Mining, Analysis and Visualization (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Pre-requisites: ITE 313 AND ITE 327
This is a course in the theory and practice of data set mining, analysis, and visualization. It covers a wide variety of advanced algorithms in data mining and analysis. It is assumed that students enrolled in this course have already taken an undergraduate course in data analysis with additional study in database design. Topics include: Data understanding, Data preprocessing, Classification, Clustering, Outliner detection, Text mining, Data visualization, Big data mining, and Current research directions in data science.

CS 514 Programming Languages Theory (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Formal definitions and theory of programming languages. Specifying, verifying, and reasoning about programs. Language processors (interpreters, type-checkers, translators) in a formal framework.

CS 515 Operating Systems Design and Implementation (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Pre-requisite: CS 415
Parallel processing: communication and synchronization of processes in multiprocessing and distributed environments, proof of correctness. Deterministic scheduling. Introduction to queuing theory. Current research topics.

CS 530 Principles of Computer Communication and Networks (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Pre-requisites: Approval of Instructor
Computer networks, including telecommunications and the related data transmission techniques. Topics include network philosophy, design and implementation.

CS 551 Advanced Principles of Software Engineering and Methods
This course is a study of software engineering principles and methods that go beyond the software development lifecycle. In this course, students will focus on different types of software engineering which include component-based, distributed, service-oriented, and real-time software engineering.

CS 553 Secure Software Testing (3 Sem. Hrs.)
In this course, you'll learn best practices for testing for security and quality insurance, including artifact testing, functional and nonfunctional testing, and bug tracking. This course also covers some of the essential testing types such as penetration testing, scanning, simulation testing, failure testing, and cryptographic validation. Finally, you'll explore options for dealing with test results, such as the importance of impact assessments and corrective actions you can take with less than perfect results.

CS 577 Event Modeling and Simulation (3 Sem. Hrs.)
In this course students will learn about the process of creating models and executing simulations to be able to analyze the results. Several modeling and simulation examples will be reviewed and students will be able to learn about different simulation software that is available to them. Students will then create models and execute those models with the use of simulation software.

CS 592 Directed Study/Special Topics in Computer Science (3 Sem. Hrs.) ***Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor***
These courses are to be offered on occasion of student demand or need. The courses are designed to allow students majoring in computer science to pursue special projects of interest to both the student and instructor. Projects undertaken for these courses might well be continuations of projects begun in other courses. Course is repeatable up to a maximum of six semester hours.

Education (ED)

ED 500 Research Applications for Career and Technical Education (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will examine all major concepts and techniques of education research, including types of research, application and interpretation of data, and the development and use of data collection instruments.

ED 510 Technology for Teaching and Training (3 Sem. Hrs.) (Software/license fee)
Students will develop knowledge, skills, and abilities related to the use of educational technology for teaching and training.

ED 520 eLearning Design and Development I (3 Sem. Hrs.)
(Students who completed ED 308/CE 444 at Athens State may not take this course.) This course focuses on the application and interpretation of theory, research and standards-based effective practices used to design, develop and evaluate distance and blended education experiences. Students will examine different aspects of online course design including needs analysis, content design, material development, and lesson evaluation.

ED 530 Community Partnerships and Relations (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will examine various ways of developing and enhancing training programs through promoting positive interrelationships among educators, learners, and the community. Using an ecological systems framework, the course will build on the students' knowledge of the economic and community circumstances and resources in facilitating training programs. Participants will strengthen the skills needed for communicating effectively with community and workforce partners.

ED 540 Technology Integration for Teaching and Training (3 Sem. Hrs.)
(Students who completed ED 410/411 at Athens State may not take this course.) This course will focus on using technology tools to help facilitate learning in secondary and adult teaching environments and help teachers and students improve digital awareness. Participants will engage in learning instructional strategies and techniques unique to secondary and adult classrooms.

ED 550 Learning Theory (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will provide an overview of research and theory related to human learning with special emphasis on vocational learning theory. The course will underscore the relationship between theory, research and practice.

ED 560 Mindful Leadership (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will examine current mindful leadership practices for use in business, education, professional and personal life. Research and theory of leadership practices will be analyzed supporting the benefits of mindfulness and demonstrating the importance of mindful practices for successful leadership. This course will introduce students to mindful leadership practices for use in personal and professional settings.

ED 570 Competency-Based Education (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will thoroughly examine the history and future of competency-based education practices related to career, technical and adult education programs. It will cover the development of competency-based education performance indicators, competency-based education management systems, and will give attention to the basis for competency-based education evaluation practices.

ED 580 Training and Development in the Modern Workplace (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Training and Development in the Modern Workplace, provides a rigorous study of the functions and roles of individual employee and team training and development to ensure effective performance. This course examines the role of training from a strategic perspective including planning and assessment, design and delivery, evaluation of training and integration of training with performance management and compensation systems. Studies of technology applications in training are also included.

ED 600 Industrial Management and Teambuilding (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will provide an advanced study of the educator/leader role in accomplishing organizational objectives through the management and development of team members. Students will examine concepts of organizational and individual behavior that serve as a foundation for the development of leadership skills such as communication, motivation, leading, team building, credibility, and conflict management.

ED 610 Technology for Educational Leaders (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course builds knowledge and skills to assist educational leaders in using and applying instructional technology planning and management techniques to real-world situations. Upon completion of the course, students will have the ability to use instructional technology for administrative and instructional purposes to plan, organize, and promote its use in teaching and training environments.

ED 620 eLearning Design and Development II (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course focuses on the advanced application and interpretation of theory, research and standards based effective

practices used to design, develop and evaluate distance and blended education experiences. Students will examine different aspects of online teaching (e.g. asynchronous communication, facilitation and feedback) based on research, critically evaluate existing social media and online resources, and apply their learning to online content design.

ED 640 Creative Project (3-6 Sem. Hrs.)
This Creative Project course will provide an opportunity to research, discuss and document current topics in career, technical and adult education including challenges facing today's CTE professional. The project will examine leadership principles and best practices. The student will work closely with the faculty member in researching and writing a major research project in the area of the student's relevant CTE field of study. The student will give an oral presentation of the research findings.

ED 650 Quality Improvement in Education (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will examine systematic and strategic approaches to improving educational processes by applying and implementing quality improvement techniques.

ED 690 Worksite Learning Practicum (3 Sem. Hrs.)
The Worksite Learning Practicum course will provide an opportunity to research, discuss and document current topics including challenges facing today's professional. The project will examine leadership principles and best practices. Students should use their chosen elective focus and their graduate certificate or degree plan of study as the basis for their Worksite Learning Practicum experience. Students should participate in an aligned program of study and/or other related courses prior to enrolling in this course. WLP experiences must reflect the student's long-term goals and interests and foster career preparation.
The student will work closely with the faculty member in researching and writing a major research project in the area of the student's relevant field of study. The student will give a presentation of the research findings.

Healthcare Management (HCM)

HCM 510 Human Capital Management in Healthcare (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is a study of the management of human resources in the healthcare setting and the skills leaders will need to effectively manage the workforce. Through case study, literature analysis and practical application, learners will examine approaches to the management of human resources in health care, including recruiting and retention, team building, cultural competence, diversity, mentoring, and succession planning.

HCM 620 Health Information Systems and Analytics (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is a study of the management and use of technologies in the healthcare setting. Through case study, literature analysis and practical application, learners will examine current and trending use of electronic health records, enterprise systems, knowledge management systems and analytics and medical technologies in healthcare organizations.

HCM 645 Quality Assurance & Performance Improvement (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is a study of the management of the concepts, issues and challenges of leading performance improvement in the healthcare setting. Through case study, literature analysis and practical application, learners will examine the topics and challenges in quality assurance, risk management, regulations, utilization review, benchmarking, and managerial epidemiology.

HCM 652 Organizational Theory, Policy, and Ethics (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is a study of organizational theory in the healthcare setting. Through case study, literature analysis and practical application, learners will examine organizational theories of different healthcare organizations, health policy challenges, and legal and ethical healthcare issues.

HCM 675 Strategic Planning and Implementation in Healthcare (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is a study of the creation and implementation of strategic plans in the healthcare setting and the skills leaders will need to effectively create and implement strategic plans. Through case study, literature analysis and practical application, learners will examine approaches to the development of healthcare strategic plans and methods of implementation, including organizational strategic, workforce, capital purchase, new program, disaster readiness, marketing, and financial plans.

HCM 701 Healthcare Management & Administration Capstone Experience (3 Sem. Hrs.)
The capstone project of the MS-Strategic Healthcare Management and Administration curriculum. This course emphasizes a team-based learning experience completing real-world healthcare leadership projects within a sponsoring organization. This course should be taken during the student's last semester of studies.

Human Resource Management (HRM)

HRM 501 Strategic HRM and Building Competitive Human Capital Management Advantage (3 Sem. Hrs.)

This course will present a study of the technical functions of Human Resource Management (HRM) and the role of human resources from a strategic perspective. Emphasis is on the technical HR application to programs that foster employee commitment to objectives in a competitive, global economy. Therefore, this course will explore the challenges facing the HRM professional, as well as specific focus on the role of managers in the administration of human resource activities. These challenges will include technical functions such as recruitment and selection, training and development, design, administration of compensation and benefits plans, business continuity and risk management, employee relations and collective bargaining, and initiatives like quality-of-work life and diversity and inclusion programs, as well as how HRM works toward organizational goals in a time of rapid change.

Other topics will assess managing human resources and human capital management (HCM) as a strategic organizational asset that supports competitive advantage and major strategic objectives. HRM as an integral partner in a firm's strategic planning and implementation, in terms of external environmental and internal exigencies, will be presented. HR planning and strategies and their applications in HR programs and processes will also be examined. Students will also learn how to develop alignment among vision, strategy and values in the development of a paradigm based upon competencies required for enhancing the business results of a company or government agency. In addition, this course will also address how to build measurement strategies for all HR activities so that the impact can be determined. A value-added approach will be taken so that HR practitioners will be able to exhibit an understanding of the business strategies, impact and outcomes that assess aspects that influence organizational quality, productivity, services, and profitability. HR will be assessed as a system within a system. Students will learn how to position HR as a strategic partner to realize organizational competitiveness in a global environment.

HRM 520 Employee & Labor Relations (3 Sem. Hrs.)

This course will cover the strategic value of effective labor-management relations and its related framework and design. Topics will cover wage and hour laws, safety and health laws, retirement, welfare and privacy laws that prepare future managers, supervisors, and business owners for responsibilities in management-employee relations. In addition, an examination of managerial issues affecting development of labor relations policy will be explored. Topics to be examined include the impact of public policy, negotiation, and administration of collective bargaining agreements, the NLRB and arbitration cases. The role of managers in ethical decision making will also be reviewed and assimilated into current applications in today's workplace.

HRM 560 Diversity & Inclusion and the Professional Consultant (3 Sem. Hrs.)

In this course, the role of the diversity and inclusion consultant will be analyzed. The diversity and inclusion consultant competencies will be applied to business settings through case method. Strategies will be summarized to guide organizational leaders and clients through the process of conducting D & I needs assessment and making recommendations for an effective diversity and inclusion management program.

HRM 572 Design of Talent Development Capabilities (3 Sem. Hrs.)

This course will provide a framework for building talent development capabilities based on the Association for Talent Development's Core Body of Knowledge and Competencies. Special emphasis will be placed on the Talent Development Leader as a trusted advisor in building the infrastructure for a talent development program for desired business outcomes.

HRM 580 Workforce Planning & Staffing (3 Sem. Hrs.)

This course will present a comprehensive approach to identifying viable workforce planning and employment strategies in an effort to assist the organization in meeting its strategic goals and objectives. Topical areas to be covered include: workforce planning, sourcing strategies, succession planning and retention and employee exit programs. The course will also cover specific topics related to job analysis and design.

HRM 610 Total Rewards: Competitive Compensation & Benefits (3 Sem. Hrs.)

This course is designed to focus on Total Rewards Systems related to direct and indirect compensation systems. The content of the course will focus on how to develop/select, implement/administer, and evaluate compensation and benefit programs that support an organization's strategic goals and objectives. This course will also provide greater insight and knowledge of legislation that affects all elements of a Total Rewards System. The payroll function and its role in the administration and compensation and benefits programs will be presented. Evaluation methods that can be used to assess the effectiveness of Total Rewards System will also be examined.

HRM 632 Business Continuity & Risk Management (3 Sem. Hrs.)

This course is designed to focus on the importance of Enterprise Risk Management in today's evolving business climate. The primary framework and key aspects of workplace health and safety, security, and privacy issues, as well as legislation and organizational measures will be presented. In addition, the course will provide insight into development of HR policies and procedures to determine organizational risk areas and evaluation methods to identify program effectiveness.

HRM 638 Inclusive Workplaces & Future Trends in Diversity Management (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will focus on selected topics and cases to review and assess inclusive workplace designs and policies. Students will have to develop a recommendation for an inclusive workplace design in an assigned project. Future trends and considerations in diversity and inclusion management will be explored and evaluated for implications in the workplace.

HRM 641 Talent Development Return-On-Investment (3 Sem. Hrs.)
In this course, the methodologies to measure return on investment (ROI) of training and performance improvement initiatives and programs will be explored and applied to case studies. Special emphasis will be on rationale for ROI, ROI methodologies, strategies to handle estimation, and determination of program costs.

HRM 665 Talent Development Strategy & Deployment (3 Sem. Hrs.)
In this course, the role of the talent and development professional in launching, assessing and refining talent and development strategies for continuous improvement will be examined. Talent and development, as a means for dealing with complex change and effective change management processes, will also be analyzed and applied to case applications. The unique role of talent development as a supporting mechanism for human capital management strategy will be discussed.

HRM 685 HR & Legal Framework of the Employment Landscape (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course presents an applied study of significant legal issues in labor and employment law that are relevant to effective compliance and policy development for today's businesses. An analysis of major issues in employment law will be presented and facilitate student critical thinking about how to read, analyze and evaluate legal statues and decisions. Students will be able to identify, understand, and explain conflicting views on legal and policy arguments and bring this learning to translation to work settings as HR leaders.

HRM 694 Diversity & Inclusion Strategy and Deployment (3 Sem. Hrs.)
In this course, students will learn how to conduct a diversity and inclusion needs assessment/audit and develop recommendations for improvement through the construction and deployment of a comprehensive diversity and inclusion strategy. Emphasis will be placed on the role of the leader as a positive change agent in D & I initiatives. Future trends in diversity and inclusion and their respective impact on today's organizations will be explored and discussed for practical applications.

HRM 710 Human Capital Strategy & Performance Management (Capstone) (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will address the entire range of topics associated with managing the human asset to realize and sustain optimal levels of performance. Models of human capital management and their applicability to designing effective performance management plans (PMP) and culture of accountability will be discussed and assimilated through case method applications. Topics will include KPIs, appraisal systems, change management models, adult learning theories, individual versus team performance, organizational development, and managing a diverse workforce. Various aspects of the corporate training and development function, training program design and development of various methods and media for training delivery, as well as return on investment outcomes, will be explored. In addition, this course will also examine the development of systems that will provide highest levels of both personal and professional development and growth within the organization; creation of promotional and cross-functional systems that will talent strength the organization; development of retention strategies that tie rewards to performance of talent; creation of workforce planning systems that will provide succession planning of best talent within the organization; and utilization of technological systems to support these functions within human resources planning will be presented.

Information Technology (ITE)

ITE 520 Cybersecurity Foundations (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course provides a broad overview of cybersecurity, including how computers and networks are attacked, how the attackers benefit, and how to mitigate the attack. The terminology, approaches and underlying technologies are a main focus of this course. Students will gain a depth knowledge of principles of computer security, standards that have been put in place, the approaches to meet specific computer security requirements and case studies of real- world examples will be researched.

ITE 522 Communications and Network Security (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: ITE 420
This is a course in the study of (data) Communications and Network Security with a deep dive into the Information Security field. It covers a wide variety of security definitions and advanced concepts that encroach (and have roots) into other areas like Networks, Cryptography, and Cybersecurity (loTs). The course is sought to cover different networks designs and architectures, study a variety of computer threats and network attacks, and how to mitigate them. The course sheds light on Communications Security risks in the military and national security.

ITE 523 Cryptography and Network Security (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: ITE 420

The objective of this course is to understand (in a deeper sense) the fundamentals of Cryptography and know how to apply them in a balanced manner to achieve secrecy of information and security of systems that house the information. Modern cryptography encompasses problems as diverse as authentication, key distribution, confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information, to name a few. This course provides the foundation upon which one may understand what these definitions and problems are, how to evaluate protocols and methods to solve them, and how to build secure software solutions for these problems.

ITE 592 Directed Study/Special Topics in Information Technology (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor
These courses are to be offered on occasion of student demand or need. The courses are designed to allow students majoring in information technology to pursue special projects of interest to both the student and instructor. Projects undertaken for these courses might well be continuations of projects begun in other courses. Course is repeatable up to a maximum of six semester hours.

Logistics Artificial Intelligence (LAI)

LAI 601 The Artificial Intelligence Evolution (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course provides a fun and non-technical introduction to Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning by exploring the topics, technology and skills required to gain practice in the successful application of AI techniques to address key industry problems. Knowledge of the topic is expanded through lecture training, examples, videos, quizzes, and actual implementation of the concepts learned through simulations, hands-on labs and games. Realization of the real-world impact of the topics is covered through the exposure to industry case studies.

LAI 602 Work and Artificial Intelligence (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: LAI 601
This course explores practical applications of AI transforming business and organizational change readiness through a case study approach highlighting related practical applications of AI transforming business. The course deepens students' understanding of the benefits of AI to achieve alignment with business context and objectives, to improve customer experiences or solve client needs, and evaluate problem areas of AI, such as bias. The course also contains a balanced look at AI's impact on existing jobs, as well as its potential to create new and exciting career fields in the future.

Leadership (LDR)

LDR 500 Influential Leadership (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is a study of the nature of leadership and the skills dynamic leaders employ to achieve success in their organizations while maintaining integrity and social responsibility. Through case and literature analysis and practical application, learners will examine approaches to leadership and the role emotional intelligence plays in effective leadership.

LDR 654 Strategic Thinking, Behavior, and Leadership (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is a study of strategic leadership and the skills strategic leaders employ to achieve success in their organizations while addressing the ever-growing issues of competitive advantage, sustainability, and agility. Through case and literature analysis and practical application, learners will examine various facets of and approaches to strategic leadership and how they play a critical role in effective leadership and organizational performance.

LDR 680 Human Capital Leadership (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is a study of Human Capital Leadership and the skills that leaders employ to achieve success within their organizations within the context of today's ever-changing workforce environment. Through case and literature analysis and practical application, learners will examine various approaches to managing our human capital and the critical role leadership plays in gaining strategic alignment and organizational performance.

LDR 690 Special Topics in Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics (3 Sem. Hrs.)
(Prerequisites: LDR 500, BUS 503, LDR 654, BUS 525, LDR 680, BUS 603, MGT 600, BUS 675)
This course is an examination of a relevant, engaging, and applicable topic in the domain of strategic leadership and business analytics. Topics will address recently identified current events, skills, trends, knowledge, and/or attitudes and behaviors pertinent to the fields and relevant to the academic and professional development of graduate students.

LDR 700 Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics Capstone Experience (3 Sem. Hrs.)
(Prerequisites: LDR 500, BUS 503, LDR 654, BUS 525, LDR 680, BUS 03, MGT 600, BUS 675)
The capstone project is the core of the MS-Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics curriculum. This course emphasizes a team-based learning experience in which students model strategic leadership for and conduct real-world business analytics projects using data provided by a sponsoring organization. Some of the industry sectors represented by our sponsors may include manufacturing, healthcare, energy, retail, and service. This course should be taken during the student's last semester of studies.

Logistics Information Systems (LIS)

LIS 600 Logistics Information Systems Management (3 Sem. Hrs.)
A study of the analysis, design, and implementation of logistics information systems and supply chain management technology. Identification and in-depth review of the various techniques for establishing and maintaining logistics information systems and corresponding supply chain management technology assets will be included. The aim is to ensure logistics information system alignment with corresponding supply chain strategy. Fundamental security controls, telecommunications systems, applications, and emerging technologies will be examined.

LIS 601 Logistics/Supply Chain Information Assurance (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Identification and classification of cyber-security threats within the supply chain. The managerial aspects of information security and assurance will be analyzed by exploring access control models, information security program assessment, metrics, technical components of information security threat and vulnerability risk assessments and international laws and international standards.

LIS 602 Enterprise Resource Planning (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course reviews in depth the design and analysis essential to the successful implementation of ERP systems, addressing enterprise-wide functionality as well as required tactical functions such as project management and project planning, and provides an overview of implementation alternatives.

Logistics and Supply Chain Management (LSM)

LSM 600 Supply Chain Governance (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course explores the different facets of the supply chain vision, along with advanced theory and application for supply chain control in an international environment, information security governance and global constraints. Students will examine tactical elements such as the network setup, measurements, performance targets and the governance structure utilized to transform strategy into execution.

LSM 601 Procurement and Materials Management (3 Sem. Hrs.)
An advanced analysis of the techniques for purchasing and materials management as a logistics and supply chain perspective. An examination of Materials Requirements Planning (MRP), vendor selection, contractor negotiation, contract administration, and materials management principles and practices will be included.

LSM 602 Management of Distribution and Inventory (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will explore the interface between packaging, storage, inventory control and transportation. A synthesis of the topics include inventory management in Lean Logistics environments, warehouse utilization strategies, forecasting tools and techniques, and distribution network design in make-to-stock and make-to-order manufacturing environments.

LSM 603 Supply Chain and Logistics Strategies (3 Sem. Hrs.)
A critical analysis into the logic, design, and integration of effective techniques and methods for supply chain management optimization. The course employs a comprehensive case study methodology involving contemporary, brand name organizations to illustrate effective approaches and lessons learned. A faculty-directed research project and submission is required for peer-review and possible publication.

LSM 604 Supply Chain Simulation Modeling and Analysis (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: LSM 600
Advanced techniques and methodology for logistics, transportation and supply chain system design, customer service, and policy formulation. Methodological focus will be on simulation and analytical techniques to develop empirical results that document current and anticipated system performance. Includes the use of simulation software.

LSM 605 Supply Chain Resilience (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisites: LSM 603
This course covers the competencies needed to implement a resilient global supply chain strategy while discovering new opportunities to succeed in the face of constant challenge, change, and opportunity. Topics covered include the risk management process, engineering supply chain resilience, natural disasters, climate change impacts, economic, societal, and political supply chain risks, terrorism and security, cyberthreats, and the unique supply chain challenges introduced by the COVID-19 pandemic.

LSM 610 Case Studies in Logistics Capstone (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisites: LSM 600, 601, and 603
This capstone course will focus on complex logistics and supply chain case analysis, along with solution development, and how organizational decisions relate to the ultimate outcome to include the analysis and application of the core supply chain processes. Students will be assessed on their ability to apply critical thinking skills and to generate solutions to logistics problems and their ability to demonstrate research and written communication skills.

Management (MGT)

MGT 503 Accounting and Financial Analysis (3 Sem. Hrs.)

This course is a comprehensive examination of accounting concepts, financial statements, and how information is used to measure the operational success of a business or corporation, emphasizing interpretation and analysis of financial information as a basis for managerial decision-making.

MGT 600 Operations Planning and Control (3 Sem. Hrs.)

The course examines the concepts and practices associated with the interaction of global suppliers and intermediaries, core competencies and outsourcing opportunities, international distribution and transportation factors, supply and demand management, inventory control and the systematic coordination of business functions within the supply chain.

MGT 601 Global Economics (3 Sem. Hrs.)

An intensive examination of economic principles that influence logistics and supply chain decision making authority. Concepts evaluated will include the balance of trade, unemployment, international economic indicators, incentives, education, gross domestic product, fiscal and monetary policy, and environmental policies.

MGT 654 Strategic Thinking, Behavior and Leadership (3 Sem. Hrs.)

This course is a study of strategic leadership and the skills strategic leaders employ to achieve success in their organizations while addressing the ever-growing issues of competitive advantage, sustainability, and agility. Through case and literature analysis and practical application, learners will examine various facets of and approaches to strategic leadership and how they play a critical role in effective leadership and organizational performance.

Management of Cybersecurity Operations (MCO)

MCO 500 Cybersecurity Risk Management (3 Sem. Hrs.)

This course addresses the broad topic of risk management and how risk, threats, and vulnerabilities impact information systems. Areas of instruction include how to assess and manage risk based defining an acceptable level of risk for information systems. Elements of a business impact analysis (BIA), business continuity plan (BCP), disaster recovery plan (DRP), and computer incident response team (CIRT) plan will also be discussed. This course gives students a detailed understanding of the broad requirements for effective cybersecurity governance, the elements and actions required to develop a cybersecurity risk management plan, and a plan of action to implement it.

MCO 510 Cybersecurity Policy (3 Sem. Hrs.)

Prerequisite: MCO 409

This course includes a discussion on security policies that can be used to help protect and maintain a network, such as password policy, e-mail policy, and Internet policy. The issues include organizational behavior and crisis management.

MCO 515 Cybersecurity Continuity Planning (3 Sem. Hrs.)

Prerequisite: MCO 409

This course arms students with answers to the most critical questions about the fields of cybersecurity. It provides students with references to more in-depth study in areas where they may need to specialize. The Second Edition covers operations - the job of day-to-day cybersecurity tasks-regulations, compliance, laws and policies, research and development, and the creation of software and cyber defenses for security.

MCO 520 Asset Security and Cybersecurity Auditing (3 Sem. Hrs.)

Prerequisite: MCO 409

Cybersecurity audits play a key role in addressing today's rapidly changing cyber threat landscape. Executives, including members of the Board of Directors may be required to certify that they have taken reasonable steps to protect information assets. Cybersecurity audits are a primary way to verify that information system and process controls effectively address cybersecurity risks. This course will cover cybersecurity audits, providing aspiring audit professionals with the information needed to manage a comprehensive audit of cybersecurity controls. This course introduces the need for organizations to deploy compliance initiatives to counter regulatory requirements. Understanding the information assurance process will give the students a better view of the many threats and the controls to counter them. This course covers the principles, the approaches and the methodology in auditing information systems to ensure the processes and the procedures are following pertinent laws and regulatory provisions especially in the context of information systems security (ISS).

MCO 525 Cybersecurity Leadership and Strategic Planning (3 Sem. Hrs.)

Prerequisite: MCO 409

This course covers senior and strategic cybersecurity management roles and responsibilities, including the supervision and management of workers performing cyber-related and cyber operations work. The course also covers developing policies and plans and advocating for policy changes that support organizational cyberspace initiatives or required changes and enhancements. This course offers a solid technical understanding of security tools with a strong managerial focus. A practical guide to proactively defend corporate systems from attacks, and technical aspects of countermeasures.

Religion (RE)

RE 501 History of Judaism (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course presents Judaism as a cultural phenomenon that has survived and influenced world history for an astonishing four millennia. It examines the world of Jewish literature, philosophy, spirituality, politics, persecution, Diaspora and geographic context. We trace the story of the world's oldest continuing monotheistic community from the journey of Abraham and Sarah, through antiquity, the Middle Ages, to Israel and the Modern era. Special emphasis is placed on Jewish culture in America and topics concerning the formation of the Jewish state in Israel.

RE 509 Christian Thought in Early Centuries (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course examines Christian thought and covers the Life of Jesus, Paul, and other leaders of the Early Church. The primary aim for this course is to examine the birth and development of the early Christian religion. It focuses primarily on the life and influence of Jesus and Paul. The overall view of the social world into which Christianity emerged and developed will be explored.

RE 510 Advanced Study of Leading Change in Faith Communities and Other Non-profits (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is required for all students pursuing the MA in Religious Studies – Non-Thesis Track. This course is an advanced study of leadership challenges and principles concerning change in faith communities and other nonprofits. Leadership philosophies and techniques will be explored from the life of Jesus, Paul, and leaders of other faith traditions. The course will also examine leadership principles from other non-profit sectors. The primary aim of this course is to identify and examine leadership principles that lead to excellence. The course will look at the philosophical, social, psychological, theological and spiritual aspects of leadership.

RE 511 Age of the Reformation, 1350 – 1610 (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is an examination of the history of church and state in Europe from the Great Schism through the Protestant Reformation to the eve of the Thirty Years War.

RE 512 Advanced Study of the Hebrew Prophets (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This is an advanced study of the Hebrew Prophets. This course's primary aim is to focus on the portion of the Hebrew Bible which includes the Major and Minor Prophets. The class will combine a theological, sociological, anthropological, historical and literary criticism approach to the study of the Hebrew Prophets. This course will provide a close look at the language and message of the prophets as well as a comparative study of ancient Near East prophecy.

RE 513 Advanced Study of Psalms and Wisdom Literature (3 Sem. Hrs.)
An advanced examination of the poetry, forms, and theology in the book of Psalms along with a study of Wisdom Literature including the Books of Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, and other third and fourth century B.C.E. writings.

RE 516 Interpreting the Text (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: RE 308 or the equivalent
This course is required for all students pursuing the MA in Religious Studies. This is an examination of various ancient, historical, and literary methods of interpreting literature covering the range from ancient ways of reading texts to current poststructuralist approaches. Even though primary emphasis will center on religious texts, there will be considerable attention given to issues and methods that emerged from the realms of the social sciences, literature, and philosophy.

RE 526 Advanced Study of Social Change and Transformational Leadership (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is required for all students pursuing the MA in Religious Studies – Non-Thesis Track. Social Change and Transformational Leadership is an advanced study of social change and leadership challenges and principles concerning change. Leadership philosophies and techniques will be explored from the life of people who have provided transformational leadership. Martin Luther King Jr., Ghandi, Mother Theresa, and Nelson Mandela provide a sampling of transformational leaders we will be studying. The primary aim of this course is to identify and examine leadership principles that lead to transformational change in organizations and communities. The course will look at the philosophical, social, psychological, theological and spiritual aspects of leadership.

RE 527 Advanced Study of Jesus, Muhammad, and Buddha (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is required for all students pursuing the MA in Religious Studies. Advanced Study of Jesus, Muhammad, Buddha is a course designed as an exploration into the academic study of religion in three major faith systems of the world through a comparative approach. As students study the religions of Buddhism, Christianity and Islam, they will learn about their foundations, what they believe, and how they express their beliefs. This course will provide students a better understanding of different cultures, religions, social systems and historical contexts. The understanding of these religions and their contributions along with how they can cooperate together will be studied. The ability to respect differences and value diversity will be promoted.

RE 528 Religion and Cultural Diversity (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will examine religious responses to societal and cultural diversity. The course will explore different religious

worldviews. The research and discussions will center around the following concerns: social justice, social and economic class, sexuality and gender, and race.

RE 530 Biblical Hebrew Language and Grammar (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is an inductive approach, utilizing the Biblical narratives, especially in Genesis and the Books of Kings.

RE 531 Directed Studies in Translating Texts from Hebrew Bible (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: RE 530 or the equivalent
This course is a continuation of part I (RE 530). In this second part of the course, students will use their newly developed skills in Hebrew grammar to read the Hebrew Bible in its original language. Students will work with the rules of Hebrew grammar and syntax to produce acceptable translations. The focus will be on narrative portions of the Hebrew Bible with some attention to Hebrew Poetry. Students will also explore issues of textual criticism where manuscripts diverge from one another. Students will have to learn how to read the critical apparatus in the BHS. This will entail learning some Latin terms, abbreviations for various manuscripts, signs and symbols.

RE 540 The Language and Grammar of the New Testament (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This class is for beginners; there is no prerequisite for the course. It is a study of biblical Greek Grammar.

RE 541 Directed Studies in Translating New Testament Texts (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: RE 540
This is a continuation of New Testament Greek I. It will continue a step-by-step process that will provide the students the basics of Greek Grammar.

RE 542 The Parables of Jesus (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is designed to create a greater understanding of the parables of Jesus found in the Gospels. This survey will cover many of the parables found in the Gospels. Special attention will be given to the historical, social and literary aspects of interpreting the parables. This study will provide an understanding of parable as metaphor.

RE 552 Problems of Evil and Suffering (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will primarily examine the biblical responses to suffering and the origin and reality of evil. The course will also explore and critique the religious and philosophical answers that have been offered in the face of suffering and evil.

RE 553 Directed Studies in Hebrew (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: 6 Semester Hours of Hebrew
This course will allow students who have the basics of Hebrew Grammar to engage in the translation of texts from the Hebrew Bible. Students will also engage in reading the Moabite stone which is in Moabite, a language very similar to Hebrew and is related to biblical texts. Ugaritic is another similar language that students will be exposed to briefly because of its importance in the study of biblical Hebrew.

RE 600 Seminar in Biblical Studies (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisites: RE 512 or RE 513, and RE 516
This course is required for all students pursuing the MA in Religious Studies. This seminar presupposes the student has a general knowledge of biblical studies and the literature of the Bible. It will engage students in a critical study of canonical and non-canonical texts and related subjects. It will focus on issues related to the critical study of biblical texts through the use of historical, literary, and sociological methods. Attention will be given to historical, social, and archaeological aspects of the Ancient Near East and the Greco-Roman world as the background from which biblical texts emerged. The course may also focus on literary and cultural reading of texts, which is based on contemporary settings as contexts for interpretation. May be repeated for credit as topics will vary.

RE 601 Seminar in History of Religions (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: RE 527
This course is required for all students pursuing the MA in Religious Studies. This seminar focuses on issues of history and religion of the world's religions or groups within particular religions. The topics for this seminar will differ from semester to semester. It could focus on a religion like Islam or a particular group such as the Sufis.

RE 602 Seminar in Leadership and Community Service (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Prerequisite: RE 510
This course is required for all students pursuing the MA in Religious Studies – Non-Thesis Track. This seminar provides an opportunity for a student to learn about leadership challenges and principles concerning challenges of working and leading in faith communities and other nonprofits. Developing an understanding of community and the importance of leadership is the focus of this seminar. Leadership philosophies and techniques will be explored from contemporary leaders to the life of Jesus, Paul, and leaders of other faith traditions. The project will also examine leadership principles from other non-profit sectors. The primary aim of this seminar is to identify and examine leadership practices and principles that lead to excellence through community service. The course will look at the philosophical, social, psychological, theological and spiritual aspects of leadership.

RE 700 Religious Studies Project (3 Sem. Hrs.)

Prerequisites: RE 600, 601, and 602

This course is required for all students pursuing the MA in Religious Studies – Non-Thesis Track.
This course/project provides an opportunity for a student to learn about leadership challenges and principles concerning challenges of working and leading in faith communities and other nonprofits. Leadership philosophies and techniques will be explored from the life of Jesus, Paul, and leaders of other faith traditions. The project will also examine leadership principles form other non-profit sectors. The primary aim of this course/project is to identify and examine leadership practices and principles that lead to excellence. The course will look at the philosophical, social, psychological, theological, and spiritual aspects of leadership. Students must successfully complete the course with a "B" or higher to count towards degree requirements.

RE 701 Thesis Research (3-6 Sem. Hrs.)

Prerequisites: RE 516, 527, 600, and 601; and at least 18 semester hours towards requirements for the MA in Religious Studies; and an accepted preliminary thesis proposal

This course is required for all students pursuing the MA in Religious Studies – Thesis Track.
A student will work closely with primary and secondary advisors as well as the additional reader in developing and completing the thesis. Students must successfully complete the course with a "B" or higher to count towards degree requirements.

University Success (UNV)

UNV 500 Research Methods for the Master of Arts Interdisciplinary Studies (3 Sem. Hrs.)

This course will provide an opportunity for students to establish or advance their understanding of research through critical exploration of research language, ethics, and approaches. The course introduces the language of research, ethical principles and challenges, and the elements of the research process. Participants will use these theoretical underpinnings to critically review literature relevant to their field and determine how research findings are useful in forming their understanding of their work, social, local, and global environment.

UNV 650 Capstone Seminar Interdisciplinary Studies (3 Sem. Hrs.)

The capstone seminar for the Graduate Interdisciplinary Studies program, which should be taken during the student's final semester, is a culminating course in which students utilize the knowledge and skills gained through the degree program to create a culminating work that critically addresses a problem or issue in their degree field of study. The course aims to hone skills for the life-long learner, their research experiences, and professional growth. Students will produce a research project or paper agreed upon by the professor and the student. The course is offered in an online format. Acceptance as a degree candidate and completion of at least 30 hours with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better are required to register for this course.

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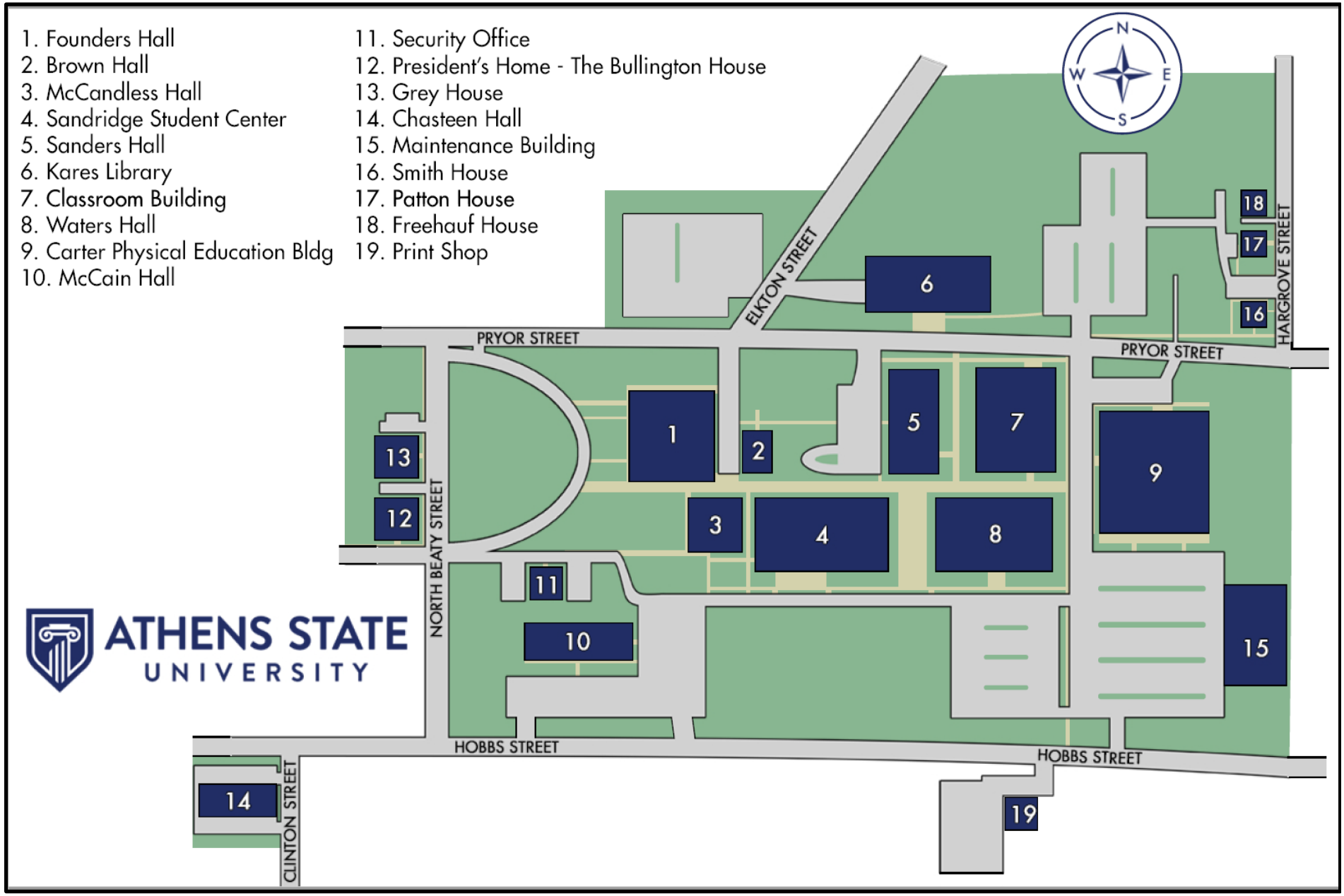

Athens State University

Founded 1822

2023-2024 Graduate Academic Catalog

ADDENDUM, No. 1

ACCREDITATION

Athens State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award bachelor's and master's degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Athens State University.

The College of Education at Athens State University is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), 1140 19th St., N.W. Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20036. The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) became the sole accrediting body for educator preparation providers on July 1, 2013, replacing the former NCATE accreditation body.

The College of Business at Athens State University is nationally accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), 11520 West 119th Street, Overland Park, KS 66213, (913) 339-9356.

Athens State University is approved by the Alabama State Department of Education for the training of early childhood, elementary, collaborative, physical education, secondary, and postsecondary school teachers. The Alabama State Department of Education is a member of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education Certification.

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A Non-Profit, State Institution of Higher Learning

This catalog addendum is in addition to the annual announcement of the graduate academic programs, requirements, and regulations of Athens State University. The information contained in this Addendum was approved after the initial catalog timeline. Students enrolling in the University are subject to the provisions stated herein. The rules, regulations, policies, fees and other charges, courses, programs of study, and academic requirements that appear in this catalog were in effect at the time of its publication and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all information. The contents are published for informational purposes only, and do not constitute a contract between the University and any student, applicant for admission or other person. Statements regarding courses, programs of study, fees, and conditions are subject to change without advance notice.

Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity Statement

Athens State University, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action. Athens State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, gender, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, sexual orientation, disability, religion, genetic information, or veteran status in employment, or admissions to or participation in educational programs and activities. Inquiries or concerns may be addressed to the Office of the Vice President for Financial Affairs, 300 N. Beaty St., Athens, AL 35611, 256-216-3303.

Accessibility/Disability

Athens State University complies with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 including all updated regulations and guidance. Athens State University strives to provide a dynamic and appropriate instructional environment and workplace to meet the needs of students, employees and citizens of the communities served. It is the policy of the University that a good faith effort shall be made to meet the accommodation requests of persons with disabilities. Athens State University employees and citizens should contact the Office of Human Resources, (256) 216-3314, to complete the procedure for requesting an accommodation. Students with disabilities may contact Accessibility Services (formerly Disability Services), located in the Sandridge Student Center Room 122, (256) 233-8143, accessibility.services@athens.edu.

Harassment and Discrimination

If any person feels he/she has been harassed or discriminated against, the person should follow the University's Harassment and Discrimination Policy and Procedure. Complaints of sexual misconduct should follow the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedure. The University can only take action against alleged offenders and protect the University from future incidents if occurrences of harassment and discrimination are reported in a timely fashion.

Privacy of Student Records - Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

Athens State University complies with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 as amended. FERPA sets forth the requirements pertaining to the privacy of student records, and the rights of students with respect to their education records. For complete FERPA information, see the Records section of this catalog or the University's online Policy Library.

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College of Arts and Sciences

Admission Requirements for Master of Fine Arts in Integrative Design

(See also the General University requirements for Admission to Graduate Programs in the 2023-2024 Graduate Catalog.)

Requirements for Degree-Seeking Students

For **unconditional admission**, a prospective student must:

- Have earned a bachelor's degree in the Arts (approved by the Fine Arts Department) from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, with a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 (3.0 scale); AND;
- Submit for review as part of the application process:
    - Three professional references preferably from faculty member, recent employers, or clients..
    - An artist's statement (one page in length) that describes your current body of artwork your current studio practice, and the reason you are pursuing a Master of Fine Arts.
    - Resume
- Submit a professional portfolio (student seeking admission using portfolio may be admitted unconditionally only after departmental review and approval). Portfolios must be major-specific and follow the individual portfolio guidelines required by the major of interest. Refer here for portfolio details; AND
- Meet all other program-specific requirements.

For **conditional admission**, a prospective student must:

- Have earned a bachelor's degree (approved by the Fine Arts Department) from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, with a minimum overall GPA of 2.75 (4.0 scale), AND;
- Submit for review as part of the application process:
    - Three professional references preferably from faculty member, recent employers, or clients..
    - An artist's statement (one page in length) that describes your current body of artwork your current studio practice, and the reason you are pursuing a Master of Fine Arts.
    - Resume
- Submit a professional portfolio (student seeking admission using portfolio may be admitted unconditionally only after departmental review and approval). Portfolios must be major-specific and follow the individual portfolio guidelines required by the major of interest. Refer here for portfolio details; AND
- Meet all other program-specific requirements.

A student admitted on conditional status will be admitted on academic probation and the maximum number of hours to be taken during the first semester is six. Conditional status will be removed only upon successful completion of a minimum of 9 semester hours of graduate coursework at Athens State with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Please Note: A student who has met the above requirements may be required to complete specific undergraduate prerequisite courses or their equivalents as determined by departmental review.

A student may be admitted **provisionally** if all required application documents have been submitted. Provisional admission allows the student to register for graduate fine arts courses in an upcoming term; however, registration for these courses is subject to change pending departmental review of the application materials and final determination of conditional or unconditional admission.

Requirements for Non-Degree Seeking Students

A student who does not meet the requirements for one of the above admission categories as a degree-seeking graduate student may be admitted as a non-degree seeking graduate student. Records are kept of the work completed and credits are transferable. **Non-degree seeking graduate students are ineligible for federal aid funding under Title IV.**

Students seeking admission as non-degree seeking students must:

- Submit a completed graduate non-degree seeking admissions application and pay any required application fees.
- Submit official transcripts form the last institution attended, and from at least one institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education documenting conferral of a bachelor's or higher degree. Official transcripts must indicate that the student is in good standing at the last institution attended.

Students admitted as non-degree seeking students will only be allowed to register for graduate courses in a given term subject to space availability and/or cohort restrictions. **Non-degree seeking students may complete no more than one-half of the total program hours;** in order to register for additional courses, students must submit a degree-seeking application and all required materials, and be approved for degree-seeking status. Non-degree seeking students will not be awarded a graduate degree from Athens State University.

For additional information regarding the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Integrative Design, please visit our Master of Fine Arts webpage at Integrative Design - Athens State University**.**

Master of Fine Arts in Integrative Design (with Concentrations)

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Fine Arts with Concentrations:

Students earning the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Integrative Design degree with a concentration must satisfy all general University requirements and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

EFFECTIVE SPRING 2024

Master of Fine Arts in Integrative Design Course Requirements

	Professional Development Courses	Hours
	AR 512 Art Pedagogy	**3**
	AR 500, 508, 600, 608 Mentored Studies I-IV	**12**
	AR 530 Graduate Studio Community Project	**3**
	*AR 543 Art Entrepreneurship Residency	**3**
	AR 503 Seminar I	**3**
	AR 602 Seminar II	**3**
	Concentration Specific Courses	
	Choose one concentration from (See breakdown of concentrations below): Media and Design **OR** Ceramics **OR** Painting and Drawing	**21**
	Art History Course	
	AR 526 Critical Theories and Visual Culture	**3**
	Thesis Courses	
	AR 616 Thesis Design	**3**
	AR 700 Thesis Research and Writing	**3**
	*AR701 Exhibition and Thesis Defense Residency	**3**
	TOTAL HOURS:	**60**
	**All students participate in a 2-week residency at the Alabama Center for the Arts.*	

Additional Program Requirements

Students must complete all courses for **one of the following**:

- The Concentration in Ceramics, **OR**
- The Concentration in Painting and Drawing, **OR**
- The Concentration in Media and Design

Concentration in Ceramics		
	Advanced Courses in Ceramics	**Hours**
	AR 516 Research in Glaze Chemistry and Kiln Design II	**3**
	AR 518 Senior Studio: Refining Cohesive Body of Work	**3**
	AR 522 New Media: Alternative Firing Processes	**3**
	AR 555 Projects in New Media	**3**
	AR 560 Special Workshop in Arts and Crafts	**3**
	AR 561 Multimedia Installation	**3**
	AR 568 Topics in the History of Ceramics	**3**
	TOTAL CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENT HOURS:	**21**

Concentration in Painting and Drawing		
	Advanced Courses in Painting and Drawing	**Hours**
	AR 501 Advanced Figure Studies	**3**
	AR 502 Integrative Painting Materials and Techniques	**3**
	AR 511 Topics in Narrative Painting	**3**
	AR 513 Portrait Painting and Drawing	**3**
	AR 518 Senior Studio: Refining and Cohesive Body of Work	**3**
	AR 521 Seminar: Sacred Art in History	**3**
	AR 555 Project in New Media	**3**
	TOTAL CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENT HOURS:	**21**

Concentration in Media and Design		
	Advanced Courses in Media and Design	**Hours**
	AR 506 Multimedia Production Workshop	**3**
	AR 505 UX/UI Design – Graphic Design for Web	**3**
	AR 510 Digital Recording and Editing	**3**
	AR 520 Advanced Principles of Scenic and Lighting Design	**3**
	AR 540 Digital Animation and Graphic Design	**3**
	AR 546 Virtual Environments	**3**
	AR 570 Modernism and Postmodernism in Design	**3**
	TOTAL CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENT HOURS:	**21**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Fine Arts in Integrative Design (with Concentration)	**60**

College of Education

Master of Education – Career and Technical Education (CTE)

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Education degree with a major in Career and Technical Education:

(See the General University requirements for Admission to Graduate Programs in the 2023-2024 Graduate Catalog.)

Students earning the Master of Education (MEd) degree with a major in Career and Technical Education must satisfy all general University requirements for graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Career and Technical Education Core Course Requirements

	Course	Hours
	CE 500 Principles and Philosophies of Career and Technical Education	**3**
	CE 510 Culture, Diversity, and Ethics in the Workplace	**3**
	CE 540 Organization and Coordination of Career and Technical Education	**3**
	ED 500 Research Applications for Career and Technical Education	**3**
	ED 510 Technology for Teaching and Training	**3**
	Total Core Requirement Hours:	**15**

Concentration and CTE Elective Course Requirements

In addition to the Career and Technical Education core, students must complete all coursework for **one** of the concentrations below, and additional CTE electives as detailed below.

Curriculum and Instruction Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Curriculum and Instruction Courses (3 courses required): CE 520 Curriculum Development CE 550 Performance Analysis and Assessment CE 620 Teaching and Training	**9**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**9**

Instructional Technology Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Instructional Technology Courses (3 courses required): ED 520 eLearning Design ED 540 Technology Integration for Teaching and Training ED 610 Technology for Educational Leaders	**9**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**9**

Leadership Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Leadership Courses (3 courses required): ED 530 Community Partnerships and Relations ED 560 Mindful Leadership ED 600 Industrial Management and Teambuilding	**9**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**9**

CTE Elective Course Requirements

In addition to the Career and Technical Education core and concentration requirements, students must complete 6 hours of additional electives from the choices below. Course options should be discussed with the faculty advisor.

CTE Electives		
	Course	**Hours**
	Elective Courses (all courses are 3 hours except as noted): CE 560 Course Construction and Evaluation CE 580 Coordination and Supervision of Career and Technical Education CE 600 Adult and Community Education CE 610 Work Site Training and Development ED 550 Learning Theory ED 570 Competency-Based Education ED 620 Advanced eLearning Design and Instructional Strategies ED 630 Externship in Education ED 640 Creative Project (3-6 hours) ED 650 Quality Improvement in Education **Students may also choose electives from the courses required in concentrations other than their chosen concentration. Elective course options should be discussed with the faculty advisor.**	
	Total CTE Elective Requirement Hours:	**6**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Graduate Hours Required for Completion of Career and Technical Education Major	**30**

Course Descriptions

This section lists the descriptions for new courses offered at Athens State University after the initial print of the 2023-2024 Graduate Academic Catalog.

Course descriptions are presented in alphabetical order by **discipline prefix**.

Art (AR)
Career and Technical Education (CE)
Education (ED)
Instructional Design (ID)

The rules, regulations, policies, fees and other charges, courses, programs of study, and academic requirements that appear in this catalog were in effect at the time of its publication and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all information. The contents are published for informational purposes only, and do not constitute a contract between the University and any student, applicant for admission, or other person. Statements regarding courses, programs of study, fees, and conditions are subject to change without advance notice.

Art (AR)

AR 500 **Mentored Studies I (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***(Must Establish an Artist/Mentor)***
This course is taught by working professional artists in the student's locale and discipline. Students will develop a body of focused work in preparation for the final Thesis Exhibition, engage in independent work, sustain development of ideas and approaches, maintain continued, regular contact and relationships with Athens State art faculty, local mentors and fellow Athens State.

AR 501 **Advanced Figure Studies (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Development of advanced figure drawing from a live male and female models using a variety of art materials, techniques, and artistic approaches. The purpose of this course is to help students develop advanced skills and understanding of drawing the human form, including anatomy, observation of the human form and fundamental exercises in gesture, contour, outline, and tonal modeling. Shared interaction and evaluation maintain a rigorous critical and creative environment where individual artists can succeed on their own terms.

AR 502 **Integrative Painting Materials and Techniques (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
A practicum-based course that explores different painting techniques and concepts, and alternative painting surfaces. Includes presentation of historical, cultural and contemporary trends in painting.

AR 503 **Seminar I (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Students will engage, explore, and analyze a range of subjects in art and design through speaking, writing, research and presentation in ways that are relevant to their own art practice. These conversations will encourage connections while building rapport with peers and enhancing leadership skills.

AR 505 **UX/UI Design – Graphic Design for the Web (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course focuses on developing a mastery of the functional design of apps, websites, and interactive experiences from a visual and logistical perspective. It advances students learning of theories of human computer interaction as well as advances principles of interface design, prototyping, visual language, and responsive design. Students will use software such as Adobe Experience Design and related Adobe Creative Cloud programs to build a user experience from the ground up. Graduate students can expect an individual project chosen and planned by the student with approval of the instructor.

AR 506 **Multimedia Production Workshop (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Learn beyond the basics of operating video equipment, editing, and motion graphics software. Students are instructed on the three stages of multimedia project creation. In pre-production, students learn the basic principles of story development, storyboarding, scheduling, and budget planning. Students shoot short video stories and edit those stories together using Adobe Premiere and After Effects. As a participant in this course, students are expected to upload videos to the Internet. Skills acquired in this workshop have applications in broadcast journalism, documentary film, and transmedia storytelling. Visual content delivery methods, in both web and social media, are explored. The course focuses on a variety of strategic design elements such as: photography, graphic design, videography, motion design, virtual environments, multimedia, digital audio recording, User Experience (UX) and User Interface (UI) design as well as training in Augmented, Virtual, and Mixed Reality design (AR, VR, and MR, respectively).

Graduate students can expect an individual project chosen and planned by the student with approval of the instructor. Critiques, lectures, research groups, and student presentations provide the foundation of each residency. Shared interaction and evaluation maintain a rigorous critical and creative environment where individual artists can succeed on their own terms. Residencies end with Saturday Colloquium, an all-day event involving students, faculty and visiting artists from all disciplines.

AR 508 **Mentored Studies II (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***(Must Establish an Artist/Mentor)***
This course is taught by working professional artists in the student's locale and discipline. Students will develop a body of focused work in preparation for the final Thesis Exhibition, engage in independent work, sustain development of ideas and approaches, maintain continued, regular contact and relationships with Athens State art faculty, local mentors and fellow Athens State.

AR 510 **Digital Recording and Editing (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Digital Recording & Editing is a lecture/lab course designed to build upon student's knowledge of the concepts and current trends of audio technology with a primary focus on combining various processes and tools to create new music compositions while speculating on the cultural, performance, and philosophical implications of music technology. This course is designed to teach upper-level, advanced computer sequencing techniques. Emphasis will be placed on projects in which students will be expected to sequence post production audio for use in live theater productions both inside and outside the university system. Topics include the acoustics of sound, digital audio, synthesis, sampling, MIDI (in performance and editing), the digital audio workstation, digital audio hardware, digital audio software and more.

AR 511 **Topics in Narrative Painting (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
A practicum-based course that explores narrative, symbol, and metaphor as subjects in painting.

AR 512 **Art Pedagogy (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
MFA candidates will understand the disciplinary and pedagogical knowledge required of a teaching practitioner in a professional setting. This class will provide students with knowledge of how people learn in various ways and the ability to apply that knowledge to assure the success of the future MFA candidate's students. Candidates will embrace student centered learning, maintain knowledge of disciplinary content as it applies to an educational setting, possess a foundation of professional and pedagogical knowledge and model equitable classroom practice.

AR 513 **Portrait Painting and Drawing (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Students will use a variety of media to develop advanced skills and techniques in portraiture.

AR 516 Research in Glaze Chemistry and Kiln Design II (3 Sem. Hrs.)
An intensive, blended lecture and practicum-based study focused on the science behind the ceramic materials and glazes. The course will provide information and science to help each student effectively utilize glaze materials in ways that will enhance and improve their individual practice. Students will also learn how to effectively process local clays and develop clay bodies from raw materials. This course also covers kiln design and maintenance; ceramic surfaces; glaze calculations; and firing techniques as well as studio practices and safety. Students will be asked to apply these concepts in the ceramic's studio as part of their coursework. MFA candidates can expect and individual research project developed between the student and their major professor.

AR 518 Senior Studio: Refining a Cohesive Body of Work (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Crucial facets of a successful studio practice that happen concurrently, and in dialogue with art making are studied and practiced. Writing, reading, communication, and professional practices will be explored as ways of bolstering students' understanding of their own studio practice within the wider history of art and particularly within the context of contemporary art. Extensive art-making is expected. Shared interaction and evaluation maintain a rigorous critical and creative environment where individual artists can succeed on their own terms.

AR 520 Advanced Principles of Scenic and Lighting Design (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is an advanced production class focusing on the art of scenic and lighting design, following the process from concept to realized design while emphasizing and incorporating principles of design and elements of composition. Various techniques in advanced work will be discussed and utilized as students work to conceptually design a production through research, drafting, sketches, computer design, and model creation. Students will have the opportunity to reinforce and utilize their knowledge of the elements of design, design vocabulary and skills, and to work on the collaborative process of theater design.

AR 521 Seminar: Sacred Art in History (3 Sem. Hrs.)
All course requirements are completed online. Students will engage in individual work, as well as small group and whole class discussions using Canvas to work through the assigned problem and create written responses. Challenging topics in art history are assigned each week to deepen student understanding of a particular form of religious art and its possible roles, to create opportunities for students to locate appropriate resources, and to promote critical thinking skills in the context of complex art history questions. The group discussion problems enable students to make a connection between the information presented by the text and through research and the historical and cultural circumstances in which religion and spirituality has influenced art. 500 level students can expect more complex learning objectives and the requirement of a portfolio piece.

AR 522 New Media: Alternative Firing Process (3 Sem. Hrs.)
An intensive, blended lecture and practicum-based study focused on the history and technique of alternative firing processes. The course will provide information and science to help each student learn a variety of atmospheric and alternative firing processes including raku, naked raku, luster fuming, and pit firing. Students will be asked to apply these concepts in the ceramics studio as part of their coursework.

AR 526 Critical Theories in Visual Culture (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will address critical theories leading to and supporting the post-modern movements in art. Emphasis on analyzing and discussing individual today's works of art in light of contemporary writings by artists and theorists. Reading and writing-emphasis course.

AR 530 Graduate Studio Community Project (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Students can expect collaborative processes, discussion, project making, and critique. Critical thinking and studio practice are integrated in assignments. Topics are drawn from design theory, visual cultural theory, art curatorial critique, and artists' writings, including those from history. This course requires students to experienced firsthand the power of engaging with communities and being a part of solutions. 5-day residencies are mandatory for low residency MFA candidates. Students are on the campus of the Alabama Center for the Arts to make and present their work to each other, and faculty, and to plan their next semester's study from Tuesday through Saturday.

AR 540 Digital Animation and Graphic Design (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is designed for students interested in 2D and 3D digital animation. Topics include concepts and techniques used for creating motion graphics, animated films, and special effects. Students are introduced to Adobe After Effects and 3D features of Maya: modeling, animation, texture, lighting, rendering, expressions, dynamics, and workflows. Students gain experience by following class examples and completing assignments. Students in this course create 2D and 3D animation projects intended to build their portfolio.

AR 543 Art Entrepreneurship Residency (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course prepares the student to take the next career step, whether they are going into the job market as a professional artist, starting a business, or continuing their education at the graduate level. Students will participate in online discussions regarding weekly reading assignments from the course text. This structure will provide guidelines for product / service development, audience engagement, and launch. Personal / business journals will be utilized as a learning tool for future projects. A major focus will be the development of an eCommerce site to establish an online presence.

AR 546 Virtual Environments (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course provides students with the opportunity to create virtual reality experiences and interactive 3D environments. Topics covered in this course apply to game design, filmmaking, mobile apps, and virtual scenery for live performance. Students in this course develop skills in 3D modeling, animation, game design, and user experience design. Students work independently on coursework and in small teams on collaborative projects. Graduate students can expect an individual project chosen and planned by the student with approval of the instructor. The course focuses on a variety of strategic design elements such as: photography, graphic design, videography, motion design, virtual environments, multimedia, digital audio recording, User Experience (UX) and User Interface (UI) design as well as training in Augmented, Virtual, and Mixed Reality design (AR, VR, and MR, respectively).

AR 555 Projects in New Media (3 Sem. Hrs.)
5-day residencies are mandatory for low residency MFA candidates. Students are on the campus of the Alabama Center for the Arts to make and present their work to each other, and faculty, and to plan their next semester's study from Tuesday through Saturday. Critiques, lectures, research groups, and student presentations provide the foundation of each residency. Shared interaction and evaluation maintain

a rigorous critical and creative environment where individual artists can succeed. This course investigates a variety of concerns of artists working with new media and forms of art through research and practice. This course takes an integrated approach to contemporary media practices by synthesizing fine arts with electronic and digital technologies. Through technical innovation and interdisciplinary engagement, the course provides context for the relationship of media practices and other artistic disciplines. Using the platform of electronic and digital technologies students are encouraged to create projects grounded in traditional and experimental methods within the visual arts. The course offers students courses in video, animation, interactive design, as well as emerging technologies, such as 3D scanning, editing and printing.

AR 560 **Special Workshop Arts and Crafts (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course is a special workshop in traditional arts and crafts, particularly sculpture. It looks at advanced exploration in various traditional materials and methods with an emphasis on design and craftsmanship. However, this course is unique in its insistence on exploring new media and technology that piggyback on traditional materials and methods in contemporary ways. Graduate students can expect research and an individual project designed by the student and instructor.

AR 561 **Multimedia Installation (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Learn beyond the basics of operating video equipment, editing, and motion graphics software. Students are instructed on the three stages of multimedia project creation. In pre-production, students learn the basic principles of story development, storyboarding, scheduling, and budget planning. Students shoot short video stories and edit those stories together using Adobe Premiere and After Effects. As a participant in this course, students are expected to upload videos to the Internet. Skills acquired in this workshop have applications in broadcast journalism, documentary film, and transmedia storytelling. Visual content delivery methods, in both web and social media, are explored.

Graduate students can expect an individual project chosen and planned by the student with approval of the instructor. Critiques, lectures, research groups, and student presentations provide the foundation of each residency. Shared interaction and evaluation maintain a rigorous critical and creative environment where individual artists can succeed on their own terms. Residencies end with Saturday Colloquium, an all-day event involving students, faculty and visiting artists from all disciplines.

AR 568 **Topics in the History of Ceramics (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course will examine the history and theory of modern craft through a study of ceramic artists and movements. Lectures and readings will provide students with a chronological overview of more than a century of ceramics occurring within art, and will also consider the field's links to other crafts. Time will be reserved for discussions on the consequence of socioeconomic, political, philosophical, and industrial influences as drivers of change.

Graduate students can expect an individual project in art history chosen and planned by the student with approval of the instructor.

AR 570 **Modernism and Post-Modernism in Design (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
The course examines the role of international design in relation to an emerging industrial world and advances in technology during the late 19th century through the 20th century. This course will focus on various graphic design movements from De Stijl and Dada to the impact of the Bauhaus and the International Typographic Style; from the sixties' psychedelia to the punk seventies and postmodern eighties and nineties. Students assess the integration of art and design with new technologies and consider the effects of war, mass-production, and urbanization. Students also engage with the changing meaning of design in an age of postmodernist deconstruction, pluralism, and irreverence at the turn of the new millennium. Graduate students can expect an individual project in art history chosen and planned by the student with approval of the instructor.

AR 600 **Mentored Studies III (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***(Must Establish an Artist/Mentor)***
This course is taught by working professional artists in the student's locale and discipline. Students will develop a body of focused work in preparation for the final Thesis Exhibition, engage in independent work, sustain development of ideas and approaches, maintain continued, regular contact and relationships with Athens State art faculty, local mentors and fellow Athens State.

AR 602 **Seminar II (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Students will engage, explore, and analyze a range of subjects in art and design through speaking, writing, research and presentation in ways that are relevant to their own art practice. These conversations will encourage connections while building rapport with peers and enhancing leadership skills.

AR 608 **Mentored Studies IV (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***(Must Establish an Artist/Mentor)***
This course is taught by working professional artists in the student's locale and discipline. Students will develop a body of focused work in preparation for the final Thesis Exhibition, engage in independent work, sustain development of ideas and approaches, maintain continued, regular contact and relationships with Athens State art faculty, local mentors and fellow Athens State.

AR 616 **Thesis Design (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This is an intensive critique-based course in which MFA candidates work closely with their major professor and their primary mentor to develop and map their future thesis exhibition project. The student is required to examine closely their current work, plan their goals for the body of work they will exhibit and produce a significant body of work during the course in which the ideas, method of investigation, and execution are determined by the student, with the mentorship of their major professor. The creation of work for the exhibition is expected to continue. Students will be introduced to the theory, methods and skills for developing and constructing a research project plan and for developing and framing researchable question by focusing on techniques for the analysis and synthesis of concepts and theories integration and application of concepts and theories into a concise project plan including a clear methodology and research design.

AR 700 **Thesis Research and Writing (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
The MFA Visual Arts degree culminates in an exhibition of a body of work, a written thesis that supports the work, and an oral defense of both. The MFA thesis balances a focus on process and art making with using research and citations to put student's art into a larger context with evidence as support for their claims. Students will apply and integrate theory, methods and skills for executing a research project according to plan, and for assessing project outcomes. Students will focus on techniques for analysis of design activities and synthesis of

research findings including project documentation and theoretical analysis of designed outcomes. Each graduate student enrolled in the MFA in Visual Art program will be assigned an MFA Thesis Advisor.

AR 701 **Exhibition and Thesis Defense Residency (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
In conjunction with their major professor, the Gallery Director and the Operational office at the Alabama Center for the Arts, students will create their final exhibition and opening reception. Students will present their Thesis Defense, which is the final review of the work produced in the MFA Program. The purpose of this defense is to evaluate each student's Thesis Exhibition. This requires that students be able to discuss their work, to provide a context for it, and to respond to criticism and questions. At the conclusion of this formal review by all the faculty, a determination is made as to whether the student receives credit based on the completion and public presentation of a final body of work, showing professional competence, evidence of graduate level visual research, and written thesis paper. 5-day residencies are mandatory for low residency MFA candidates. Students are on the campus of the Alabama Center for the Arts to make and present their work and defend their thesis is a culminating exhibition.

Career and Technical Education (CE)

CE 610 **Work Site Training and Development (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Crosslisted with ID 610***
This course will prepare students to design and develop training programs based on the personal needs of an organization's employees. Students will be required to design, develop, and then assess the effectiveness of their training programs. The course will, also, examine special topics of interest, such as diversity and leadership training.

Education (ED)

ED 505 **Research and Professional Communication (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course covers the fundamentals of behavioral science on effective communication practices to provide business professionals with knowledge and tools to perform relative experiential research: and communicate clearly and effectively utilizing communication theory, listening, writing, speaking, intercultural communication, team participation, collaborative communication, correspondence, communications history, and leadership skills.

ED 515 **The Adult Learner (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course provides students with the knowledge, skills and abilities to effectively use instructional strategies and methodologies to motivate and train adult learners.

ED 520 **eLearning Design (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Crosslisted with ID 520***
This course focuses on the application and interpretation of theory, research and standards-based effective practices used to design, develop and evaluate distance and blended education experiences. Students will examine different aspects of online course design including analysis, content design, material development and lesson evaluation.

ED 620 **Advanced eLearning Design & Instructional Strategies (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Crosslisted with ID 620***
This course focuses on the advanced application and interpretation of theory, research and standards based effective practices used to design, develop and evaluate distance and blended education experiences. Students will examine different aspects of online teaching (e.g. asynchronous communication, facilitation and feedback) based on research, critically evaluate existing social media and online resources, and apply their learning to online content design.

Instructional Design (ID)

ID 500 **Foundations of Development, Design, and Performance Improvement (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the principles and practices of instructional design and explores key concepts, theories, and methodologies essential for creating effective and engaging learning experiences. Participants will learn the importance of how to analyze learner needs, set clear objectives, design instructional strategies, integrate technology and multimedia, and evaluate the effectiveness of their designs. By the end of the course, learners will have a solid foundation in instructional design, enabling them to create inclusive and impactful learning materials that foster performance and meet desired outcomes.

ID 520 **eLearning Design (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Crosslisted with ED 520***
This course focuses on the application and interpretation of theory, research and standards-based effective practices used to design, develop and evaluate distance and blended education experiences. Students will examine different aspects of online course design including analysis, content design, material development and lesson evaluation.

ID 530 **Digital Asset Design and Creation (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course examines visual literacy and graphic design principles to expedite acquisition of instructional materials to learners. The course will also explore the basic elements of Adobe Photoshop and Adobe InDesign which will allow students to develop various materials for implementation in various design projects throughout the program and throughout their career. Course Fee: Cost of Photoshop / InDesign License

ID 540 **Multimedia Development for Digital Environments (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course explores multimedia development theories as applied to educational and training contexts. Students will leam how to assemble and combine media sources into fluid training/educational videos. Course Fee: Cost of Camtasia Studio.

ID 545 **Special Project in Multimedia Development(3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Instructor Approval, Prerequisite: CE 308 and CE 408***
This course is designed for students who have successfully completed both CE 308 and CE 408. An advanced course in which students will participate in specialized projects in multimedia development.

ID 610 **Personnel Training Design and Development (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Crosslisted with CE 610***
This course will prepare students to design and develop training programs based on the personal needs of an organization's employees. Students will be required to design, develop, and then assess the effectiveness of their training programs. The course will also examine special topics of interest, such as diversity and leadership training.

ID 620 **Advanced eLearning Design and Instructional Strategies (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Crosslisted with ED 620***
This course focuses on the advanced application and interpretation of theory, research and standards based effective practices used to design, develop and evaluate distance and blended education experiences. Students will examine different aspects of online teaching (e.g. asynchronous communication, facilitation and feedback) based on research, critically evaluate existing social media and online resources, and apply their learning to online content design.

ID 630 **Digital Lesson and Training Development (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course explores the various elements of creating modules, lessons and courses for the digital environment. Students will also learn how to develop these elements using industry appropriate eLeaming authoring software. Course Fee: Cost of Articulate Storyline or Adobe Captivate.

ID 635 **Special Project in Digital Lesson and Training Development (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Instructor Approval, Prerequisite: CE 308 and CE 408***
This course is designed for students who have successfully completed both CE 308 and CE 408. An advanced course in which students will participate in special projects utilizing advanced skills in digital lesson and training development.

ID 640 **Digital Training Delivery (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course explores various aspects of the development, implementation and evaluation portion of instructional design and development projects. Topics such as prototype delivery models, integration with learning management systems, Internet hosting services, and cloud delivery options will be discussed. Students will gain hands-on experience working in a variety of eLearning distribution environments.

Athens State University

Founded 1822

2023-2024 Graduate Academic Catalog

ADDENDUM, No. 2

ACCREDITATION

Athens State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award bachelor's and master's degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Athens State University.

The College of Education at Athens State University is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), 1140 19th St., N.W. Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20036. The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) became the sole accrediting body for educator preparation providers on July 1, 2013, replacing the former NCATE accreditation body.

The College of Business at Athens State University is nationally accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), 11520 West 119th Street, Overland Park, KS 66213, (913) 339-9356.

Athens State University is approved by the Alabama State Department of Education for the training of early childhood, elementary, collaborative, physical education, secondary, and postsecondary school teachers. The Alabama State Department of Education is a member of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education Certification.

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A Non-Profit, State Institution of Higher Learning

This catalog addendum is in addition to the annual announcement of the graduate academic programs, requirements, and regulations of Athens State University. The information contained in this Addendum was approved after the initial catalog timeline. Students enrolling in the University are subject to the provisions stated herein. The rules, regulations, policies, fees and other charges, courses, programs of study, and academic requirements that appear in this catalog were in effect at the time of its publication and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all information. The contents are published for informational purposes only, and do not constitute a contract between the University and any student, applicant for admission or other person. Statements regarding courses, programs of study, fees, and conditions are subject to change without advance notice.

Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity Statement

Athens State University, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action. Athens State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, gender, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, sexual orientation, disability, religion, genetic information, or veteran status in employment, or admissions to or participation in educational programs and activities. Inquiries or concerns may be addressed to the Office of the Vice President for Financial Affairs, 300 N. Beaty St., Athens, AL 35611, 256-216-3303.

Accessibility/Disability

Athens State University complies with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 including all updated regulations and guidance. Athens State University strives to provide a dynamic and appropriate instructional environment and workplace to meet the needs of students, employees and citizens of the communities served. It is the policy of the University that a good faith effort shall be made to meet the accommodation requests of persons with disabilities. Athens State University employees and citizens should contact the Office of Human Resources, (256) 216-3314, to complete the procedure for requesting an accommodation. Students with disabilities may contact Accessibility Services (formerly Disability Services), located in the Sandridge Student Center Room 122, (256) 233-8143, accessibility.services@athens.edu.

Harassment and Discrimination

If any person feels he/she has been harassed or discriminated against, the person should follow the University's Harassment and Discrimination Policy and Procedure. Complaints of sexual misconduct should follow the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedure. The University can only take action against alleged offenders and protect the University from future incidents if occurrences of harassment and discrimination are reported in a timely fashion.

Privacy of Student Records - Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

Athens State University complies with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 as amended. FERPA sets forth the requirements pertaining to the privacy of student records, and the rights of students with respect to their education records. For complete FERPA information, see the Records section of this catalog or the University's online Policy Library.

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College of Arts and Sciences

Admission Requirements for Master of Fine Arts in Integrative Design

(See also the General University requirements for Admission to Graduate Programs in the 2023-2024 Graduate Catalog.)

Requirements for Degree-Seeking Students

For **unconditional admission**, a prospective student must:

- Have earned a bachelor's degree in the Arts (approved by the Fine Arts Department) from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, with a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 (3.0 scale); AND;
- Submit for review as part of the application process:
    - Three professional references preferably from faculty member, recent employers, or clients..
    - An artist's statement (one page in length) that describes your current body of artwork your current studio practice, and the reason you are pursuing a Master of Fine Arts.
    - Resume
- Submit a professional portfolio (student seeking admission using portfolio may be admitted unconditionally only after departmental review and approval). Portfolios must be major-specific and follow the individual portfolio guidelines required by the major of interest. Refer here for portfolio details; AND
- Meet all other program-specific requirements.

For **conditional admission**, a prospective student must:

- Have earned a bachelor's degree (approved by the Fine Arts Department) from an institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, with a minimum overall GPA of 2.75 (4.0 scale), AND;
- Submit for review as part of the application process:
    - Three professional references preferably from faculty member, recent employers, or clients..
    - An artist's statement (one page in length) that describes your current body of artwork your current studio practice, and the reason you are pursuing a Master of Fine Arts.
    - Resume
- Submit a professional portfolio (student seeking admission using portfolio may be admitted unconditionally only after departmental review and approval). Portfolios must be major-specific and follow the individual portfolio guidelines required by the major of interest. Refer here for portfolio details; AND
- Meet all other program-specific requirements.

A student admitted on conditional status will be admitted on academic probation and the maximum number of hours to be taken during the first semester is six. Conditional status will be removed only upon successful completion of a minimum of 9 semester hours of graduate coursework at Athens State with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Please Note: A student who has met the above requirements may be required to complete specific undergraduate prerequisite courses or their equivalents as determined by departmental review.

A student may be admitted **provisionally** if all required application documents have been submitted. Provisional admission allows the student to register for graduate fine arts courses in an upcoming term; however, registration for these courses is subject to change pending departmental review of the application materials and final determination of conditional or unconditional admission.

Requirements for Non-Degree Seeking Students

A student who does not meet the requirements for one of the above admission categories as a degree-seeking graduate student may be admitted as a non-degree seeking graduate student. Records are kept of the work completed and credits are transferable. **Non-degree seeking graduate students are ineligible for federal aid funding under Title IV.**

Students seeking admission as non-degree seeking students must:

- Submit a completed graduate non-degree seeking admissions application and pay any required application fees.
- Submit official transcripts form the last institution attended, and from at least one institution accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education documenting conferral of a bachelor's or higher degree. Official transcripts must indicate that the student is in good standing at the last institution attended.

Students admitted as non-degree seeking students will only be allowed to register for graduate courses in a given term subject to space availability and/or cohort restrictions. **Non-degree seeking students may complete no more than one-half of the total program hours;** in order to register for additional courses, students must submit a degree-seeking application and all required materials, and be approved for degree-seeking status. Non-degree seeking students will not be awarded a graduate degree from Athens State University.

For additional information regarding the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Integrative Design, please visit our Master of Fine Arts webpage at Integrative Design - Athens State University**.**

Master of Fine Arts in Integrative Design (with Concentrations)

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Fine Arts with Concentrations:

Students earning the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Integrative Design degree with a concentration must satisfy all general University requirements and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Master of Fine Arts in Integrative Design Course Requirements

	Professional Development Courses	**Hours**
	AR 512 Art Pedagogy	**3**
	AR 500, 508, 600, 608 Mentored Studies I-IV	**12**
	AR 530 Graduate Studio Community Project	**3**
	*AR 543 Art Entrepreneurship Residency	**3**
	AR 503 Seminar I	**3**
	AR 602 Seminar II	**3**
	Concentration Specific Courses	
	Choose one concentration from (See breakdown of concentrations below): Media and Design **OR** Ceramics **OR** Painting and Drawing	**21**
	Art History Course	
	AR 526 Critical Theories and Visual Culture	**3**
	Thesis Courses	
	AR 616 Thesis Design	**3**
	AR 700 Thesis Research and Writing	**3**
	*AR701 Exhibition and Thesis Defense Residency	**3**
	TOTAL HOURS:	**60**
	**All students participate in a 2-week residency at the Alabama Center for the Arts.*	

Additional Program Requirements

Students must complete all courses for **one of the following**:

- The Concentration in Ceramics, **OR**
- The Concentration in Painting and Drawing, **OR**
- The Concentration in Media and Design

Concentration in Ceramics		
	Advanced Courses in Ceramics	**Hours**
	AR 516 Research in Glaze Chemistry and Kiln Design II	**3**
	AR 518 Senior Studio: Refining Cohesive Body of Work	**3**
	AR 522 New Media: Alternative Firing Processes	**3**
	AR 555 Projects in New Media	**3**
	AR 560 Special Workshop in Arts and Crafts	**3**
	AR 561 Multimedia Installation	**3**
	AR 568 Topics in the History of Ceramics	**3**
	TOTAL CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENT HOURS:	**21**

Concentration in Painting and Drawing		
	Advanced Courses in Painting and Drawing	**Hours**
	AR 501 Advanced Figure Studies	**3**
	AR 502 Integrative Painting Materials and Techniques	**3**
	AR 511 Topics in Narrative Painting	**3**
	AR 513 Portrait Painting and Drawing	**3**

	AR 518 Senior Studio: Refining and Cohesive Body of Work	**3**
	AR 521 Seminar: Sacred Art in History	**3**
	AR 555 Project in New Media	**3**
	TOTAL CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENT HOURS:	**21**

Concentration in Media and Design		
	Advanced Courses in Media and Design	**Hours**
	AR 506 Multimedia Production Workshop	**3**
	AR 505 UX/UI Design – Graphic Design for Web	**3**
	AR 510 Digital Recording and Editing	**3**
	AR 520 Advanced Principles of Scenic and Lighting Design	**3**
	AR 540 Digital Animation and Graphic Design	**3**
	AR 546 Virtual Environments	**3**
	AR 570 Modernism and Postmodernism in Design	**3**
	TOTAL CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENT HOURS:	**21**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Fine Arts in Integrative Design (with Concentration)	**60**

Cybersecurity

The Master of Science in Cybersecurity is an interdisciplinary program designed to educate knowledgeable cybersecurity professionals. The program prepares students for analyzing, developing, and managing the cybersecurity of organizations. As such, it focuses on technical and management aspects of cybersecurity. Two tracks are offered in the program: a project track and a thesis track.

Master of Science in Cybersecurity – Non-Thesis Track

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science in Cybersecurity:
Students earning the Master of Science degree in Cybersecurity must satisfy all general University requirements or graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Cybersecurity Course Requirements

	Cybersecurity Core Courses	Hours
	ITE 520 Cybersecurity Foundations	3
	MCO 500 Cybersecurity Risk Management	3
	MCO 510 Cybersecurity Policy	3
	ITE 522 Communications and Network Security	3
	ITE 523 Cryptography and System Security	3
	Elective Courses Students select three courses from the following, for a total of 12 credit hours. CS 527 Advanced Database Systems and Information Processing CS 513 Data Mining, Analysis, and Visualization ITE 525 Virtualization and Cloud Security CS 530 Principles of Computer Communications and Networks CS 551 Advanced Principles of Software Engineering and Methods CS 553 Secure Software Engineering and Testing ITE 524 Advanced Computer Forensics ITE 527 Advanced Topics in Cybersecurity CS 577 Event Modeling and Simulation MCO 515 Cybersecurity Continuity Planning and Incident Reporting MCO 520 Asset Security and Cybersecurity Auditing MCO 525 Cybersecurity Leadership and Strategic Planning	12
	Core Requirement Hours	27

Non-Thesis Track Course Requirements

In addition to the Cybersecurity Core Course Requirements, students must complete the additional coursework for the Non-Thesis Track.

	Non-Thesis Track	
	Course	Hours
	CS 597 Project and Research Methods	3
	CS 598 Project Development or MCO 598 Project Development	1-3

		Hours
	Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Science degree in Cybersecurity Non-Thesis Option	31-34

Master of Science in Cybersecurity – Thesis Track

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science in Cybersecurity:
Students earning the Master of Science degree in Cybersecurity must satisfy all general University requirements or graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Cybersecurity Course Requirements

	Cybersecurity Core Courses	Hours
	ITE 520 Cybersecurity Foundations	3
	MCO 500 Cybersecurity Risk Management	3
	MCO 510 Cybersecurity Policy	3
	ITE 522 Communications and Network Security	3
	ITE 523 Cryptography and System Security	3
	Elective Courses Students select three courses from the following, for a total of 12 credit hours. CS 527 Advanced Database Systems and Information Processing CS 513 Data Mining, Analysis, and Visualization ITE 525 Virtualization and Cloud Security CS 530 Principles of Computer Communications and Networks CS 551 Advanced Principles of Software Engineering and Methods CS 553 Secure Software Engineering and Testing ITE 524 Advanced Computer Forensics ITE 527 Advanced Topics in Cybersecurity CS 577 Event Modeling and Simulation MCO 515 Cybersecurity Continuity Planning and Incident Reporting MCO 520 Asset Security and Cybersecurity Auditing MCO 525 Cybersecurity Leadership and Strategic Planning	12
	Core Requirement Hours	27

Thesis Track Course Requirements

In addition to the Cybersecurity Core Course Requirements, students must complete the additional coursework for the Non-Thesis Track.

	Thesis Track	
	Course	Hours
	CS 597 Project and Research Methods	3
	CS 599 Thesis OR MCO 599 Thesis	1-3

		Hours
	Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Science degree in Cybersecurity Thesis Option	31-33

College of Education

Master of Education – Career and Technical Education (CTE)

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Education degree with a major in Career and Technical Education:

(See the General University requirements for Admission to Graduate Programs in the 2023-2024 Graduate Catalog.)

Students earning the Master of Education (MEd) degree with a major in Career and Technical Education must satisfy all general University requirements for graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Career and Technical Education Core Course Requirements

	Course	Hours
	CE 500 Principles and Philosophies of Career and Technical Education	**3**
	CE 510 Culture, Diversity, and Ethics in the Workplace	**3**
	CE 540 Organization and Coordination of Career and Technical Education	**3**
	ED 500 Research Applications for Career and Technical Education	**3**
	ED 510 Technology for Teaching and Training	**3**
	Total Core Requirement Hours:	**15**

Concentration and CTE Elective Course Requirements

In addition to the Career and Technical Education core, students must complete all coursework for **one** of the concentrations below, and additional CTE electives as detailed below.

Curriculum and Instruction Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Curriculum and Instruction Courses (3 courses required): CE 520 Curriculum Development CE 550 Performance Analysis and Assessment CE 620 Teaching and Training	**9**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**9**

Instructional Technology Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Instructional Technology Courses (3 courses required): ED 520 eLearning Design ED 540 Technology Integration for Teaching and Training ED 610 Technology for Educational Leaders	**9**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**9**

Leadership Concentration		
	Course	**Hours**
	Leadership Courses (3 courses required): ED 530 Community Partnerships and Relations ED 560 Mindful Leadership ED 600 Industrial Management and Teambuilding	**9**
	Total Concentration Requirement Hours:	**9**

CTE Elective Course Requirements

In addition to the Career and Technical Education core and concentration requirements, students must complete 6 hours of additional electives from the choices below. Course options should be discussed with the faculty advisor.

CTE Electives		
	Course	**Hours**
	Elective Courses (all courses are 3 hours except as noted): CE 560 Course Construction and Evaluation CE 580 Coordination and Supervision of Career and Technical Education CE 600 Adult and Community Education CE 610 Work Site Training and Development ED 550 Learning Theory ED 570 Competency-Based Education ED 620 Advanced eLearning Design and Instructional Strategies ED 630 Externship in Education ED 640 Creative Project (3-6 hours) ED 650 Quality Improvement in Education **Students may also choose electives from the courses required in concentrations other than their chosen concentration. Elective course options should be discussed with the faculty advisor.**	
	Total CTE Elective Requirement Hours:	**6**

		Hours
	Total Minimum Graduate Hours Required for Completion of Career and Technical Education Major	**30**

Course Descriptions

This section lists the descriptions for new courses offered at Athens State University after the initial print of the 2023-2024 Graduate Academic Catalog.

Course descriptions are presented in alphabetical order by **discipline prefix**.

Art (AR)
Business (BUS)
Career and Technical Education (CE)
Computer Science (CS)
Education (ED)
Instructional Design (ID)
Information Technology (ITE)
Management of Cybersecurity Operations (MCO)

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Art (AR)

AR 500 **Mentored Studies I (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***(Must Establish an Artist/Mentor)***
This course is taught by working professional artists in the student's locale and discipline. Students will develop a body of focused work in preparation for the final Thesis Exhibition, engage in independent work, sustain development of ideas and approaches, maintain continued, regular contact and relationships with Athens State art faculty, local mentors and fellow Athens State.

AR 501 **Advanced Figure Studies (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Development of advanced figure drawing from a live male and female models using a variety of art materials, techniques, and artistic approaches. The purpose of this course is to help students develop advanced skills and understanding of drawing the human form, including anatomy, observation of the human form and fundamental exercises in gesture, contour, outline, and tonal modeling. Shared interaction and evaluation maintain a rigorous critical and creative environment where individual artists can succeed on their own terms.

AR 502 **Integrative Painting Materials and Techniques (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
A practicum-based course that explores different painting techniques and concepts, and alternative painting surfaces. Includes presentation of historical, cultural and contemporary trends in painting.

AR 503 **Seminar I (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Students will engage, explore, and analyze a range of subjects in art and design through speaking, writing, research and presentation in ways that are relevant to their own art practice. These conversations will encourage connections while building rapport with peers and enhancing leadership skills.

AR 505 **UX/UI Design – Graphic Design for the Web (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course focuses on developing a mastery of the functional design of apps, websites, and interactive experiences from a visual and logistical perspective. It advances students learning of theories of human computer interaction as well as advances principles of interface design, prototyping, visual language, and responsive design. Students will use software such as Adobe Experience Design and related Adobe Creative Cloud programs to build a user experience from the ground up. Graduate students can expect an individual project chosen and planned by the student with approval of the instructor.

AR 506 **Multimedia Production Workshop (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Learn beyond the basics of operating video equipment, editing, and motion graphics software. Students are instructed on the three stages of multimedia project creation. In pre-production, students learn the basic principles of story development, storyboarding, scheduling, and budget planning. Students shoot short video stories and edit those stories together using Adobe Premiere and After Effects. As a participant in this course, students are expected to upload videos to the Internet. Skills acquired in this workshop have applications in broadcast journalism, documentary film, and transmedia storytelling. Visual content delivery methods, in both web and social media, are explored. The course focuses on a variety of strategic design elements such as: photography, graphic design, videography, motion design, virtual environments, multimedia, digital audio recording, User Experience (UX) and User Interface (UI) design as well as training in Augmented, Virtual, and Mixed Reality design (AR, VR, and MR, respectively).

Graduate students can expect an individual project chosen and planned by the student with approval of the instructor. Critiques, lectures, research groups, and student presentations provide the foundation of each residency. Shared interaction and evaluation maintain a rigorous critical and creative environment where individual artists can succeed on their own terms. Residencies end with Saturday Colloquium, an all-day event involving students, faculty and visiting artists from all disciplines.

AR 508 **Mentored Studies II (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***(Must Establish an Artist/Mentor)***
This course is taught by working professional artists in the student's locale and discipline. Students will develop a body of focused work in preparation for the final Thesis Exhibition, engage in independent work, sustain development of ideas and approaches, maintain continued, regular contact and relationships with Athens State art faculty, local mentors and fellow Athens State.

AR 510 **Digital Recording and Editing (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Digital Recording & Editing is a lecture/lab course designed to build upon student's knowledge of the concepts and current trends of audio technology with a primary focus on combining various processes and tools to create new music compositions while speculating on the cultural, performance, and philosophical implications of music technology. This course is designed to teach upper-level, advanced computer sequencing techniques. Emphasis will be placed on projects in which students will be expected to sequence post production audio for use in live theater productions both inside and outside the university system. Topics include the acoustics of sound, digital audio, synthesis, sampling, MIDI (in performance and editing), the digital audio workstation, digital audio hardware, digital audio software and more.

AR 511 **Topics in Narrative Painting (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
A practicum-based course that explores narrative, symbol, and metaphor as subjects in painting.

AR 512 **Art Pedagogy (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
MFA candidates will understand the disciplinary and pedagogical knowledge required of a teaching practitioner in a professional setting. This class will provide students with knowledge of how people learn in various ways and the ability to apply that knowledge to assure the success of the future MFA candidate's students. Candidates will embrace student centered learning, maintain knowledge of disciplinary content as it applies to an educational setting, possess a foundation of professional and pedagogical knowledge and model equitable classroom practice.

AR 513 **Portrait Painting and Drawing (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Students will use a variety of media to develop advanced skills and techniques in portraiture.

AR 516 Research in Glaze Chemistry and Kiln Design II (3 Sem. Hrs.)
An intensive, blended lecture and practicum-based study focused on the science behind the ceramic materials and glazes. The course will provide information and science to help each student effectively utilize glaze materials in ways that will enhance and improve their individual practice. Students will also learn how to effectively process local clays and develop clay bodies from raw materials. This course also covers kiln design and maintenance; ceramic surfaces; glaze calculations; and firing techniques as well as studio practices and safety. Students will be asked to apply these concepts in the ceramic's studio as part of their coursework. MFA candidates can expect and individual research project developed between the student and their major professor.

AR 518 Senior Studio: Refining a Cohesive Body of Work (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Crucial facets of a successful studio practice that happen concurrently, and in dialogue with art making are studied and practiced. Writing, reading, communication, and professional practices will be explored as ways of bolstering students' understanding of their own studio practice within the wider history of art and particularly within the context of contemporary art. Extensive art-making is expected. Shared interaction and evaluation maintain a rigorous critical and creative environment where individual artists can succeed on their own terms.

AR 520 Advanced Principles of Scenic and Lighting Design (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is an advanced production class focusing on the art of scenic and lighting design, following the process from concept to realized design while emphasizing and incorporating principles of design and elements of composition. Various techniques in advanced work will be discussed and utilized as students work to conceptually design a production through research, drafting, sketches, computer design, and model creation. Students will have the opportunity to reinforce and utilize their knowledge of the elements of design, design vocabulary and skills, and to work on the collaborative process of theater design.

AR 521 Seminar: Sacred Art in History (3 Sem. Hrs.)
All course requirements are completed online. Students will engage in individual work, as well as small group and whole class discussions using Canvas to work through the assigned problem and create written responses. Challenging topics in art history are assigned each week to deepen student understanding of a particular form of religious art and its possible roles, to create opportunities for students to locate appropriate resources, and to promote critical thinking skills in the context of complex art history questions. The group discussion problems enable students to make a connection between the information presented by the text and through research and the historical and cultural circumstances in which religion and spirituality has influenced art. 500 level students can expect more complex learning objectives and the requirement of a portfolio piece.

AR 522 New Media: Alternative Firing Process (3 Sem. Hrs.)
An intensive, blended lecture and practicum-based study focused on the history and technique of alternative firing processes. The course will provide information and science to help each student learn a variety of atmospheric and alternative firing processes including raku, naked raku, luster fuming, and pit firing. Students will be asked to apply these concepts in the ceramics studio as part of their coursework.

AR 526 Critical Theories in Visual Culture (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will address critical theories leading to and supporting the post-modern movements in art. Emphasis on analyzing and discussing individual today's works of art in light of contemporary writings by artists and theorists. Reading and writing-emphasis course.

AR 530 Graduate Studio Community Project (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Students can expect collaborative processes, discussion, project making, and critique. Critical thinking and studio practice are integrated in assignments. Topics are drawn from design theory, visual cultural theory, art curatorial critique, and artists' writings, including those from history. This course requires students to experienced firsthand the power of engaging with communities and being a part of solutions. 5-day residencies are mandatory for low residency MFA candidates. Students are on the campus of the Alabama Center for the Arts to make and present their work to each other, and faculty, and to plan their next semester's study from Tuesday through Saturday.

AR 540 Digital Animation and Graphic Design (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is designed for students interested in 2D and 3D digital animation. Topics include concepts and techniques used for creating motion graphics, animated films, and special effects. Students are introduced to Adobe After Effects and 3D features of Maya: modeling, animation, texture, lighting, rendering, expressions, dynamics, and workflows. Students gain experience by following class examples and completing assignments. Students in this course create 2D and 3D animation projects intended to build their portfolio.

AR 543 Art Entrepreneurship Residency (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course prepares the student to take the next career step, whether they are going into the job market as a professional artist, starting a business, or continuing their education at the graduate level. Students will participate in online discussions regarding weekly reading assignments from the course text. This structure will provide guidelines for product / service development, audience engagement, and launch. Personal / business journals will be utilized as a learning tool for future projects. A major focus will be the development of an eCommerce site to establish an online presence.

AR 546 Virtual Environments (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course provides students with the opportunity to create virtual reality experiences and interactive 3D environments. Topics covered in this course apply to game design, filmmaking, mobile apps, and virtual scenery for live performance. Students in this course develop skills in 3D modeling, animation, game design, and user experience design. Students work independently on coursework and in small teams on collaborative projects. Graduate students can expect an individual project chosen and planned by the student with approval of the instructor. The course focuses on a variety of strategic design elements such as: photography, graphic design, videography, motion design, virtual environments, multimedia, digital audio recording, User Experience (UX) and User Interface (UI) design as well as training in Augmented, Virtual, and Mixed Reality design (AR, VR, and MR, respectively).

AR 555 Projects in New Media (3 Sem. Hrs.)
5-day residencies are mandatory for low residency MFA candidates. Students are on the campus of the Alabama Center for the Arts to make and present their work to each other, and faculty, and to plan their next semester's study from Tuesday through Saturday. Critiques, lectures, research groups, and student presentations provide the foundation of each residency. Shared interaction and evaluation maintain

a rigorous critical and creative environment where individual artists can succeed. This course investigates a variety of concerns of artists working with new media and forms of art through research and practice. This course takes an integrated approach to contemporary media practices by synthesizing fine arts with electronic and digital technologies. Through technical innovation and interdisciplinary engagement, the course provides context for the relationship of media practices and other artistic disciplines. Using the platform of electronic and digital technologies students are encouraged to create projects grounded in traditional and experimental methods within the visual arts. The course offers students courses in video, animation, interactive design, as well as emerging technologies, such as 3D scanning, editing and printing.

AR 560 Special Workshop Arts and Crafts (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course is a special workshop in traditional arts and crafts, particularly sculpture. It looks at advanced exploration in various traditional materials and methods with an emphasis on design and craftsmanship. However, this course is unique in its insistence on exploring new media and technology that piggyback on traditional materials and methods in contemporary ways. Graduate students can expect research and an individual project designed by the student and instructor.

AR 561 Multimedia Installation (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Learn beyond the basics of operating video equipment, editing, and motion graphics software. Students are instructed on the three stages of multimedia project creation. In pre-production, students learn the basic principles of story development, storyboarding, scheduling, and budget planning. Students shoot short video stories and edit those stories together using Adobe Premiere and After Effects. As a participant in this course, students are expected to upload videos to the Internet. Skills acquired in this workshop have applications in broadcast journalism, documentary film, and transmedia storytelling. Visual content delivery methods, in both web and social media, are explored.

Graduate students can expect an individual project chosen and planned by the student with approval of the instructor. Critiques, lectures, research groups, and student presentations provide the foundation of each residency. Shared interaction and evaluation maintain a rigorous critical and creative environment where individual artists can succeed on their own terms. Residencies end with Saturday Colloquium, an all-day event involving students, faculty and visiting artists from all disciplines.

AR 568 Topics in the History of Ceramics (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This course will examine the history and theory of modern craft through a study of ceramic artists and movements. Lectures and readings will provide students with a chronological overview of more than a century of ceramics occurring within art, and will also consider the field's links to other crafts. Time will be reserved for discussions on the consequence of socioeconomic, political, philosophical, and industrial influences as drivers of change.

Graduate students can expect an individual project in art history chosen and planned by the student with approval of the instructor.

AR 570 Modernism and Post-Modernism in Design (3 Sem. Hrs.)
The course examines the role of international design in relation to an emerging industrial world and advances in technology during the late 19th century through the 20th century. This course will focus on various graphic design movements from De Stijl and Dada to the impact of the Bauhaus and the International Typographic Style; from the sixties' psychedelia to the punk seventies and postmodern eighties and nineties. Students assess the integration of art and design with new technologies and consider the effects of war, mass-production, and urbanization. Students also engage with the changing meaning of design in an age of postmodernist deconstruction, pluralism, and irreverence at the turn of the new millennium. Graduate students can expect an individual project in art history chosen and planned by the student with approval of the instructor.

AR 600 Mentored Studies III (3 Sem. Hrs.) *(Must Establish an Artist/Mentor)*
This course is taught by working professional artists in the student's locale and discipline. Students will develop a body of focused work in preparation for the final Thesis Exhibition, engage in independent work, sustain development of ideas and approaches, maintain continued, regular contact and relationships with Athens State art faculty, local mentors and fellow Athens State.

AR 602 Seminar II (3 Sem. Hrs.)
Students will engage, explore, and analyze a range of subjects in art and design through speaking, writing, research and presentation in ways that are relevant to their own art practice. These conversations will encourage connections while building rapport with peers and enhancing leadership skills.

AR 608 Mentored Studies IV (3 Sem. Hrs.) *(Must Establish an Artist/Mentor)*
This course is taught by working professional artists in the student's locale and discipline. Students will develop a body of focused work in preparation for the final Thesis Exhibition, engage in independent work, sustain development of ideas and approaches, maintain continued, regular contact and relationships with Athens State art faculty, local mentors and fellow Athens State.

AR 616 Thesis Design (3 Sem. Hrs.)
This is an intensive critique-based course in which MFA candidates work closely with their major professor and their primary mentor to develop and map their future thesis exhibition project. The student is required to examine closely their current work, plan their goals for the body of work they will exhibit and produce a significant body of work during the course in which the ideas, method of investigation, and execution are determined by the student, with the mentorship of their major professor. The creation of work for the exhibition is expected to continue. Students will be introduced to the theory, methods and skills for developing and constructing a research project plan and for developing and framing researchable question by focusing on techniques for the analysis and synthesis of concepts and theories integration and application of concepts and theories into a concise project plan including a clear methodology and research design.

AR 700 Thesis Research and Writing (3 Sem. Hrs.)
The MFA Visual Arts degree culminates in an exhibition of a body of work, a written thesis that supports the work, and an oral defense of both. The MFA thesis balances a focus on process and art making with using research and citations to put student's art into a larger context with evidence as support for their claims. Students will apply and integrate theory, methods and skills for executing a research project according to plan, and for assessing project outcomes. Students will focus on techniques for analysis of design activities and synthesis of

research findings including project documentation and theoretical analysis of designed outcomes. Each graduate student enrolled in the MFA in Visual Art program will be assigned an MFA Thesis Advisor.

AR 701 **Exhibition and Thesis Defense Residency (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
In conjunction with their major professor, the Gallery Director and the Operational office at the Alabama Center for the Arts, students will create their final exhibition and opening reception. Students will present their Thesis Defense, which is the final review of the work produced in the MFA Program. The purpose of this defense is to evaluate each student's Thesis Exhibition. This requires that students be able to discuss their work, to provide a context for it, and to respond to criticism and questions. At the conclusion of this formal review by all the faculty, a determination is made as to whether the student receives credit based on the completion and public presentation of a final body of work, showing professional competence, evidence of graduate level visual research, and written thesis paper. 5-day residencies are mandatory for low residency MFA candidates. Students are on the campus of the Alabama Center for the Arts to make and present their work and defend their thesis is a culminating exhibition.

Business (BUS)

BUS 675 **Business Analytics Practicum (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Prerequisites: BUS 525 and BUS 603 (MS-SHRM students only: BUS 525 and BUS 655)
This course provides students with hands-on analytics experience through working with real-world data that develops and sharpens the skills needed to incorporate business analytics with strategic business decisions including analysis, critical thinking, presentation, problem solving, and teamwork. Skills in these areas are developed through discussion of the principles underlying best practices and applying the core tools to the completion of real-world projects and case studies.

Career and Technical Education (CE)

CE 610 **Work Site Training and Development (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Crosslisted with ID 610***
This course will prepare students to design and develop training programs based on the personal needs of an organization's employees. Students will be required to design, develop, and then assess the effectiveness of their training programs. The course will, also, examine special topics of interest, such as diversity and leadership training.

Computer Science (CS)

CS 518 **Advanced Object-Oriented and Functional Programming (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Prerequisite: CS 417; Minimum grade C
This course will cover advanced object-oriented, event-driven, and functional programming using modern programming languages. Materials covered will include implementation of inheritance, techniques to achieve encapsulation and improve code reusability, using a normal modeling language for program design, GUI development, event handling, and multithreading programming.

CS 530 **Principles of Computer Communication and Networks (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor
Computer networks, including telecommunications and the related data transmission techniques. Topics include network philosophy, design, and implementation.

CS 553 **Secure Software Engineering and Testing (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course is the study of the Secure Software Development Life Cycle which correlates to the Systems Development Life Cycle. An emphasis on developing secure software and the different stages of the SDLC that the SSDLC correlates to will be a main focus. The course will also cover Software Testing practices and the essential types of testing. Lastly, results of secure development and software testing will be discussed and analyzed to determine what the impact would be and the corrective actions that may need to take place before the software is made available.

CS 575 **Theory of Computation (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Prerequisite: (CS 472 or equivalent) or Permission of Instructor
This is a course on the theory of computing. Topics covered include finite automata, regular expressions and languages, pushdown automata, pumping lemmas for regular and context-free grammars, the Chomsky hierarchy of language classes, Turing machines and computability, the decidability of the halting problem, time complexity and NP-completeness and tractability.

CS 585 **Intelligent Systems: Theory, Design and Implementation (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Prerequisite: CS 485; Minimum grade C
Topics include knowledge representation, knowledge acquisition, and planning. Selected topics from natural language understanding, learning, vision, and robotics.

CS 597 **Project and Research Methods (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Prerequisite: Must have completed 9-12 credit hours in graduate program with a minimum grade of C
Students will work closely with the faculty member teaching the course to identify an area of interest to focus their project/thesis. Students will be required to identify their primary project/thesis advisor during this course along with two additional graduate faculty members to

form their project/thesis advisory committee. Students will be guided through the steps of creating a project/thesis proposal, preparing for a project/thesis defense, and writing a statement of work before they begin to work on their individual project requirements. Students will be required to register for a second semester where they will work one on one with their primary project/thesis advisor to develop their project/research and to defend their work. Future enrollment to complete the work will be discussed towards the end of the semester.

CS 598 **Project Development (1-3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Prerequisite: CS 597; Minimum grade B
This course will provide an opportunity to research, discuss and document topics approved in CS 597. The student will work closely with the faculty member in researching and working on a major research project in the area of the student's relevant topic. The student will write a project report and give an oral presentation of the research findings.

CS 599 **Thesis (1-3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Prerequisite: CS 597; Minimum grade B
A student will work closely with a primary advisor as well as two additional faculty members that will make up their graduate thesis committee in developing and completing the thesis requirements.

Education (ED)

ED 505 **Research and Professional Communication (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course covers the fundamentals of behavioral science on effective communication practices to provide business professionals with knowledge and tools to perform relative experiential research: and communicate clearly and effectively utilizing communication theory, listening, writing, speaking, intercultural communication, team participation, collaborative communication, correspondence, communications history, and leadership skills.

ED 515 **The Adult Learner (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course provides students with the knowledge, skills and abilities to effectively use instructional strategies and methodologies to motivate and train adult learners.

ED 520 **eLearning Design (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Crosslisted with ID 520***
This course focuses on the application and interpretation of theory, research and standards-based effective practices used to design, develop and evaluate distance and blended education experiences. Students will examine different aspects of online course design including analysis, content design, material development and lesson evaluation.

ED 620 **Advanced eLearning Design & Instructional Strategies (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Crosslisted with ID 620***
This course focuses on the advanced application and interpretation of theory, research and standards based effective practices used to design, develop and evaluate distance and blended education experiences. Students will examine different aspects of online teaching (e.g. asynchronous communication, facilitation and feedback) based on research, critically evaluate existing social media and online resources, and apply their learning to online content design.

Instructional Design (ID)

ID 500 **Foundations of Development, Design, and Performance Improvement (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the principles and practices of instructional design and explores key concepts, theories, and methodologies essential for creating effective and engaging learning experiences. Participants will learn the importance of how to analyze learner needs, set clear objectives, design instructional strategies, integrate technology and multimedia, and evaluate the effectiveness of their designs. By the end of the course, learners will have a solid foundation in instructional design, enabling them to create inclusive and impactful learning materials that foster performance and meet desired outcomes.

ID 520 **eLearning Design (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Crosslisted with ED 520***
This course focuses on the application and interpretation of theory, research and standards-based effective practices used to design, develop and evaluate distance and blended education experiences. Students will examine different aspects of online course design including analysis, content design, material development and lesson evaluation.

ID 530 **Digital Asset Design and Creation (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course examines visual literacy and graphic design principles to expedite acquisition of instructional materials to learners. The course will also explore the basic elements of Adobe Photoshop and Adobe lnDesign which will allow students to develop various materials for implementation in various design projects throughout the program and throughout their career. Course Fee: Cost of Photoshop / lnDesign License

ID 540 **Multimedia Development for Digital Environments (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course explores multimedia development theories as applied to educational and training contexts. Students will leam how to assemble and combine media sources into fluid training/educational videos. Course Fee: Cost of Camtasia Studio.

ID 545 **Special Project in Multimedia Development(3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Instructor Approval, Prerequisite: CE 308 and CE 408***
This course is designed for students who have successfully completed both CE 308 and CE 408. An advanced course in which students will participate in specialized projects in multimedia development.

ID 610 **Personnel Training Design and Development (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Crosslisted with CE 610***
This course will prepare students to design and develop training programs based on the personal needs of an organization's employees. Students will be required to design, develop, and then assess the effectiveness of their training programs. The course will also examine special topics of interest, such as diversity and leadership training.

ID 620 **Advanced eLearning Design and Instructional Strategies (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Crosslisted with ED 620***
This course focuses on the advanced application and interpretation of theory, research and standards based effective practices used to design, develop and evaluate distance and blended education experiences. Students will examine different aspects of online teaching (e.g. asynchronous communication, facilitation and feedback) based on research, critically evaluate existing social media and online resources, and apply their learning to online content design.

ID 630 **Digital Lesson and Training Development (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course explores the various elements of creating modules, lessons and courses for the digital environment. Students will also learn how to develop these elements using industry appropriate eLeaming authoring software. Course Fee: Cost of Articulate Storyline or Adobe Captivate.

ID 635 **Special Project in Digital Lesson and Training Development (3 Sem. Hrs.)** ***Instructor Approval, Prerequisite: CE 308 and CE 408***
This course is designed for students who have successfully completed both CE 308 and CE 408. An advanced course in which students will participate in special projects utilizing advanced skills in digital lesson and training development.

ID 640 **Digital Training Delivery (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course explores various aspects of the development, implementation and evaluation portion of instructional design and development projects. Topics such as prototype delivery models, integration with learning management systems, Internet hosting services, and cloud delivery options will be discussed. Students will gain hands-on experience working in a variety of eLearning distribution environments.

Information Technology (ITE)

ITE 524 **Advanced Computer Forensics (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course introduces students to the principal activities and state-of-the-art techniques involved in developing digital forensics systems. Topics covered may include: advanced file carving and reconstruction, forensic analysis of modern filesystems, network forensics, mobile device forensics, memory forensics, and anti-forensics.

Management of Cybersecurity Operations (MCO)

MCO 598 **Project Development (1-3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Prerequisite: CS 597; Minimum grade B
This course will provide an opportunity to research, discuss and document topics approved in CS 597. The student will work closely with the faculty member in researching and working on a major research project in the area of the student's relevant topic. The student will write a project report and give an oral presentation of the research findings.

MCO 599 **Thesis (1-3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Prerequisite: CS 594; Minimum grade B
A student will work closely with a primary advisor as well as two additional faculty members that will make up their graduate thesis committee in developing and completing the thesis requirements.