

# SMGE Addendum to the BCOE Doctoral Policies and Procedures Handbook

Addendum Version 1.0 (Effective Term: 05.01.2020)

## Program Description

The Ed.D. degree in Secondary or Middle Grades Education is designed for candidates who possess a teaching certificate and hold a Master's degree in a Georgia Professional Standards Commission recognized area of certification. The program of study provides the skills necessary to integrate theory and practice by examination of local and global education issues; theory-based curriculum development; and equitable, democratic, humane, and socially just theories of education. Guided electives and a cognate serve to deepen expertise in a chosen area of study. Through this program, candidates develop the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to serve as learner-centered specialists engaging in scholarly inquiry and research.

The Ed.S. in Secondary or Middle Grades Education is fully embedded into the Ed.D. program. Those students who complete the Ed.S. in Secondary or Middle Grades Education at Kennesaw State University may apply their entire program of study to the Ed.D. Those students who have completed their Ed.S. at another institution will be eligible to have their transcripts analyzed and can possibly receive up to 15 hours credit toward the Ed.D.

## Program of Study

The program is 66 credit hours in total. To complete the program, candidates take 15 credit hours in Education and Research Core courses, 36 credit hours in Area 1 Teaching Field Pedagogy and Area 2 Teaching Field Content courses, 6 credit hours in cognate/guided electives, and 9 credit hours in dissertation. There is also the opportunity to earn an endorsement while pursuing the Ed.D. degree. A list of endorsement options may be found [here](#).

We offer the following degree options (all programs are hybrid; however, the first 30 hours comprising the Ed.S. portion of the degree are fully online, except for Chemistry Education):

- Ed.D. in Middle Grades Language Arts or Secondary English
- Ed.D. in Middle Grades Mathematics or Secondary Mathematics
- Ed.D. in Secondary Chemistry
- Ed.D. in Middle Grades Social Studies or Secondary History

## Comprehensive Examinations

Comprehensive Examinations are explained in the BCOE Doctoral Policies and Procedures Handbook (p. 15). It is the policy of the SMGE Department to allow **only one re-take of comprehensive exams** should students not pass on the first try. Failure to pass on the second try will result in dismissal from the program.

The Comprehensive Exam will consist of 2-3 questions developed by the student's dissertation committee. Students will generally have 4-8 weeks to complete the exam.

*Students may request a copy of the assessment rubrics of the comprehensive exam prior to the exam from the program coordinator.*

*The dissertation chair should fill out the rubrics by consolidating the scores from the committee members and submit one copy to the program coordinator for the assessment purpose within two weeks after the students have completed the comps.*

## Norms

The following norms explain the expected communication and professional activities of SMGE Ed.D. students:

1. Develop a good relationship with your advisor.
  - a. Check in with your advisor at least twice a semester prepared with questions, writing, and your timeline for completion.
  - b. Know your advisor's preferred communication mode (email, text, phone, etc.) and take the initiative to communicate with him or her.
  - c. Work with your advisor to make progress on preparing for your dissertation topic area.
  - d. Realize that providing quality feedback takes time. Please allow approximately three weeks for feedback when you submit concept papers or chapters to your advisor or dissertation chair.
  - e. Realize that writing takes time and multiple drafts. Share your best draft with your advisor or dissertation chair.
2. Read on your topic area outside of and in addition to class readings and work.
3. Be an active, engaged member of your cohort and learning community.
4. Be responsible for your own learning – At the Ed.D. level, it is expected that you take ownership of and self-direct much of your learning.
5. Present at state-level or national-level conference.

## **Dissertation Chair and Committee Selection**

You may approach any SMGE or content area faculty member to be your chair, but faculty have the right to refuse based on current commitments to other students.

Once you have identified a dissertation chair, you will develop the rest of your dissertation committee in consultation with your dissertation chair. You will need a minimum of two other members to form your committee. These members can come from outside of the department if you so choose. Please see the BCOE Doctoral Policies and Procedures Handbook (p. 13-15) for more information about the process of developing a committee and membership by those outside of KSU.

## **Dissertation Proposal**

The candidate will work with the dissertation chair to determine if the dissertation proposal defense will be held on campus or online.

## **Dissertation and Final Defense**

The candidate will work with the dissertation chair to determine if the dissertation defense will be held on campus or online. The student will provide a final draft of the dissertation to each of the dissertation committee members at least 30 days before the defense. This final draft must be complete in all respects and editorially acceptable for final approval at the time of the defense.