

**Admissions Policies and Procedures  
 Department of Curriculum and Instruction  
 School of Education, University of Mississippi  
 University, MS 38677**

**Doctor of Philosophy  
 Secondary Education**

Students applying to the Doctor of Philosophy program in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction should follow the admission policies and procedures outlined in this document. For someone who does not already hold a teaching certificate, completing this graduate degree ***does not*** meet the requirements for eligibility to hold a teaching certificate.

1. Students must be approved for admissions by the C & I Admissions Committee **before** enrolling in course work as a degree candidate.
2. Selection will occur once a year as stated in the schedule below:

**SEMESTER ENROLLING**  
 Summer & Fall

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**  
 April 1st

*\*To be considered for admission, **ALL MATERIALS** must be on file by the application deadline. If materials are received after scheduled deadlines you will not be admitted into a program until the next semester.*

**3. Admission Requirements:**

- Verification of National Board of Professional Teaching Certification  
 OR  
**Official Copy** of one of the exams listed below:
  - Praxis II - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT). **Minimum Score 164.**
  - Praxis II - Subject Area Exam

Biology, Biology K-12: Content Knowledge	#0235	162
Chemistry, Chemistry K-12: Content Knowledge	#0245	163
Physics, Physics K-12: Content Knowledge	#0265	151
English, English Lang., Lit., & Comp. K-12: Content Knowledge	#0041	169
Math, Mathematics K-12: Content Knowledge	#0061	135
Social Studies, Social Studies K-12: Content Knowledge	#0081	155

***Praxis scores are sent to the Dean's office in the School of Education. When you receive notification that your scores have been sent call (662) 915-3846.***

- A minimum GPA of 3.5 on all previous graduate work
- At least two years successful experience as a professional employee of a school/college (**exceptions must be submitted to the Graduate Coordinator for graduate committee consideration**).
- Two Disposition Assessment Forms completed as indicated on the form.

- Completion of a 2-hour written preliminary exam on an assigned topic set forth by the faculty of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction on the first Friday of March.

Participate in an oral interview with faculty representatives on the day of the preliminary exam.

- A typewritten admission statement submitted prior to the preliminary oral/written examination which includes the following information:
  - autobiographical narrative (educational background, teaching experiences, interests in research and further education, and other pertinent information).
  - statement of personal philosophy of teaching and learning.
  - reasons for wanting to enter the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) secondary education program.
  - description of experiences (for example, work, education, personal and professional development opportunities, leadership) that have prepared candidates to enter the doctoral program; background that strengthens candidacy for admission to the program.
- Candidates must attend a Graduate Orientation Session during the semester in which they are admitted. Failure to attend one of these sessions will result in de-enrollment from classes.

#### 4. Admission Status

##### Full Admission Status

- Applicants that meet all requirements as listed above will be admitted in full standing.
- Applicants with a GPA of 4.0 on all previous graduate work, regardless of test scores, may be recommended for full standing with departmental approval, however **all** applicants who do not hold National Board Certification must take the appropriate test and submit scores to the department.

##### Conditional Admission Status

- Candidates who do not meet the minimal Ph.D. Praxis II score levels have the option of retaking the Praxis II exam or successfully completing six (6) hours of graduate course credits prior to beginning the Ph.D. degree program. The six (6) hours of graduate coursework are to be determined by their advisor. A grade of B or higher must be maintained in these courses. These six (6) hours may (though not necessarily) be applied toward the candidate's degree and their program must include an additional six (6) hours beyond the required Ph.D. curriculum. As a result, a candidate that is admitted conditionally to the Ph.D. program will have a total of 105 hours rather than the usual 99.
- Conditional admission candidates who fail to meet the conditions of their admission will not be granted full admission.
- Financial aid does not apply to conditional status.

Applicants denied twice for admission to a program in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction based on not meeting the requirements established by the Department of Curriculum and Instruction Graduate Faculty will no longer be considered for admission.