

## Handout for History Majors who want to become Teachers in Georgia

**UPPER-LEVEL HISTORY COURSES** The following are strongly recommended as part of the Eight Upper-level History Content Courses:

**Georgia History:** either HIST 4211 or HIST 4212 (mandatory in state of GA)

**Modern U.S. History:** (possible examples: HIST 4204, 4205, 4206, 4208)

VSU's College of Education also encourages History teachers to take @ least one Upper-level History course in "US Social/Cultural/Constitutional History," & highly recommends @ least one Upper-level History course in "US Colonial to WWII History."

### **MINOR AND/OR ELECTIVES**

For a Teaching career, it is strongly recommended that History Majors take courses in Economics, Geography, Political Science, Anthropology, or Sociology.

### **INDUCTION EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATION in Georgia**

The agency that oversees Georgia's certification process is the **Georgia Professional Standards Commission [GaPSC]** <http://www.gapsc.com/>

Graduate w/ **GPA of 2.5** [minimum requirement, May 2016]  
[\[http://www.gapsc.com/Certification/TieredCertification/induction.aspx\]](http://www.gapsc.com/Certification/TieredCertification/induction.aspx)

Pass **GACE Program Admission Exam**, or exempt with scores of **SAT** - 1000 (Math + Reading); **ACT** - 43 (Math + English); or **GRE** (on or after August 1, 2011) 297 (Verbal & Quantitative). See <http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/deans-office/teacher-education-application/program-admission-assessment.php>.

Pass **GACE Content Assessment Exams** in US History and in World History during Senior Year (see below).

See VSU's Career Opportunities Office for **Education Career Day** in fall and in spring (<http://www.valdosta.edu/career/>).

Apply for teaching jobs (<http://www.teachgeorgia.org/>) and if successful, work w/ your principal on the best path to attain certification. One option is various programs offered by VSU's College of Education & Human Services (see below). VSU's Director of Clinical Experiences & Certification, **Renee Whitmer** [brwhitmer@valdosta.edu](mailto:brwhitmer@valdosta.edu) (249-2786) <http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/deans-office/educator-certification-office/welcome.php> is a key resource for questions about certification in GA.

### **GACE - Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators**

The Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators (GACE) ensures that candidates have the knowledge & skills needed to perform as an educator in Georgia's public schools. VSU's Office of Testing administers the GACE only during designated periods <http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/services/testing/undergraduate-examinations.php#GACE>. See <http://gace.ets.org/> for information regarding registration for exam in US History (**034**), in World History (**035**), or the Combined Exam (**534**). In addition to the study materials provided <http://gace.ets.org/prepare/materials/534>, see <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Standards/Pages/BrowseStandards/SocialStudiesStandards9-12.aspx> for GA's curriculum in US History & in World History [Georgia Standards of Excellence/GSE; formally GA Performance Standards/GPS]. The GSEs can be used as study guides for the GACE Content exams b/c the GACE Content exams are aligned

to the curriculum. See <https://voicethread.com/#q.b4850045.i0.k0> to help History majors sign up for GACE -- do not answer that you are part of a teacher prep program or you will get stopped when trying to take the content part; **you select: "Not Listed."**

### **Preparing for the various Educational Certification Programs offered in Valdosta State's Dewar College of Education & Human Services (COEHS)**

Observe public school classrooms by working as a substitute teacher or by taking EDUC 2110, 2120, or 2130 which require field experience. The EDUC courses are not required for admission, but enrolling may help you make your career decision.

#### **What you need to get started:**

- **Pass** GACE Program Admission Exam (or exempt – see above) and GACE Content Exams in US History **&** in World History.
- Apply for a teaching job: <http://www.teachgeorgia.org/home.aspx>
- When hired, your school system will ask the **GaPSC** for a non-renewable provisional certificate [Induction Pathway 4] for you (**good for 3 years**).

#### **To Change** the provisional certificate to a Clear Renewable Certificate (T-4 or T-5)

- Bachelor's Degree in History with **2.75 GPA** to enter VSU's Certification Programs.
- **Start** with a Transcript evaluation <http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/deans-office/documents/certification-evaluation-request-form-june-2014.pdf>
- Upon receiving the transcript evaluation, meet with an advisor in the College of Education & Human Services to determine a timeline for entering a specific program.
- Apply to VSU's Graduate School (see <http://www.valdosta.edu/gradschool/> for on-line application) **and** take either GRE (Graduate Record Exam; minimum score = 143 Verbal & 138 Quantitative) or the MAT (Miller's Analogy Test; minimum score = 375). **Application deadlines** = April 15 for June cohort; Nov. 15 for January cohort.
- **There are TWO tracks leading to certification:**  
<http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/middle-secondary-reading-and-deaf-education/secondary-education/mat-middle-grades-or-secondary-education.php>  
(1) For working teachers: **Certification Only** (21 hours over 3 semesters + **SPEC 3000**) for clear renewable T-4 certificate:
  - 2 classes in summer term
  - 2 classes in fall term (including first teaching internship)
  - 2 classes in spring term (including second teaching internship)An additional 15 hours will complete a master's degree in Education & T-5 certification (a T-5 = certificate for a teacher with a master's degree). **Also consider the M.A. in Historical Content for Teachers offered by the History Dept.; contact Dr. Dixie Haggard for more information at (229-333-5947) or [drhaggard@valdosta.edu](mailto:drhaggard@valdosta.edu).**  
(2) For full time students: **MAT degree** & T-5 certificate (36 hours over 4-semester)
  - if start in June = summer/fall/spring/summer semesters
  - if start in January = spring/summer/fall/spring semesters

The MAT program requires significant time daily in local schools along with evening classes two or three nights a week. For more information, contact Dr. J.T. Cox [jtcox@valdosta.edu](mailto:jtcox@valdosta.edu) or Dr. Barbara Radcliffe [bjradcliffe@valdosta.edu](mailto:bjradcliffe@valdosta.edu) (229-333-5611).