

College of Education News

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Georgia Southern University

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M.Ed. Early Childhood Education program ranked in top 20 by Top Education Degrees

August 8, 2017



Georgia Southern University was recently named in the 20 Best Online Master's in Early Childhood Education rankings by [Top Education Degrees](#).

The College of Education's M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education program was ranked 12th in the national rankings, coming in above well-known universities such as the University of Colorado – Denver.

According to Top Education Degrees, rankings are determined using information from the National Center for Education Statistics, a service of the United States government. Criteria includes tuition value, relevance of the curriculum to the current demands of the profession and emphasis on individual contact (represented by student-to-faculty ratio). Additional points are awarded in the categories of national recognition, going above and beyond for student services and reduced hourly rate of tuition for online students.

Out of 30 possible points (prior to additional bonus points), Georgia Southern received a total of 27 points. Comparatively, the top ranking school, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, received a total of 33 points.

Among the emphasized points of pride for the program presented by Top Education Degrees were the faculty-to-student ratio of 21:1 as well as current and relevant curriculum and coursework for students.

"This honor is well-deserved given the hard work that program faculty put into maintaining a high quality, relevant and updated program," said Tracy Linderholm, Ph.D., professor and associate dean of graduate education and research for the College of Education.

The M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education at Georgia Southern University is a 36-credit hour program offered completely online as a certificate upgrade for teachers who currently hold a level four Georgia certificate for early childhood education or equivalent. The program is an approved program of study by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) and meets the PSC's certificate upgrade requirements.

It is, according to Chair of the Department of Teaching and Learning Bruce Field, Ph.D., “part of Georgia Southern’s ongoing commitment to enhancing the professional development of the state’s P-12 teaching force.”

The curriculum of this master’s degree program is based upon the concept of developmentally appropriate practices and the value of diverse, intensive field experiences working with diverse student populations. For more information about the M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education program, visit <https://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/eed/med/>

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