

Program Assessment Report

(Graduate Certificate-K12 Online Teaching)

(May 2024)

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

Assessment of learning outcomes for the Graduate Certificate for K12 Online Teaching occur annually and consist of an analysis of passing rates for the Arkansas Department of Education, Online Teaching Assessment. The content for the four courses which make up the Graduate Certificate are aligned with the Arkansas Competencies for K12 Online Teaching

https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Files/20201105155246_Online_Teaching_K-12_feb-21-191.pdf

The assessment is administered each spring by the Arkansas Department of Education. The Educational Technology program received approval for granting licensure in K12 Online Teaching in July 2021. The 2024 group was the third cycle of students who completed the licensure program. Students during the past three years have been part of the of the University of Arkansas Online Teaching Academy a program funded through a grant which provides financial assistance to practicing teachers in Arkansas schools for acquiring licensure for K12 Online Teaching. This grant is in its final year and will end June 30, 2024.

Results of the online teacher licensure exam were released in May 2024. These indicated that 10 students completed the state assessment of the 14 who completed the coursework as part of the cohort. Of those 10 students all receiving passing scores on the licensure examination.

Changes to the degree/program made or planned based on the assessment and analysis.

During June 2022 the Arkansas Department of Education performed a revision of the Competencies for Online Teaching, Grades K12. These new competencies went into effect in January 2023 and were implemented as part of the 2023-2024 course cycle. Dr. Mears who provides all instruction for the licensure courses served on the competencies committee and implemented revisions to curriculum based on competency changes. In addition, changes in the licensure program were also approved and went into effect during the 2023-2024 academic year reducing the number of credits required to 12 credits versus 15.

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Changes to the assessment process made or planned.

Adjustments were also made to the curriculum during the 2023-2024 cycle to strengthen this alignment to the new State competencies. These went into effect beginning August 2023, so the current cohort of the teaching academy completed the 15-credit course of study versus the new 12 credit requirement. Based on the 2024 results from the Online Teaching Assessment, no changes are planned for the 2024-2025 cycle. Without the funding provided through the online teaching academy grant the viability of the graduate certificate as a stand-alone offering for licensure will be examined during the coming year.

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