

2011-2012  
 University of South Alabama  
 College of Education  
 Educational Specialist – Teacher Leader  
 Class AA EdS

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date Entered \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor \_\_\_\_\_

Student Number \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum graduate hours required: 33

I. Curriculum and Teaching (6 hours)	Hours	Semester	Grade
IDE 640 Instructional Development	3	_____	_____
IDE 650 Instructional Techniques	3	_____	_____
II. Educational Foundations (6 hours)			
EDF 615 Seminar in Education Policies Studies	3	_____	_____
EPY 602 Advanced Theories of Learning	3	_____	_____
III. Research and Evaluation (9 hours)			
IDE 620 Quantitative Methods I (pre req. IDE 510) (OR)	3	_____	_____
IDE 6 Research Methods		_____	_____
IDE 692 Research Project Seminar	3	_____	_____
ELT 699 Research Project	3	_____	_____
IV. Teaching Field (at least 12 hours from list below)			
ELT 645 Curriculum Leadership	3	_____	_____
ELT 646 Community Leadership	3	_____	_____
ELT 647 Instructional Coaching	3	_____	_____
RED 648 Literacy Coaching	3	_____	_____

**Beginning with the first teacher leader content course candidates will be required to participate in “Focus Group Activity”. These activities will take place periodically until program completion.**

**All certification programs require an introductory special education course if not previously completed. This is in addition to the 33 semester hour requirement**

SPE 500	Nature and Needs of Exceptional Children and Youth	0-3	_____	_____
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**RED 699 Committee**

- Chair of Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- Committee Member \_\_\_\_\_
- Committee Member \_\_\_\_\_

When enrolled in LTE 699, student must register for the COE's comprehensive exam by the published date until successful completion of LTE 699.

**(1) Rationale.** To realize the mission of enhancing school leadership among teacher leaders in Alabama resulting in the improvement of academic achievement for all students, prospective teacher leaders will achieve the standards below. It should be assumed that the prospective teacher leader will have opportunities to work collaboratively with school administrators, colleagues, students, parents and families, and the larger community to achieve school-wide goals.

- (a) Program content should be primarily focused on supporting the development and improving the practice of shared leadership.
- (b) All candidates should understand and be able to support leadership that is shared with all stakeholders to increase student learning.
- (c) All candidates must support the concept and the practice of collective learning with faculties and schools.

**(2) Admission to a Teacher Leader Program.** Initial certification for a teacher leader shall be at the Class AA level.

- (a) Criteria for admission to teacher leader programs shall include:
  - 1. A master's level professional educator certificate in any teaching field or area of instructional support.
  - 2. A minimum of three full years of full-time teaching experience in a P-12 setting.
  - 3. A portfolio containing:
    - (i) Three letters of recommendation.
    - (ii) Evidence of ability to positively affect student achievement.
    - (iii) Evidence of collaborative leadership potential.
- (b) If an individual is admitted to an Alabama Class AA teacher leader program based on a master's level professional educator certificate in a teaching field or area of instructional support from another state, completes the Class AA teacher leader program, and subsequently applies for Class AA teacher leader certification, then the individual must earn at least a Class A Professional Educator Certificate in a teaching field or area of instructional support before applying for Class AA certification.

**(3) Program Requirements.** Each State-approved program must:

- (a) Include at least 30 semester hours of course work at the sixth-year level or above.
- (b) Include periodic focus sessions for candidates to share problem-based concerns and successes and to collaborate on issues and solutions.
- (c) Include meaningful P-12 school-based field experiences in any course used to meet a teacher leader standard.
- (d) Include a minimum of six semester hours reserved for a problem-based research project in a school or school system.

**(4) Requirements for Class AA Certification in Teacher Leader.** Readiness to serve as a teacher leader shall include:

- (a) Satisfactory completion of a State-approved program with a minimum GPA of 3.25 for all courses in the Alabama State Board of Education approved teacher leader program as verified on an official transcript.
- (b) Satisfactory completion of a problem-based research project.
- (c) A passing score on a comprehensive assessment documenting mastery of the curriculum of the teacher leader program which may include, but may not be limited to, an oral examination.
- (d) A survey of special education course, if not previously completed.

**(5) Testing for Certification in Teacher Leader.** Applicants for initial certification in teacher leader through the completion of a Class AA program must meet the Praxis II requirements of the Alabama Prospective Teacher Testing Program (APTTP) as a precondition of certification. Additional information is provided in Rule 290-3-3-.53(4).

**(6) Beginning with the first teacher leader content course candidates will be required to participate in "Focus Group Activity". These activities will take place periodically until program completion.**