



AMERICAN MUSEUM
OF NATURAL HISTORY

Richard Gilder Graduate School

Master of Arts
in Teaching

AMNH.ORG/MAT



Change lives. Teach science.

This fully paid master's degree program in Earth and space science at the American Museum of Natural History prepares you to teach in high-need middle and high schools in New York City and New York State.

The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Program is a 15-month teaching fellowship that combines coursework, mentoring, and real-world experience.

Share your passion for science and learning. Play your part in the intellectual, cultural, and social community of New York City.

Apply now to start your new career inspiring the next generation.



About the Program

Why is this program important?

This fully paid 15-month program addresses a critical shortage of qualified Earth science teachers in New York State, particularly in high-needs schools with diverse populations. The MAT program is a partnership with four schools in New York City and Yonkers. Developed and taught in the context of a natural history museum and urban schools, the cohort-based program integrates

academic theory with application in a school setting.

Is this program for you?

The MAT program is looking for college graduates with a minimum of 30 credits in Earth and space science. Strong applicants have diverse life and career experiences and are committed to making a difference for high needs middle and high school students (see page 10 for full eligibility requirements).

How is this program structured?

MAT Residents spend two summers working with educators and

scientists at the Museum. During the 10-month classroom residency, partner schools pair Residents with mentors — exemplary teachers selected by school principals and MAT staff. Residents who complete the program are awarded a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree, with a Specialization in Earth Science for grades 7-12, from the Richard Gilder Graduate School at the American Museum of Natural History.

Graduates commit to teaching at high-need public schools in New York State for four years.

How does this program support its graduates?

With a 100 percent employment rate, graduates are working in schools across New York City and the state. The program offers graduates two years of funded induction: formal, early-career professional development and support focused on classroom management and curriculum development.

Our graduates have deep knowledge of Earth and space science content and pedagogy, classroom experience, and an ongoing support network, anchored by a renowned research and educational institution.



Learn to Teach at the Museum

During the first summer, Residents undertake a Museum Teaching Residency, providing them the opportunity to work with adolescents under the mentorship of experienced educators in the Museum's Youth Initiatives programs.

This residency, offered in tandem with EDU 600—Applied Research and Learning in Informal Science Settings—gives the Residents insight into how informal education

resources, distinct from the school experience, can support student learning and be adapted for a variety of learning modes, and enables them to link theory to practice from the very start of the program.

Residents learn to teach in the exhibition halls and in the Museum's classrooms, serving a diverse group of urban students and making extensive use of collection-rich exhibitions.

Learn to Teach in Schools

School residencies take place between September and June at middle and high schools in New York City or Yonkers, NY. Residents spend fall and spring semesters at different partner schools, and attend four full days a week, working alongside trained mentors in science classrooms.

Each Resident also works with additional mentors who are certified in teaching English Language

Learners and students with special needs. Each of the partner schools is supported by a Museum faculty member with extensive experience teaching science, supervising teachers, and/or working as a Science Assistant Principal.

Residents complete teaching assignments from their academic courses with the support of their mentors. They also participate in student and family programs, and all regular school activities required of teachers, to become part of the school community.



Learn to Teach in the Field and Lab

During the second summer, the Residents participate in a Science Research Practicum under the supervision of Museum scientists. The Practicum engages Residents in field expeditions, investigations in the collections and laboratories, and working with large data sets to increase their firsthand experience with science.

Residents explore several destinations in the greater New York City metropolitan region. They investigate metamorphic rocks and evidence of past glaciation in Central

Park; explore the Sterling Mine in Ogdensburg, New Jersey; and search for fossils from the late Cretaceous in Monmouth, New Jersey. In addition, Residents attend a one-week field camp in the Hudson Valley. At the same time, they also work in smaller research groups, guided by Museum scientists, using a variety of laboratory-based tools to investigate individual research questions.

Each Resident develops a teaching resource that they can take into their classroom that includes field samples, photos, videos, and maps. They formally present their summer research to the Museum community.

Academic Courses

All coursework is taught by Museum scientists and educators. The following courses are required. All Residents take courses on a set track, as a cohort.

- EDU 600 Applied Research and Learning in Informal Science Settings
- EDU 610 Literacy in Content Area with Applications to Multilingual Contexts
- EDU 620 Curriculum and Instruction for Teaching Earth Science in Secondary Schools
- EDU 630 Developmental Variations: Development, Assessment, and Instruction with a Special Needs Focus
- EDU 640 Methods and Assessments of Student Science Research
- EDU 650 Foundations of Education in the Urban Context
- EDU/SCI 660 Earth Science Literacy Journal Seminar
- SCI 652 The Solar System: Earth and Space Science
- SCI 665 Space Systems
- SCI 670 Earth Evolution and the Earth System
- SCI 675 Weather, Climate, and Climate Change
- SCI 680 Science Research Practicum



Eligibility Requirements

- A Bachelor's Degree in Earth Science or a related discipline (e.g., Geology, Meteorology, Oceanography, or Space sciences) OR a Bachelor's with a minimum of 24 credits in Earth Science plus 6 additional credits in Physics, Chemistry, Environmental Science, or Biology
- Minimum GPA of 3.00
- U.S. Citizen or Legal Resident
- Please note: applicants with a previous graduate degree in Education, or who are certified to teach in any U.S. state, will not be considered for the program

Financial Support

- Full tuition fellowship for degree candidates
- Fellows will receive a \$30,000 stipend over the duration of the 15-month program; part of the stipend may be used to purchase health insurance
- Graduates receive 2 years of funded professional support from AMNH

Admissions Process

OPTIONAL: INFORMATION SESSION

Attend one of our Information Sessions at the Museum. See our website for details on upcoming Information Session dates.

STEP ONE: APPLY

Visit our website to create your account. Applicants must complete the online application and provide required supplementary materials including transcripts, GRE Scores, and three letters of recommendation.

STEP TWO: INTERVIEW

Interviews for the program are conducted in February and early March. Admissions interviews will be conducted by program faculty at the Museum. Skype interviews are possible.

STEP THREE: ATTEND

Notification of admission decisions will be sent to you in late March. The program begins the first Monday of June.

Questions?

Contact us for more information at mat@amnh.org or 212-313-7464.

Master of Arts in Teaching Program
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, New York 10024-5192



Apply Today!

You're invited to an information session at the Museum.
Complete details are available at amnh.org/mat

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