The Department of Elementary and Special Education in the College of Education invites applications and nominations for a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Birth to Kindergarten Teacher Education position. The home campus for this position will be the Armstrong campus. Some limited travel to our Statesboro may be required.

Georgia Southern University is a distinctive combination of Southern charm and uncompromising academics. We are a Carnegie Doctoral/R2 institution serving about 26,500 students through nine colleges on three beautiful oak-lined campuses in Statesboro, Savannah, Hinesville, and via a growing online program. Throughout its degree offerings at the associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral levels, Georgia Southern cultivates community collaboration, world-class scholarship and hands-on learning opportunities.

Georgia Southern University was founded in 1906 as a school for teaching modern agricultural production techniques and homemaking skills to rural school children. Its Savannah campus was established in 1935 as Armstrong Junior College for local youth who could not afford to attend college away from home. The Liberty Center in Hinesville was established in 1998 to serve the military and their families at nearby Fort Stewart, the largest military base east of the Mississippi. All three locations came together in 2018 when Armstrong State University and Georgia Southern University consolidated. The “new” Georgia Southern University preserves a passion for serving its neighbors while preparing students for lifelong service as scholars, leaders, and responsible stewards of their communities.

Believing that diversity, equity, and inclusion contribute to excellence in the workplace and to the quality of the University’s academic environment, Georgia Southern University is committed to recruiting and retaining diverse faculty and staff to support, promote, and serve a diverse student body and promote Inclusive Excellence. Candidates from historically underrepresented groups, whose work furthers the institution’s Inclusive Excellence goals and who bring to campus varied life experiences, perspectives, and backgrounds are especially encouraged to apply.

Within this setting, the College of Education offers undergraduate and graduate programs to prepare students for work in public and private education, community agencies, and higher education. The Department of Elementary and Special Education is committed to preparing reflective educators who work collaboratively and effectively with diverse students in public schools by using current research to inform their practices. The College of Education is accredited by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. In collaboration with the College of Behavioral & Social Sciences and the School of Human Ecology, two additional concentrations will begin in the Fall 2020 academic year: Birth-Kindergarten Teacher Education, Certification and Birth-Kindergarten Teacher Education, Non-Certification. With a strong social justice lens, the goal of the Birth-Kindergarten program is to prepare students to work professionally with children and their families in a variety of settings. The program takes a holistic approach to addressing the diverse needs of children and families to ensure high quality, inclusive and equitable classroom experiences for each and every child and family.
The individual hired in this position is expected to contribute to the College’s goals of continued excellence and innovation in teaching, scholarship and service.

Position Description. Reporting to the Chair of the Elementary and Special Education, the Assistant Professor of Birth-to-Kindergarten requires teaching, research, and service responsibilities. A terminal degree from an accredited institution in the content area is required. The successful candidate will be qualified to teach undergraduate courses in early childhood education; content area courses such as STEM, Art, Music, Social Studies; and practicum experiences. The successful candidate will also contribute to the growth of the program; develop an active research agenda; secure external funding; mentor students; and provide service to the profession, University, and community. The position is a 10-month, tenure-track appointment, and the salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience. Summer teaching may be available.

Required Qualifications:

• Earned doctorate from an accredited institution in child development, early childhood education, special education, or a closely related field, by August 1, 2021, with at least 18 graduate semester hours in child development or early childhood education
• Commitment to teaching, scholarship, and service that is consistent with the college’s priorities and the mission of the University
• Promise of productive research/scholarship consistent with the teacher-scholar model, including grant/proposal writing
• Commitment to engaging with best practice initiatives in instruction and pedagogy, mentoring, and curriculum design and development
• Willingness and ability to support the program’s social justice lens
• Commitment to building community partnerships and recruiting candidates
• Collaborating with program colleagues in matters related to accreditation, data collection and management
• Ability to contribute to a positive work environment in the college and University
• Technological literacy and a commitment to integrate technology into teaching and scholarship
• Commitment to professional service within the University and beyond
• Interest in working in a diverse academic and professional community
• Experience in online teaching or willingness to learn
• Willingness to engage with institutional student success initiatives
• Must be authorized to work in the United States for the duration of employment without assistance from the institution

Preferred Qualifications:

• Experience teaching in early childhood (0-5 years) educational settings particularly working with children who have special needs
• Experience teaching undergraduate courses in face-to-face, online, or hybrid learning environments
• Experience with school-university-community partnerships
• Involvement in professional organizations
• Experience working with diverse student populations
• Eligibility for Georgia teaching license
• Demonstrated effectiveness in using technology in instruction
• Strong collaboration and communication skills
Screening of applications begins December 4, 2020 and continues until the position is filled. The preferred position starting date is August 1, 2021. To equitably serve a fast growing and highly diverse student body and to fulfill the University’s commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion, we actively seek candidates with a demonstrated commitment to Pillar 3 of our University Strategic Plan: Inclusive Excellence.

A complete application consists of a letter addressing the qualifications cited above; a curriculum vitae; and the names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses of at least 3 professional references. In addition, applicants are required to submit an Inclusive Excellence statement (2 pages). In the Inclusive Excellence statement, applicants should reflect on their experience, vision, and commitment regarding teaching and mentorship of students from diverse backgrounds and discuss past, current, and future contributions to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the areas of research, teaching, service, and outreach. Other documentation may be requested. Only complete applications submitted electronically will be considered. Finalists will be required to submit to a background investigation. Applications and nominations should be sent to:

Dr. Tameka Ardrey, Search Chair, Search # 67776
Georgia Southern University
Electronic mail: tardrey@georgiasouthern.edu
Telephone: 912-344-3247

More information about the institution is available through http://www.georgiasouthern.edu or https://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/. The names of applicants and nominees, vitae, and other non-evaluative information may be subject to public inspection under the Georgia Open Records Act. Georgia Southern University provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, religion, age, veteran status, political affiliation, or disability. Individuals who need reasonable accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act to participate in the search process should notify Human Resources at 912-478-6947.