

Alumni Spotlight: Q&A with Terrill Hillman '11



*Never say never,
because limits,
like fears, are
often just an
illusion.*

--Michael Jordan

Photo courtesy of MGA Marketing and Communications Department

Terrill Hillman graduated with a B.S.Ed. in Early Childhood Special Education in 2011. He is employed at Matilda Hartley Elementary School in Macon. The fourth grade teacher was nominated as Teacher of the Month in March and was recently promoted to STEM Program Teacher.

1. What attracted you to Middle Georgia State College/University?

The affordable tuition, small class sizes along with MGA's reputation for rigorous and academic challenging learning environment.

2. Why did you choose to study education?

I wanted to be a change agent in the world of education and in the community that I serve. My main objective is to create and facilitate an environment where students become life-time learners.

3. What teacher impacted you the most?

The teacher that impacted me the most was my high school American History teacher, Mr. Wayne Gasaway. Mr. Gasaway was very creative, innovative, and had a real passion for his teaching. He played an instrumental role in me pursuing a career as a teacher.

4. Since you graduated what career path have you chosen? Why?

I'm the lead special education teacher, but I'm looking forward to transitioning to teaching middle grade science or social studies in a few years. My ultimate goal is to teach on the collegiate level, who knows, maybe one day at MGA.

5. How has an education at MGA benefited you professionally?

My MGA education program has prepared me in countless ways. The experience prepared me to not only be an excellent teacher but to also be a skilled professional. The overall rigor of the education along with the real world experience has set me apart from others.

6. What advice would you give someone who would like to pursue a career in your field?

Always embrace all your moments as an educator, embrace changes, because it is always around the corner. You should always remember your purpose for becoming an educator, because that purpose will get you through the challenging moments.

7. Finish this sentence: Greatness means (to you)

Greatness is the ability to be able at ANY MOMENT to sacrifice what you are for what you BECOME.

8. What is your lasting impression of MGA?

MGA is one of the greatest learning institutions on the planet. I enjoyed my journey through the most rigorous education program, I learned a lot from these awesome professors (Drs. Fuller, Luther, Sartin and Mr. Brooks).

9. What's your Favorite Quote?

Never say never, because limits, like fears, are often just an illusion. --Michael Jordan.