

Special Education

College of Education

Students may enroll for either degree and/or certification graduate programs in the Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Rehabilitation Counseling. Information about programs in Rehabilitation Counseling and Early Childhood Special Education can be found elsewhere in this document under those headings. Students seeking initial or additional certification at the graduate level in Moderate/Severe Disabilities are eligible for a Temporary Provisional Teacher Certification through the alternate certificate program. Certification in Learning and Behavior Disorders at the graduate level is also available to those who already hold a teaching certificate in another area.

An advanced program of study (i.e., not initial certification programs) leading to the Special Education Teacher Leader master's degree for a Rank II are available with tracks of focus in the following areas:

1. Learning and Behavior Disorders
2. Moderate/Severe Disabilities
3. Assistive Technology

The degree programs that are offered lead to the Master of Science in Special Education, Specialist in Education, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. Within the framework of College and University requirements, all advanced graduate degree programs are individually planned. This flexibility makes it possible to structure an appropriate program for each student, based upon previous background and career aspirations. Following are brief descriptions of the various graduate degree programs.

Minimum hours for the Master of Science in Education Degree are distributed as follows:

Department of Special Education and Support Areas in the College	(30)
TOTAL	(30)

It should be noted that these are minimum requirements. Program deficiencies may result in programs of study that exceed the minimum. Program faculty or the Director of Graduate Studies should be contacted to obtain the specific number of courses required for each program of study.

At least half of the required semester hours must be earned in courses at the 600-700 level (excluding practica, independent study, and thesis hours). All students also are required to take the following courses: Applied Behavioral Analysis, Behavioral Consultation in the Schools, Methods for Teaching Students with Disabilities, Single Subject Research Design, an advanced curriculum course, Leadership in Special Education, 9 hours in their respective program areas, and 2 – 5 hours in designated leadership coursework. In addition, a thesis is required of all Master of Science in Education students in the Department of Special Education.

Students entering without a teaching certificate and who plan to receive an M.S. degree and teach in a Special Education certificate area must meet certificate program deficiencies, including certification requirements, as outlined by their advisor, in addition to completing the degree requirements listed above. Depending on their program of studies, students may obtain Rank II or Rank I certification concurrently with their master's degrees.

General requirements for the Specialist in Education (Ed.S.) degree have been described in a previous

section of this Bulletin. Ed.S. programs are individually planned for in-depth study in an area of special education and require a research project and written product for completion.

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) program is designed to prepare leadership personnel for the field of special education. Primary emphasis is placed upon training persons for positions in higher education personnel preparation, technology applications in special education programs, distance education, and research in special education. Within the context of personnel preparation in special education, various program areas of emphasis can be planned.

Admission Requirements

Department standards for admission to graduate work in special education are similar to those of the Graduate School. However, there are some additional requirements. All potential graduate students within the department must complete an application to the Graduate School and the program. This combined application can be found on the Graduate School website and is an electronic application called Apply Yourself.

This application requires each student to submit (a) transcripts from each previously attended institution of higher education to the department, (b) letters of recommendation, (c) the Graduate Record Examination, and (d) an outline of professional goals and objectives. In addition to the above, students applying for admission to the department's doctoral program must (a) submit a sample of professional writing, (b) submit an autobiographical statement, and (c) interview with the departmental faculty.

These interviews generally occur on campus but can be arranged through phone or electronic means if necessary. It should be noted that applicants who are pursuing a degree with a teaching certificate must be admitted to the College of Education's Teacher Education Program. Requirements for admission to this program vary by discipline. Potential students should contact the department's Director of Graduate Studies for additional information.

Financial assistance maybe available, on a competitive basis, to graduate students in special education. Students may apply for graduate assistantships at all levels of graduate study. Scholarships and assistantships are awarded from funds that may be granted to the Department by the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, U.S. Department of Education as well as other funding sources.

Graduate Courses

EDS 513	Legal Issues In Special Education	(3)
EDS 514	Instructional Technology In Special Education	(3)
EDS 516	Principles Of Behavior Management And Instruction	(3)
EDS 517	Assistive Technology In Special Education	(3)
EDS 522	Children And Families	(3)
EDS 528	Educational Assessment For Students With Mild Disabilities	(3)
EDS 529	Educational Programming For Students With Mild Disabilities	(3)
EDS 530	Moderate And Severe Disabilities	(3)
EDS 546	Transdisciplinary Services For Students With Multiple Disabilities	(3)
EDS 547	Collaboration And Inclusion In School And Community Settings	(3)
EDS 548	Curriculum Design For Students With Moderate And Severe Disabilities	(3)
EDS 549	Methods For Students With Moderate And Severe Disabilities	(4)
EDS 550	Student Teaching: Moderate And Severe Disabilities	(6-12)
EDS 558	Issues In Special Education (Same As RC 558)	(1-9)
EDS 570	Emotional And Behavioral Disabilities	(3)
EDS 589	Field Experiences: Mild Disabilities	(3)

EDS 600	Survey Of Special Education	(3)
EDS 601	Applied Behavioral Analysis	(3)
EDS 602	Administration And Programs In Special Education	(3)
EDS 603	Behavioral Consultation In The Schools	(3)
EDS 610	Advanced Educational Assessment For Students With Mild Disabilities	(3)
EDS 611	Advanced Educational Programming For Students With Learning Disabilities	(3)
EDS 612	Advanced Practicum: Special Education	(1-6)
EDS 613	Legal And Parental Issues In School Administration	(3)
EDS 630	Methods For Teaching Students With Disabilities	(3)
EDS 631	Programming For Students With Moderate And Severe Disabilities	(3)
EDS 632	Advanced Practicum: Moderate And Severe Disabilities	(1-12)
EDS 633	Single Subject Research Design	(3)
EDS 634	Leadership In Special Education	(3)
EDS 640	Assistive Teaching	(3)
EDS 641	Assistive Technology Assessment	(3)
EDS 647	Seminar In Special Education Technology (Variable Topic)	(1-3)
EDS 648	Coordinating Special Education Technology Programs	(3)
EDS 649	Advanced Practicum: Special Education Technology	(1-9)
EDS 651	Distance Education: Delivery	(3)
EDS 652	Distance Education: Management And Support	(3)
EDS 701	Seminar For Special Education Leadership Personnel	(1)
EDS 710	Seminar In Mild Disabilities	(3)
EDS 711	Seminar In Moderate And Severe Disabilities	(3)
EDS 712	Seminar In Special Education Professional Services	(3)
EDS 720	Seminar In Special Education Teacher Preparation	(3)
EDS 721	Practicum In Special Education Personnel Preparation	(1-9)
EDS 730	Seminar In Special Education Administration	(3)
EDS 731	Advanced Practicum: Special Education Administration	(1-9)
EDS 748	Master's Thesis Research	(0)
EDS 749	Dissertation Research	(0)
EDS 767	Dissertation Residency Credit	(2)
EDS 768	Residence Credit For The Master's Degree	(1-6)
EDS 769	Residence Credit For The Doctoral Degree	(0-12)
EDS 779	Seminar In Special Education (Variable Topic)	(1-3)
EDS 789	Independent Study In Special Education	(1-6)