

SPECIAL EDUCATION - M.ED.

College of Education Health and Human Services
 School of Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences
 405 White Hall
 Kent Campus
 330-672-2294
www.kent.edu/ehhs/ldes

Description

Admission to the ASL/English Interpreting concentration has been suspended temporarily.

The Master of Education degree in Special Education provides students with advanced understanding of contemporary research and practice issues in special education. Students in the program are typically interested in pursuing enhanced professional competence, career advancement, leadership roles, advocacy and systems change, or preparation for doctoral-level study. Students do not need to have an undergraduate degree in special education (or education) to be successful in the master's degree, however, should be motivated to develop a deeper understanding of the field of special education.

Students in the M.Ed. Special Education major will develop advanced skills in: designing, implementing, and evaluating research-based practices that meet the special education needs of learners with disabilities; understanding the conceptual underpinnings of special education, as well as policies that guide its implementation in school and community settings; analyzing contemporary issues surrounding special education and the impact of exceptionality on individuals and their families; and understanding the roles that research plays in special education theory.

The M.Ed. degree program does not prepare students for teacher licensure; however, some of the coursework required for the degree may count toward licensure. Students interested in both licensure and a M.Ed. degree will need to apply and be fully admitted into both the master's degree and the non-degree graduate licensure preparation program.

The Special Education major comprises the following concentrations:

- The **ASL/English Interpreting** concentration - *admission to this concentration has been temporarily suspended.*
- The **Deaf Education** concentration focuses on needs of students who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- The **Early Childhood Intervention Specialist** concentration focuses on needs of young children with or at risk for developmental delays or disabilities, birth to grade 3 (birth to 8) and their families.
- The **General Special Education** concentration provides a broad focus on special education across all ages and types of student needs. Students interested in the General Special Education concentration will work with a graduate adviser to develop a personalized plan of study.
- The **Mild/Moderate Educational Needs** concentration focuses on needs of students with mild to moderate educational needs who most often participate in the general education academic curriculum with special education supports.
- The **Moderate/Intensive Educational Needs** concentration focuses on students with moderate to intensive educational needs who most

often require modifications to the general academic curriculum and/or other extensive special education supports.

- The **Pre-Kindergarten Special Needs** concentration focuses on the needs of children with or at risk for developmental delays or disabilities
- The **Transition to Work** concentration focuses on needs of students with disabilities transitioning to adulthood.

Fully Offered At:

- Online (General Special Education concentration only)
- Kent Campus

Accreditation

The Council of Education of the Deaf

Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university for unconditional admission
- Minimum 3.000 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale for unconditional admission
- Official transcript(s)
- Goal statement
- Two letters of recommendation
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following:
 - Minimum 550 TOEFLPBT score - paper-based version
 - Minimum 79 TOEFL IBT score - Internet-based version
 - Minimum 77 MELAB score
 - Minimum 6.5 IELTS score
 - Minimum 58 PTE score

For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the Graduate Studies admission website. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education's admission website.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the program will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of research applications in special education.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of contemporary issues in special education
3. Demonstrate mastery of special education concentration (e.g., transition, mild/moderate, deaf education) content.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
SPED 63201	CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	3
SPED 63204	LEGAL AND POLICY FOUNDATIONS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION	3

SPED 63300	RESEARCH APPLICATIONS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	3
Multidisciplinary Electives, choose from the following:		6
CULT 69522	ETHICS IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE	
EVAL 65510	STATISTICS I FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	
EVAL 68807	PROGRAM EVALUATION	
RHAB 57712	INTRODUCTION TO REHABILITATION	
SPED 53309	INTRODUCTION TO DEAF STUDIES ¹	
SPED 63030	PHARMACOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	
SPED 63956	FOUNDATIONS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES	
SPSY 67973	CONSULTATION IN THE HELPING PROFESSIONS	
Any other graduate level courses agreed upon by faculty advisor		
Thesis Option (not required for graduation)		
EVAL 65511	RESEARCH IN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	
SPED 60199	THESIS I	
Concentrations		
Choose from the following:		18-27
ASL/English Interpreting		
Deaf Education		
Early Child Interventional Specialist		
General Special Education		
Mild/Moderate Educational Needs		
Moderate/Intensive Educational Needs		
Pre-Kindergarten Special Needs		
Transition to Work		
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		33-42

¹ Students in the Deaf Education concentration should not take SPED 53309.

ASL/English Interpreting Concentration Requirements

Admission suspended as of fall 2016

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
SPED 63301	SINGLE SUBJECT RESEARCH METHODS	3
General Electives, as approved by advisor		15
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		18

Deaf Education Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
EVAL 65510	STATISTICS I FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	3
Deaf Education coursework, as approved by advisor		15
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		18

Early Childhood Intervention Specialist Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
SPED 63301	SINGLE SUBJECT RESEARCH METHODS	3

Early Childhood Intervention coursework, as approved by advisor	15
Minimum Total Credit Hours:	18

General Special Education Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
SPED 63301	SINGLE SUBJECT RESEARCH METHODS	3
General Electives, as approved by advisor		15
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		18

Mild/Moderate Educational Needs Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
SPED 63301	SINGLE SUBJECT RESEARCH METHODS	3
Mild/Moderate Educational Needs Electives, as approved by advisor		15
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		18

Moderate/Intensive Educational Needs Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
SPED 63301	SINGLE SUBJECT RESEARCH METHODS	3
Moderate/Intensive Educational Needs Electives, as approved by advisor		15
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		18

Pre-Kindergarten Special Needs Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
SPED 63950	CURRICULUM AND INTERVENTION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES	3
or SPED 63958	EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION METHODS	
SPED 63952	FAMILY AND PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD	3
SPED 63953	PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS: BIRTH TO FIVE	3
SPED 63955	TYPICAL AND ATYPICAL DEVELOPMENT IN YOUNG CHILDREN	3
SPED 63956	FOUNDATIONS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES	3
SPED 63957	ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES	3
SPED 64892	ADVANCED PRACTICUM	3
SPED 64951	DEVELOPING AN INDIVIDUALIZED FAMILY SERVICE PLAN AND INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM	3
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		24

Transition to Work Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
SPED 63301	SINGLE SUBJECT RESEARCH METHODS	3

Transition-to-Work Electives, as approved by advisor	15
Minimum Total Credit Hours:	18

Graduation Requirements

- No more than one-half of a graduate student's coursework may be taken in 50000-level courses.
- Students have six years from the term of first enrollment to complete the degree.
- Students in the Deaf Education and ASL/English Interpreting concentrations must also pass the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI) at the intermediate level for graduation. ASL/English Interpreting students may also pass the American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI) at level 2 as an alternative to the SLPI.
- Students seeking a Reading Endorsement must see advisor before beginning ANY coursework.