

SPECIAL EDUCATION - PH.D.

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

The Ph.D. degree in Special Education is designed to prepare highly qualified, experienced persons for leadership roles in the profession, and for roles as teacher educators and researchers. The program enables students to master a comprehensive field of emphasis in Special Education, employ intellectual and innovative methods for addressing the needs of exceptional children, youth, and adults, and acquire a breadth of understanding of related disciplines that focus on the professional roles of college teaching, research, administration and clinical/educational/agency-based services for individuals with exceptionalities. Students participate in research studies, learn methods for conducting research, and design independent and collaborative studies in their specialty area. In addition to conceptualizing, designing, implementing and interpreting research, all doctoral students are also expected to demonstrate competence in teaching at the college level during their doctoral training.

The doctoral program prepares individuals for academic faculty and research positions in colleges, universities, research centers, and administrative and advocacy positions.

Fully Offered At:

- Kent Campus

Accreditation

The Council of Education of the Deaf

Admission Requirements

- Master's degree from an accredited college or university for unconditional admission
- Minimum 3.000 graduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale (minimum 3.500 GPA is recommended) for unconditional admission
- Official transcript(s)
- GRE scores (minimum score of 50th percentile is recommended)
- Résumé or curriculum vitae
- Goal statement
- Two letters of recommendation
- Interview
- 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 TOEFL PBT 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. Formulate ideas, concepts, designs and/or techniques within and beyond the current boundaries of knowledge and practice within the field of special education; demonstrate breadth within their learning experiences.
2. Articulate research problems, potentials, and limits with respect to theory knowledge, or practice within the field of special education; create research and scholarship that makes a substantive contribution
3. Share knowledge and research in the field of special education with students in a clear and engaging manner; effectively communicate with students within an outside of class; advance contributions of the field of special education to society.
4. Communicate complex ideas in a clear and understandable manner to a variety of audiences.
5. Demonstrate the ability to work well With others, participate in professional organizations, adhere to ethical standards of research protocol and professional behavior.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
SPED 70094	COLLEGE TEACHING	3
SPED 80001	SPECIAL EDUCATION RESIDENCY	3
SPED 80002	ANALYSIS OF THE LITERATURE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	3
SPED 80003	IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	3
SPED 80005	EMPIRICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	3
SPED 80040	RESEARCH GRANT DEVELOPMENT FOR DISABILITY PROGRAMS	3
SPED 80092	PRACTICUM IN COLLEGE TEACHING	3
SPED 80199	DISSERTATION I ²	30
SPED 83201	CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	3
SPED 83301	SINGLE-SUBJECT RESEARCH METHODS	3
Electives, choose from the following:		12
EVAL 75510	STATISTICS I FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	
EVAL 78710	CLASSICAL TEST THEORY	
EVAL 78716	STATISTICS II: ANOVA AND NONPARAMETRIC TESTS	
EVAL 78728	MULTIPLE REGRESSION	
EVAL 85515	QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN AND ANALYSIS	
EVAL 85516	QUALITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN	
EVAL 85517	ADVANCED QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH IN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	

EVAL 85518	ADVANCED QUALITATIVE RESEARCH IN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
EVAL 88791	SEMINAR: EVALUATION AND MEASUREMENT
SPED 73204	LEGAL AND POLICY FOUNDATIONS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION
SPED 83991	SEMINAR IN SPECIAL EDUCATION
SPED 83998	RESEARCH:SPECIAL EDUCATION ¹

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 69

¹ Research topic for SPED 83998 must be approved by and registered with a specific faculty member and approved by advisory committee.

² Upon admission to candidacy, each doctoral candidate must register for SPED 80199. It is expected that a doctoral candidate will continuously register for Dissertation I for a total of 30 credit hours, and thereafter SPED 80299 each semester (including summer) until all requirements for the degree have been met.

Graduation Requirements

- After admission to the Ph.D. degree program, students plan a program of study with their respective faculty advisory committee headed by their advisor.
- Students' programs may include at least one appropriate graduate-level minor or cognate as well as the major.