

# AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS - GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

College of Education Health and Human Services  
School of Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences  
www.kent.edu/ehhs/ldes

## Contact Information

- Program Coordinator: **Sloane Burgess** | sburgess8@kent.edu | 330-672-0160
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

## Fully Offered

- **Delivery:**
  - Fully online
  - In person
- **Location:**
  - Kent Campus

## Admission Terms

- Fall
- Spring
- Summer

## Examples of Possible Careers\*

### Education teachers, postsecondary

- 4.8% about as fast as the average
- 77,300 number of jobs
- \$65,440 potential earnings

### Special education teachers, all other

- 8.5% much faster than the average
- 36,600 number of jobs
- \$62,820 potential earnings

### Special education teachers, kindergarten and elementary school

- 2.9% slower than the average
- 193,000 number of jobs
- \$60,620 potential earnings

### Special education teachers, middle school

- 2.6% slower than the average
- 84,700 number of jobs
- \$61,820 potential earnings

### Special education teachers, preschool

- 8.3% much faster than the average
- 23,000 number of jobs
- \$61,400 potential earnings

### Special education teachers, secondary school

- 3.2% about as fast as the average
- 143,000 number of jobs
- \$62,320 potential earnings

### Healthcare support workers, all other

- 6.9% faster than the average
- 96,900 number of jobs
- \$39,530 potential earnings

### Social and human service assistants

- 16.8% much faster than the average
- 425,600 number of jobs
- \$35,960 potential earnings

#### \*Note

Source of occupation titles and labor data is from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics'

Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

#### Description

The Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) graduate certificate prepares students for understanding and addressing the needs of individuals with autism across the spectrum, across the lifespan and in varied contexts, including general and special education classrooms and community settings. Students will gain knowledge and skills related to diagnostic and learning style characteristics, causes and medical intervention, early signs and assessment protocols, social-communicative development and disorders, theoretical models and implications of those models for intervention, family characteristics and evidence-based intervention practices. This program is most relevant for students who want to specialize in ASD and/or professionals assuming leadership roles in supporting individuals with ASD and their families in the programs and organizations in which they work.

## Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution
- Minimum 2.750 GPA
- Official transcript(s)
- Goal statement
- Two letters of recommendation

## Graduate Certificate Policy for the College of Education, Health and Human Services

- Students seeking a graduate certificate must maintain a minimum 3.000 grade point average. A graduate certificate student who receives a combination of more than 8 credit hours of B- or lower

grades, or more than 4 credit hours of grades lower than C is subject to dismissal. Students who are unable to maintain academic standards of the College are subject to dismissal for academic reasons. Grades of C- or below are not counted toward completion of the certificate.

- Certificates must be completed within six years after the first graduate enrollment.
- No more than 2 credit hours of workshop may be used toward a certificate.
- Before being eligible to be awarded a Certificate, students must be admitted to the Certificate program.
- Students currently in a graduate degree program may also apply to a certificate program. Their degree seeking coursework may be applied to the certificate coursework with advisor approval. The courses must be completed within six years and satisfy certificate course requirements.
- Students who have a previous graduate degree and are not currently seeking another graduate degree may transfer a maximum 6 credit hours with advisor approval. These credits may include hours from another KSU program, or from another accredited institution, if the following conditions are met: (1) courses were at the graduate level; (2) a grade of "A" or "B" was earned; (3) credit will be less than six years old at the time the certificate is conferred at Kent; and (4) student was admitted as a graduate student at the time the course was taken.
- Some program areas may be more restrictive. Students are advised to consult their program.

## Graduation Requirements

| Minimum Certificate GPA | Minimum Overall GPA |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 3.000                   | -                   |

- Students declared in a doctoral degree should enroll in the doctoral level version of these courses, if offered.

## Program Requirements

### Certificate Requirements

| Code  | Title  | Credit Hours |
|---|--|--------------|
| <b>Certificate Requirements</b>                   |  |              |
| SPA 64309   | AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS: THEORY AND DIAGNOSIS          | 3            |
| SPA 64310   | AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS: LIFESPAN INTERVENTIONS        | 3            |
| SPA 64501   | SOCIAL COMMUNICATION ASPECTS OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER | 3            |
| SPED 53030  | APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS I: THEORY AND TECHNIQUES       | 3            |
| SPED 63030  | PHARMACOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION       | 3            |
| or SPED 63959                                     | MEDICAL ASPECTS OF LIFESPAN DISABILITIES                 |              |
| Certificate Electives, choose from the following: |  | 1-3          |
| SPA 64096   | INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION:SPEECH PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY  |              |
| SPA 64098   | RESEARCH   |              |
| SPA 64199   | THESIS I   |              |
| SPED 53031  | APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS II: APPLICATION                |              |
| SPED 63995  | SPECIAL TOPICS IN SPED                                   |              |
| SPED 63949  | AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER CAPSTONE                        |              |
| <b>Minimum Total Credit Hours:</b>                |  | <b>16</b>    |