

# AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS - MINOR

College of Education and Human Services  
 School of Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences  
[www.kent.edu/ehs/ldes](http://www.kent.edu/ehs/ldes)

## About This Program

The Autism Spectrum Disorders minor provides students with knowledge and skills necessary to understand and support autistic individuals across the lifespan and across contexts. Read more...

## Contact Information

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- Speak with an Advisor

## Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
  - Fully online
  - Mostly online
- **Location:**
  - Kent Campus

## Admission Requirements

Admission to a minor is open to students declared in a bachelor’s degree, the A.A.B. or A.A.S. degree or the A.T.S. degree (not Individualized Program major). Students declared only in the A.A. or A.S. degree or the A.T.S. degree in Individualized Program may not declare a minor. Students may not pursue a minor and a major in the same discipline.

To declare this minor, students must have attempted a minimum 12 credit hours at Kent State and earned a minimum 2.750 overall Kent State GPA. Students who have not attempted 12 credit hours at Kent State will be evaluated for admission based on their high school GPA for new students or transfer GPA for transfer students. Transfer students who have not attempted 12 credit hours of college-level coursework at Kent State and/or other institutions will be evaluated based on both their high school GPA and college GPA.

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Minor Requirements</b>		
SPA 44010	SOCIAL COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT AND DISORDERS IN AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS	3
SPA 44030	AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS OVER THE LIFESPAN	3
SPED 43030	APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS I: THEORY AND TECHNIQUES	3
SPED 44020	MEDICAL ASPECTS OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS	3

SPED 44309	AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS: THEORY AND DIAGNOSIS	3
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Minimum Total Credit Hours: 15

## Graduation Requirements

Minimum Minor GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.750	2.000

- Minimum 6 credit hours in the minor must be upper-division coursework (30000 and 40000 level).
- Minimum 6 credit hours in the minor must be outside of the course requirements for any major or other minor the student is pursuing.
- Minimum 50 percent of the total credit hours for the minor must be taken at Kent State (in residence).

## Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Describe the diagnostic and learning style characteristics of individuals with autism spectrum disorder.
2. Identify early signs of autism spectrum disorder and identify and evaluate instruments used to screen for and diagnose autism spectrum disorder in children and adults.
3. Identify neurobiological and environmental factors implicated in the etiology of autism spectrum disorder.
4. Describe medical and complementary and alternative medical interventions used by individuals with autism spectrum disorder.
5. Compare the social-communicative development of individuals with autism spectrum disorder to that of neurotypically developing individuals.
6. Describe different theoretical models for understanding autism spectrum disorder.
7. Implement evidence-based interventions to address the needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

## Admission GPA for Undergraduate Students

For admissions, the College of Education and Human Services considers a student to have established a Kent State University GPA after the student has successfully completed a minimum of 12 Kent State University credit hours.

**New Students and Transfer Students:** Undergraduate students who have not completed a minimum of 12 Kent State University credit hours will be evaluated for admission into an academic program, advanced study and the professional phase based on their high school GPA for new students or transfer GPA for transfer students. Once a student has successfully completed a minimum of 12 Kent State University credit hours, only the student’s Kent State overall GPA will be considered for admission into a program, advanced study and professional phase. Transfer applicants who have completed fewer than 12 semester credit hours of college-level coursework will be evaluated on both collegiate and high school records.

**Current Students:** Students who have completed 12 or more credit hours of previous college-level coursework — either at Kent State University or at another accredited institution — need an overall GPA of 2.00 or higher to declare a College of Education and Human Services major, minor or certificate unless a higher minimum GPA is specified by the program.

The following degree programs require a minimum 2.750 overall GPA for current students who have an established GPA to declare a major:

- American Sign Language/English Interpreting
- Early Childhood Education
- Integrated Language Arts
- Integrated Mathematics
- Integrated Science
- Integrated Social Studies
- Middle Childhood Education
- Physical Education, Health and Sport Exploration (only Health and Physical Education concentration or Physical Education Licensure concentration)
- Special Education

## Full Description

The Autism Spectrum Disorders minor is an interdisciplinary program, between special education and speech pathology and audiology. The minor prepares students to understand and address 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 gain knowledge and skills related to the following:

- Diagnostic and learning style characteristics
- Causes and medical intervention
- Early signs and assessment protocols
- Social-communicative development and disorders
- Theoretical models and the implications of those models for intervention
- Family characteristics
- Evidence-based intervention practices

The minor is particularly relevant for students with a major or interest in special education, speech pathology, audiology, occupational and physical therapy, psychology and human development and family science.