



Master of Arts in Special Education

Option: Autism and Developmental Disabilities

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Program Description

The Master of Arts in Special Education, Autism and Developmental Disabilities prepares students to work in settings in which specialized assessments, practices in Applied Behavioral Analysis are implemented. Students with Autism and Developmental Disabilities are those individuals who have more severe/lifelong disabilities. Coursework actively involves students in critical thinking activities, where they examine and analyze theories and practices in teaching students in this domain. It also provides a foundation for candidates who may choose to pursue the post-Master's in Applied Behavior Analysis: Autism and Developmental Disabilities which fulfills the coursework required to obtain BCBA certification. Students may apply to receive New Jersey Certification as a Teacher of Students with Disabilities after the completion of the required 21 credits.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the University's admissions requirements:

- Baccalaureate with a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average
- Official transcripts from all institutions attended
- Three Letters of Recommendation (professional experience)
- An appropriate scholarly writing sample, APA style preferred
- Professional resume/CV
- Personal Statement
- *Official TOEFL or IELTS score reports (*International Students Only)
- New Jersey Instructional Certificate

Program Requirements

- 36 credits (without co-requisite); 39 credits (with co-requisite)
- Two semesters of advanced seminar
- Professional Development Portfolio

Required Courses- 15-18 Credits			Semester
SPED 5005*	Foundation in Special Education and Educational Implications	3 credits	Fall and Summer *based on enrollment
SPED 5020	Educational Strategies for Students with Disabilities	3 credits	Fall and Summer *based on enrollment
SPED 5023	Computer Application in Special Education	3 credits	Fall, Spring, Summer *based on enrollment
SPED 5024	Differentiating Instruction in the Inclusive Classroom	3 credits	Fall *based on enrollment
SPED 5050	Assessment in Special Education	3 credits	Spring *based on enrollment
SPED 5068	Transition in Special Education	3 credits	Spring *based on enrollment

* SPED 5005: Waived for students certified in Special Education within the last 10 years

SPED 5005, SPED 5020, SPED 5050, SPED 5023, SPED 5024, SPED 5068, & SPED 5702 Courses must be completed to apply for NJ Certification as a Teacher of Students with Disabilities.

Concentration Courses- 9 Credits			Semester
SPED 5702	Educating Learners with Autisms & Other Developmental Disabilities	3 credits	Fall, Spring *based on enrollment
SPED 5704	Behavior and Educational Assessment For Learners with Autisms & Other Developmental Disabilities	3 credits	Spring *based on enrollment
SPED 5705	Applied Behavior Analysis for Learners with Autism & Other Developmental Disabilities I	3 Credits	Fall, Spring *based on enrollment

Electives 3 Credits

One elective, either from another option, from offered electives in Special Education Graduate Program, or from another subject, with advisor approval

Research – 9 Credits			
SPED 5197 *	Problems and Issues in Special Education Research	3 credits	Spring ONLY
SPED 5198 *	Advanced Seminar I: Research in Special Education	3 credits	Fall ONLY
SPED 5199 *	Advanced Seminar II: Research in Special Education	3 credits	Spring ONLY

* Note: SPED 5197 **must** be taken 1st prior to SPED 5198-99

* Note: SPED 5198 is **only** offered in the Fall

* Note: SPED 5199 is **only** offered in the Spring

TOTAL OF 36 - 39 CREDITS TO COMPLETE PROGRAM

Revised 6/7/2022