



Master of Education With Concentration

Autism Specialist

36 credits, 3 terms full-time • This program does not satisfy licensure requirements for K-12 public school teachers.

AUTISM SPECIALIST — Teachers in general education and special education today are working with more and more students diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). This program answers the growing need for more understanding and better preparation for those working with students with severe disabilities. It is designed for experienced teachers and para-professionals, to enhance their working knowledge of the field. It also provides opportunities to explore new opportunities this knowledge would provide. ***This is not a licensure program and does not lead to BACB certification.***

Learning Outcomes — Graduates will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of autism, behavioral issues and severe special needs.

Careers — This program will enhance the skills and understanding of:

- Experienced special educators, wanting more information to better serve the needs of this growing population.
- General educators who wish to work more effectively in their inclusion classes.
- Para-professionals currently working with students with severe disabilities, to gain a better understanding of the autistic needs and behavioral issues of the students they serve.
- Anyone wanting to know more about this growing field.

Admissions requirements: Bachelor's degree and other general requirements (see Admission). Master's degree required if enrolling in Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis only.

Satisfactory academic progress — All students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 or be placed on academic probation.

Program and schedule subject to change.

Professional Seminar & Project9 credits

- ESP691S-693S Professional Seminar in Special Education/
Autism Spectrum Disorders (3 terms @ 2 credits)
- ESP800 Independent Learning Project (take with Seminar III)

Autism & Special Education Courses 27 credits

- ESP689 Theories of Typical & Atypical Human Development Fall, Summer
- ESP610 Autism: History, Prevalence, Diagnosis & Characteristics Fall
- ESP616 Communication Disorders (ASD) Summer
- ESP621 Assessment & Appraisal Process (ASD) Spring
- ESP625 Behavior Management (ASD) Spring
- ESP630 Social and Psychological Perspectives in Autism Spectrum Disorders Summer
- ESP635 Teaching & Curriculum Development for Students with Severe Disabilities Summer
- ESP615 Assistive Technology: Modifying Curriculum for Diverse Learning Styles Summer
- ESP695 Laws & Regulations Pertaining to Special Education Fall, Spring

All courses 3 credits except as noted.