

Master of Science: Special Education

The Master of Science: Special Education program is for currently licensed teachers seeking anchor, initial or additional special education licensure. The Master of Science: Special Education requires a minimum of 34 graduate credits. Up to 9 graduate transfer credits are allowed. Minnesota Board of Teaching requirements must be met if seeking licensure.

All Special Education candidates take the Special Education Core (22 credits) and the Specialty Courses in at least one area (10-15 cr.) which leads to Special Education licensure in Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Developmental Disabilities (DD-*available only for ABS licensed teachers*), Emotional Behavioral Disabilities (EBD), or Learning Disabilities (LD). Candidates are welcome to pursue more than one licensure area. Students add the Portfolio (2 cr.) and Research Component Courses (8 cr.) to complete the 34 credits required for the M.S. in Special Education.

THE VISION

Communities of practice investigating teaching and learning.

THE MISSION

The mission of teacher education program at SMSU is to create communities of practice where each learner is an active participant in the investigation of learning, teaching and leadership processes. Teachers and learners will engage in educational theory, research, inquiry, critical reflection, and application.

REGULATIONS

The following regulations will govern students accepted into the SMSU Master of Science: Education Program.

1. Students may transfer a maximum of nine (9) semester credits of previous graduate work, including up to four (4) in specialty areas, from other accredited universities into the SMSU Education Department Master of Science: Education Program. Graduate students interested in transfer credit should complete the Student Petition form located on the SMSU website at www.SMSU.edu/regISTRATION/petition.pdf or request a form from the Education Department.
2. A minimum GPA of 3.0 will be maintained throughout the graduate program. No grades below a “C” are acceptable in graduate courses.
3. Students have seven (7) years from the date of their first course registration to complete all requirements for the Master’s Degree
4. Students must have earned a bachelor’s degree and hold a valid teacher’s license prior to admission.
5. Students are afforded due process rights as determined by the [Due Process Policy and Procedures](#).

Degree & Graduation Requirements

Special Education Core Courses (22 credits) <i>All courses are required at either the undergraduate or graduate level. Can use the graduate level courses to meet the 34 credits needed for the Master of Science degree.</i>			
SPED 530	Foundations in Mild to Moderate Disabilities	3	F
SPED 540	Assessment & Educational Planning	4	S
SPED 550	Curriculum Design and Implementation in Special Education	3	S
SPED 560	Positive Behavior Support in Special Education	3	F
SPED 570	Collaboration in Educational Settings	3	B, Su
SPED 580	Procedural Safeguards in Special Education	3	F
SPED 485/585	Autism Spectrum Disorders: Issues and Needs	3	B, Su

Optional Licensure Areas

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) - Odd Summers				
SPED 686	ASD: Assessments & Programming	<i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	3	Su
SPED 687	ASD: Communication & Social Skills	<i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	3	Su
SPED 688	ASD: Behavioral and Instructional Strategies	<i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	3	Su
SPED 680	ASD: Practicum in SpEd: Moderate to Severe: B-21	<i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	3	All
SPED 670	ASD Practicum in SpEd: Mild to Mod: B-21	<i>Tracks 1,3,4</i>	3	All

Developmental Delay (DD) - Even Summers				
SPED 621	Access and Support for Individuals with Moderate to Severe Developmental Disabilities	<i>Track 2 ONLY</i>	3	Su
SPED 641	Life Span Learning and Outcomes for Individuals with Moderate to Severe Developmental Disabilities	<i>Track 2 ONLY</i>	3	Su
SPED 681	DD Practicum in SpEd: Moderate to Severe: K-12	<i>Track 2 ONLY</i>	3	All

Emotional or Behavioral Disorder (EBD) - Odd Summers			
SPED 620	Characteristics of Student with Learning & Behavioral Disorders: Mild to Moderate K-12 <i>Tracks 1,3,4</i>	3	Su
SPED 623	Characteristics of Student with Moderate to Severe EBD <i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	3	Su
SPED 643	Behavior Management and Teaching Strategies <i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	3	Su
SPED 683	EBD Practicum in SpEd: Mod to Severe: K-12 <i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	3	All
SPED 673	EBD Practicum in SpEd: Mild to Mod: K-12 <i>Tracks 1,3,4</i>	3	All

Learning Disabilities (LD) - Even Summers			
SPED 620	Characteristics of Student with Learning & Behavioral Disorders: Mild to Moderate K-12 <i>Tracks 1,3,4</i>	3	Su
SPED 624	Characteristics of Students with Moderate or Severe Learning Disabilities <i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	3	Su
SPED 644	Teaching and Achievement Strategies for Learning Disabilities <i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	3	Su
SPED 684	LD Practicum in SpEd: Mod to Severe: K-12 <i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	3	All
SPED 674	LD Practicum in SpEd: Mild to aMod: K-12 <i>Tracks 1,3,4</i>	3	All

Portfolio Courses – Required

Portfolio – Required courses			
SPED 600	Professional Development and Implementation <i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	1	All
SPED 610-ASD or SPED 611-DD or SPED 613-EBD or SPED 614-LD	Professional Assessment and Review *repeat for each licensure area <i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	1	All

Research Courses - Required

Research Courses			
SPED 625	Research in Education <i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	3	F,S
SPED 626	Research Project Design <i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	3	S,Su
SPED 627	Research Project Implementation <i>Tracks 1,2,3,4</i>	2	S

F = Fall S = Spring B = Both F & S SU = Summer

*odd/even years are determined by last digits of the year i.e. 2017 = odd, 2018 = even

You are responsible to keep informed of any changes in requirements, which may affect your academic career.

Track 1: Licensed Special Education Teacher (Other than ABS) who are seeking additional special education licensures outside of the Master's program can choose from the three areas; ASD, EBD, or LD. Upon completion of the courses and meeting Board of Teaching requirements, candidates can apply for license with the State of Minnesota.

Track 2: Licensed ABS Teacher seeking an Anchor licensure program can choose from the four areas: ASD, DD, EBD, or LD. Upon completion of the courses and meeting Board of Teaching requirements, candidates can apply for license with the State of Minnesota.

Track 3: Licensed Teacher other than Special Education. If you are a licensed teacher other than Special Education, you will be required to complete the Special Education Core and the requirements in at least one area: ASD, EBD, or LD. You will also meet with an advisor to complete a transcript review to ensure fulfillment of the State of Minnesota teaching requirements.

Track 4: Career Change. If you are not a currently licensed teacher but seek a special education teaching degree or Master's degree in Special Education, you will be assigned an advisor to review your transcript and get you started on your path to becoming a special education teacher.