

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

MASTER OF EDUCATION: SPECIAL EDUCATION

OVERVIEW

OBJECTIVES

The School of Education offers a master's degree with a specialization in the field of Special Education. The program is designed to develop highly qualified professionals in Special Education who serve the Guam community and the greater Pacific region.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Assessment

Special education specialists use valid and reliable assessment practices to minimize bias.

2. Curricular Content Knowledge

Special education specialists use their knowledge of general and specialized curricula to improve programs, supports, and services at classroom, school, community, and system levels.

3. Programs, Services, and Outcomes

Special education specialists facilitate the continuous improvement of general and special education programs, supports, and services at the classroom, school, and system levels for individuals with exceptionalities.

4. Research and Inquiry

Special education specialists conduct, evaluate, and use inquiry to guide professional practice.

5. Leadership and Policy

Special education specialists provide leadership to formulate goals, set and meet high professional expectations, advocate for effective policies and evidence-based practices, and create positive and productive work environments.

6. Professional and Ethical Practice

Special education specialists use foundational knowledge of the field and professional ethical principles and practice standards to inform special education practice, engage in lifelong learning,

advance the profession, and perform leadership responsibilities to promote the success of professional colleagues and individuals with exceptionalities.

7. Collaboration

Special education specialists collaborate with stakeholders to improve programs, services, and outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities and their families.

COHORT SYSTEM

The graduate special education program is offered using the Cohort System. A maximum of 15 students may enroll in one of three Cohorts each year (June, August and January).

There are six terms each year:

- Term 1 and 2 (Fanuchånan Semester 2-8 week sessions)
- Term 3 and 4 (Fañomnåkan Semester 2-8 week sessions)
- Term 5 and 6 (Finakpo' Sessions 2-4 week sessions)

Classes are generally held on weekends in the Fanuchånan and Fañomnåkan, and on weekdays during the Finakpo'. Students will meet the requirements for GCEC Special Education Certification (K-12) and may complete the Master of Education in six terms (12 months).

All students seeking teaching certification must pass the PRAXIS CORE: Reading, Writing & Math, PRAXIS II – PLT (level determined by student) and PRAXIS II (0354-Special Education) examinations as required by GCEC. Those students seeking the Master of Education must pass the PRAXIS II (0354-Special Education) examination and complete the NCATE approved Electronic Portfolio to meet the Comprehensive Examination requirements. Additional coursework and internship may be required depending on the applicants' background. Students

seeking teacher certification should obtain a GCEC Teacher Certification Evaluation before developing a program of study.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

SPECIFIC PREREQUISITES

Students wishing to be admitted to this specialization must have an earned baccalaureate degree in Education. Student with non-education baccalaureate degrees with teaching experience may also be admitted, however those with no teaching experience will be required to take nine hours of undergraduate coursework prior to enrolling in the program. The program chair must approve the program of study ("Graduate Program Entry" form) prior to the start of the program for all students.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS (33 credit hours)

Core Courses (9 credit hours)

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
ED601	INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
ED654	MULTICULTURAL SPECIAL EDUCATION	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Choose one of the following:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
ED602	QUALITATIVE INQUIRY IN EDUCATION	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
ED603	QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Area of Specialization (15 credit hours)

Students will develop their area of specialization with the approval of program chair.

Electives (3 credit hours)

Student selects one graduate course with the approval of program chair.

Research or Professional Track (6 credit hours)

THESIS OR SPECIAL PROJECT (6 credit hours)

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
ED691	OVERVIEW SEMINAR:	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
ED697	COMPREHENSIVE EXAM	0	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Choose one of the following:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
ED690	SPECIAL PROJECT	3 - 6	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
ED695	THESIS:	1 - 6	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

PROFESSIONAL TRACK (6 credit hours)

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
ED691	OVERVIEW SEMINAR:	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
ED698	INTERNSHIP:	3 - 6	FALL/SPRING/ AS REQUIRED
ED697	COMPREHENSIVE EXAM	0	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

FACULTY

ACTING PROGRAM CHAIR

Catherine A. Cardenas

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