

## Special Education

**Graduate Faculty:** Katherine Good  
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**Degree:** Master of Special Education  
**Major:** Special Education

The Department of Educational Studies offers a Master of Special Education degree with two options: Option one: 36 semester hours of coursework and a written comprehensive examination. Option two: 36 semester hours including 30 hours of coursework and a thesis **or** project of six hours. General and specific admission requirements, guidelines for preparing degree plans and other policies are the same as those for the Master of Education degree (see requirements in the Education section of the Graduate Catalog.)

The Master of Special Education degree is designed to prepare professionals who have an

undergraduate education background. If the student is not licensed in special education, he or she will need to take the following leveling courses (which will not count toward his or her master's degree): SPED 300, 330, 338, 411, 412, 413, 445 and 447 (students who are licensed in elementary or secondary education will not have to take SPED 445 and 447). Students seeking only licensure in special education will take the 30-hour licensure program as described in the Undergraduate Catalog. The licensure program includes the leveling courses stated above and requires a minimum of 30 semester hours.

The Master of Special Education degree must include the following:

1. Education Foundations (9 cr.): EDF 500, EDF 515, and EDF 530.
2. Special education courses (18 cr.)
 

SPED 503	Special Education Law .....	3
SPED 505	Severe and Profound Disabilities: Theory to Practice, <b>or</b>	
SPED 509	Gifted: Theory to Practice .....	3
SPED 534	Mental Retardation: Theory to Practice .....	3
SPED 540	Learning Disabilities: Theory to Practice .....	3
SPED 543	Communication & Collaboration Methods .....	3
SPED 548	Behavior Disorders: Theory to Practice .....	3
3. Approved elective(s) ..... 9
4. To meet licensure requirements, the student must have a concentration of 24 hours in a subject matter area that qualifies for an endorsement for a teaching license (this requirement is usually met within the undergraduate degree).