

MEd — SPECIAL EDUCATION

Department of Special Education

Miller Hall 326, 360-650-3981

GRADUATE FACULTY

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Goals

The program prepares special educators to become master teachers and consultants in specialized instruction. Graduate studies in special education are generally designed for certificated teachers who are seeking a master's degree in combination with an endorsement to teach special education, and for certificated special education teachers. Prospective students who hold a bachelor's degree and are seeking a first Washington state certification should refer to the *Special Education Post-Baccalaureate Program* as preparation for graduate admission.

Application Information

Candidates must meet the requirements of the Graduate School (see *General Requirements* in this section of the catalog) in addition to the following departmental requirements:

Specific test requirements:

Miller Analogies Test or Graduate Record Exam, General Test.

Supporting materials:

- A résumé
- A statement of purpose for seeking the MEd, and SPED endorsement, if applicable, not to exceed one page
- Completion of Washington state residency certificate requirements
- Three current letters of reference
- An on-campus interview if requested by the department

In limited cases, students who do not meet the departmental admission requirements may be granted provisional admission by the Graduate School.

Advancement to Candidacy

Advancement to candidacy is formal recognition that the student has met all admission requirements and has demonstrated satisfactory performance in at least 12 credits of graduate study.

Program Options — Thesis (690) or Research Paper (691)

Qualified students can choose from the following options:

Option I — Thesis

Master's degree with Thesis (690) and special education endorsement

Master's degree with thesis (690) only

Option II — Research Paper

Master's degree with Research Paper (691) and special education endorsement

Master's degree with Research Paper (691) only

Thesis and Research Paper

The department requires students to submit a proposal for a thesis (690) or research paper (691). This proposal must be approved by the student's committee prior to registering for SPED 690 or SPED 691. In SPED 690 or SPED 691 students will design and carry out independent research under the direction of a faculty committee. The thesis option (690) requires a committee of three faculty. Two faculty are required for the committee directing the research paper (691).

Comprehensive Assessment

Student achievement of the program competencies will be assessed by faculty during the final two quarters of the program through one of two methods:

Thesis proposal, paper, and defense

Research seminar and research paper

Courses

Options including a special education teaching endorsement (52 credits)

Core requirements: EDUC 501, IT 503, SPED 567* [14]

SPED course work: SPED 466, 474, 560, 562, 563, 564, 565, 568 [32]

Research paper requirement: SPED 691 [6] or thesis requirement SPED 690 [6]

A one quarter student teaching internship may be required to earn the P-12 special education endorsement.

Options not including a special education teaching endorsement (52 credits)

Core requirements: EDUC 501, IT 503, SPED 567* [14]

GRADUATE SCHOOL

SPED course work: A minimum of 10 hours in Special Education and others by advisement [32]
Research paper requirement SPED 691 [6] or this requirement SPED 690 [6]

*Repeatable — 6 credits required.