



*Preparing thoughtful, knowledgeable, and effective educators for a diverse society*

## **Woodring College of Education**

# **Department of Special Education Special Education Graduate Program**

Miller Hall 322 • 360/650-3330 • [www.wce.wvu.edu/depts/sped](http://www.wce.wvu.edu/depts/sped)

Graduate studies in special education are generally designed for individuals who are seeking a master's degree in combination with an endorsement to teach special education. Certificated teachers who already hold a special education endorsement will have increased flexibility to design an academic specialization within their graduate Plan of Study. Prospective students who hold a bachelor's degree and are seeking initial Washington state certification should refer to the *Special Education Post-Baccalaureate Program* as preparation for graduate admission. For further information, please arrange to speak with a Special Education adviser by calling (360) 650-3330.

### **Admission & Retention**

Candidates must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate School (see *General Requirements* 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/or SPED endorsement, 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.

Retention in the program requires continuous demonstration of competence in standard oral and written English in all coursework. Retention also requires maintenance of a 3.0 quarterly GPA for each quarter after admission to Special Education. The State of Washington requires students to earn a "C" or better in all endorsement and education courses.

Special Education Graduate Advisor:

Dr. Kristine Slentz

Miller Hall 318b – (360) 650-3724

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## Coursework for Graduate Studies (2008-2009 Catalog)

### **OPTION WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION ENDORSEMENT**

#### **Graduate Foundations Core:**

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| SPED 501 | Research In Special Ed. (4)                   |
| SPED 503 | Instructional Design for Diverse Learners (4) |
| SPED 567 | Advanced Issues in Special Education (6)      |

#### **Special Education Coursework:**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| SPED 466 | Assessment, Evaluation and IEP (4)                       |
| SPED 474 | Students with Complex Special Needs (4)                  |
| SPED 560 | Literacy Instruction for Students with Special Needs (4) |
| SPED 562 | Learning Problems (4)                                    |
| SPED 563 | Curriculum Methods in Special Education (4)              |
| SPED 564 | Social Skills (4)  |
| SPED 565 | Communication and Collaboration in SPED (4)              |
| SPED 568 | Curriculum-Based Evaluation and Decision Making (4)      |

Research Paper Requirement: SPED 691 (6)

OR

Thesis Requirement: SPED 690 (6)

#### **Student Teaching:**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| SPED 598 | Residency in SPED (4-16)                   |
| SPED 599 | Internship: Exceptional Children (8 or 16) |

### **OPTION WITHOUT SPECIAL EDUCATION ENDORSEMENT**

#### **Graduate Foundations Core:**

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| SPED 501 | Research in Special Ed. (4)                   |
| SPED 503 | Instructional Design for Diverse Learners (4) |
| SPED 567 | Advanced Issues in Special Education (6)      |

#### **Special Education Coursework:**

A minimum of 10 hours in Special Education and others by advisement. (32)

Research Paper Requirement: SPED 691 (6)

OR

Thesis Requirement: SPED 690 (6)

*This document is subject to change. The latest version will always be available on the Special Education website. (Revised 7/08)*