

SPECIAL EDUCATION WITH AN EMPHASIS IN AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS (MA)

This program is for individuals who hold a valid Minnesota teaching license and who wish to expand their teaching skills and knowledge of the characteristics and interventions used with students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders. It is designed to prepare highly effective professional, decision-making, and reflective educators who are proficient in foundational knowledge; referral, evaluation, planning, and programming; instructional design, teaching, and ongoing evaluation; collaboration and communication; standards of effective practice; and core special education skills including instructional strategies, social/emotional health, social competence, cultural competence, classroom management, and academic competence.

Course	Title	Credits
Supplemental Course		
ED 548	Content and Methods of K-6 Literacy I ¹ (3)	
ED 558	Content and Methods of K-6 Literacy II ¹ (3)	
Program Courses		
SPED 580	Ethical Issues for Professional Educators of Exceptional Learners	3
SPED 581	Instructional Strategies: Mild/Moderate Disabilities	3
SPED 583	Collaborative Teaching in Inclusive Settings	3
SPED 582	Teaching Students with Linguistic Differences or Difficulties	3
SPED 573	Fundamentals: Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
SPED 574	Communication and Social Skills Training	3
SPED 596	Behavior Management	3
SPED 575	Interventions: Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
SPED 586	Learners with Disabilities: Educational Assessment	3
SPED 593	Applied Experience in Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
ED 521	Educational Research and Applications	3
ED 590	Conducting Research and Completing the Capstone	3
Total Credits		36

¹ ED 548 Content Methods of K-6 Literacy I and ED 558 Content and Methods of K-6 Literacy II (6 credits) are required unless candidates can verify equivalent coursework addressing comprehensive scientifically-based reading instruction, including reading foundations and assessment

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
First Semester		
SPED 580	Ethical Issues for Professional Educators of Exceptional Learners	3
SPED 581	Instructional Strategies: Mild/Moderate Disabilities	3

Second Semester		
SPED 583	Collaborative Teaching in Inclusive Settings	3
SPED 582	Teaching Students with Linguistic Differences or Difficulties	3
Third Semester		
SPED 573	Fundamentals: Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
SPED 574	Communication and Social Skills Training	3
Credits		18

Second Year		
First Semester		
SPED 596	Behavior Management	3
SPED 575	Interventions: Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
Second Semester		
SPED 586	Learners with Disabilities: Educational Assessment	3
SPED 593	Applied Experience in Autism Spectrum Disorders	3-6
Third Semester		
ED 521	Educational Research and Applications	3
ED 590	Conducting Research and Completing the Capstone	3
Credits		18-21
Total Credits		36-39

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
First Semester		
SPED 580	Ethical Issues for Professional Educators of Exceptional Learners	3
SPED 581	Instructional Strategies: Mild/Moderate Disabilities	3
Second Semester		
SPED 583	Collaborative Teaching in Inclusive Settings	3
SPED 582	Teaching Students with Linguistic Differences or Difficulties	3
Third Semester		
SPED 573	Fundamentals: Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
SPED 574	Communication and Social Skills Training	3
Credits		18

Second Year		
First Semester		
SPED 596	Behavior Management	3
SPED 575	Interventions: Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
Second Semester		
SPED 586	Learners with Disabilities: Educational Assessment	3
SPED 593	Applied Experience in Autism Spectrum Disorders	3-6
Credits		12-15
Total Credits		30-33