

SPECIAL EDUCATION, MASTER OF ARTS

The Master of Arts in Special Education prepares students to be inspiring, self-aware, and effective, evidence-based K-12 special education professionals. It is aligned to the Colorado P-12 Academic Standards of 2020, the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Professional Development Standards for all educators, the revised Teacher Quality Standards, and current educational policy and best practices. The depth and breadth of the special education licensure or added-endorsement program pathways resulting in a Master of Arts in Special Education is designed to prepare students to teach in Colorado or United States standards-based classrooms in rural and urban communities through the development of special education roles and responsibilities, K-12 content knowledge, pedagogical knowledge, and knowledge of current challenges in the teaching profession.

The Master of Arts in Special Education includes multiple pathways for graduate students either seeking an initial licensure, added-endorsement if already licensed teachers, and alternative licensing for both non-licensed or already-licensed graduate students.

The Master of Arts in Special Education requires students to complete all requirements of the Licensure or Added-Endorsement Program as well as a Master's capstone project and special education milestone electronic teaching portfolio upon completion of the program.

Program Goals

- To prepare new teachers who are proficient or above in all of the Colorado Teacher Standards and corresponding, endorsement specific content area standards and who have the opportunity to implement, reflect upon and improve their classroom practices.
- To prepare teachers who are inclusive and responsive to the needs of all students.
- To prepare teachers who can deliver instruction using multiple modalities, including hybrid, online, and in-person instruction.

Program Requirements

Special Education Licensure (24-27 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
EDUC 611	Strategies for Teaching Students with Exceptionalities	3
EDUC 612	Assessment and Programming	3
EDUC 614	Inclusivity with Collaboration	3
EDUC 615	Student Teaching for Students with Exceptionalities (Can be taken twice for credit)	3
EDUC 630	Inclusivity in the Content Areas	3
EDUC 631	Inclusive Methods and Strategies for Literacy	3
EDUC 632	Overview of Special Services	3
EDUC 633	Differential Literacy Assessment	3
Total Credits		24

Post-Licensure Coursework (3-6 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
One to two EDUC 600 level electives		3-6
EDUC 603	Content Area Learning	
EDUC 606	Reading and Writing Across the Content Areas	

EDUC 607	Rethinking Learning in the 21st Century	
EDUC 608	Methods and Strategies of Effective Writing Instruction	
EDUC 613	Methods and Strategies of Effective Mathematics Instruction	
EDUC 621	Creating Effective Online & Blended Learning Environments	
EDUC 622	Using Data to Plan for Online & Blended Learning and Targeted Interventions	
EDUC 624	Managing to Differentiate	
EDUC 628	Pedagogies for English Learners	
EDUC 629	Inclusion and English Learners	
EDUC 682	Shaping School Culture	
EDUC 683	Legal and Ethical Issues in Education	
EDUC 694	School Law for Teachers	
EDUC 695	RESOURCE MGMT IN EDUCATION	
EDUC 696	Engaging External Stakeholders	
Total Credits		3-6

Capstone Coursework (7 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
EDUC 680	Action Research for Educational Leaders	4
EDUC 693	Conduct, Reflect, and Present Action Research	3
Total Credits		7

Degree Plan

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
EDUC 611	Strategies for Teaching Students with Exceptionalities	3
EDUC 614	Inclusivity with Collaboration	3
EDUC 615	Student Teaching for Students with Exceptionalities (only initial licensure)	3
EDUC 630	Inclusivity in the Content Areas	3
EDUC 632	Overview of Special Services	3
Credits		15
Spring		
EDUC 612	Assessment and Programming	3
EDUC 615	Student Teaching for Students with Exceptionalities	3
EDUC 631	Inclusive Methods and Strategies for Literacy	3
EDUC 633	Differential Literacy Assessment	3
Credits		12
Year Two		
Fall		
EDUC 680	Action Research for Educational Leaders	4
EDUC XXX	EDUC Elective (only added-endorsement)	0-3
Credits		4-7
Spring		
EDUC 693	Conduct, Reflect, and Present Action Research	3
EDUC XXX	EDUC Elective	3
Credits		6
Total Credits		37-40