

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND DISABILITY STUDIES

GRADUATE

Graduate certificate programs

- Autism spectrum disorders (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/special-education-disability-studies/certificate-autism-spectrum-disorders/>)
- Brain injury: educational and transition services (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/special-education-disability-studies/certificate-brain-injury-educational-transition-services/>)
- Special education for cultural responsiveness and equity in teaching (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/special-education-disability-studies/certificate-special-education-cultural-responsiveness-and-equity-in-teaching/>)
- Transition special education (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/special-education-disability-studies/certificate-transition-special-education/>)

Master's programs

- Master of Arts in Education and Human Development in the field of early childhood special education (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/special-education-disability-studies/early-childhood-special-education/>)
- Master of Arts in Education and Human Development in the field of interdisciplinary secondary transition services (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/interdisciplinary-secondary-transition-services/>)
- Master of Arts in Education and Human Development in the field of secondary special education (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/special-education-disability-studies/master-secondary-special-education/>)
- Master of Arts in Education and Human Development in the field of special education for children with emotional and behavioral disabilities (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/special-education-children-emotional-behavioral-disabilities/>)
- Master of Arts in Education and Human Development in the field of special education for cultural responsiveness and equity in teaching (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/special-education-cultural-responsiveness-and-equity-in-teaching/>)
- Master of Arts in Education and Human Development individualized program (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/educational-leadership/human-development-individualized-program/>)

Post-master's program

- Education Specialist in the field of special education (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/special-education-disability-studies/education-specialist/>)

Doctoral program

- Doctor of Education in the field of special education (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/education-human-development/special-education-disability-studies/doctor-special-education/>)

FACULTY

Professor M. Freund

Associate Professors: L. Rice, E. Tuckwiller (Chair)

Assistant Professors: D. Gresham, K. Ihrig, J. Kester

COURSES

Explanation of Course Numbers

- Courses in the 1000s are primarily introductory undergraduate courses
- Those in the 2000s to 4000s are upper-division undergraduate courses that also may be taken for graduate credit with permission and additional work assigned
- Those in the 6000s and 8000s are for master's, doctoral, and professional-level students
- The 6000s are open to advanced undergraduate students with approval of the instructor and the dean or advising office

SPED 0920. Continuing Research - Master's. 1 Credit.

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SPED 0940. Continuing Research - Doctoral. 1 Credit.

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SPED 5099. Variable Topics. 1-99 Credits.

SPED 6100. Selected Topics. 1-12 Credits.

Topics and fees announced in the Schedule of Classes. Credit cannot be earned for this course and CNSL 6100, CPED 6100, CPED 6199.

SPED 6101. Research and Independent Study. 1-3 Credits.

Individual study or research under guidance of staff member. Permission of the advisor required prior to enrollment. May be repeated for credit.

SPED 6201. Overview and Legal Issues in Educating Exceptional Learners. 3 Credits.

Survey course to acquaint prospective teachers with special education and to help them become aware of the various educational modifications necessary to accommodate children with special needs in a school program.

SPED 6202. Research and Current Trends in Special Education: Teacher Decision Making. 3 Credits.

Using a data-driven framework for assessing evidence-based practices in special education and competency in understanding, collecting, analyzing, and communicating relevant data.

SPED 6203. Research and Practice: Diagnostic Reading for Exceptional Learners. 3 Credits.

Understanding the reading process and knowledge of diagnostic measures and instructional interventions to promote reading competency for students with disabilities.

SPED 6210. Universal Design for Learning and Assessment. 3 Credits.

Overview and introduction to universal design for learning, including contemporary issues, applications of digital and assistive technologies, and tools for developing a comprehensive plan for implementation.

SPED 6214. Applied Research in Secondary Transition Practices. 3 Credits.

Students develop applied research knowledge and skills in the field of secondary transition; evaluate evidence-based transition practices to ensure positive post-school outcomes of youth with disabilities; and conduct, evaluate, and use inquiry to guide professional practices and interventions.

SPED 6221. Accessing Community Systems for Individuals with Disabilities. 3 Credits.

Overview of access to community systems and service delivery for individuals with special needs and their families. Material fee.

SPED 6222. Legal Issues and Public Policy for Individuals With Disabilities. 3 Credits.

Examination, interpretation, and analysis of legislation and policies affecting the education and career development of individuals with disabilities. Emphasis on federal legislation in the context of national policy reform in disability services. Material fee.

SPED 6223. Introduction to Brain Injury: Programs, Policies, and Resources. 3 Credits.

An overview of acquired brain injury and its effects; current trends in the field, related policy, research, and development of new resources.

SPED 6224. Brain Function and Impact of Brain Injury on Learning and Education. 3 Credits.

Provides an in-depth understanding of neuroanatomy related to the impact of brain injury on child and adolescent development and learning to prepare educators to participate in educational assessment and planning.

SPED 6227. Technology in Vocational Evaluation. 3 Credits.

Introduction to an array of assistive technology services and products facilitating professional interventions and vocational evaluation procedures; application to the assessment of persons with disabilities. Material fee.

SPED 6228. Community-Based Assessment and Work Sample Development. 3 Credits.

Introduction to community-based vocational appraisal methods; development of job training analysis skills, labor market surveys, work samples; requirements of The Americans with Disabilities Act; incorporation of assistive technology; classroom theory and field work. Material fee.

SPED 6229. Interpretation and Application of Academic and Vocational Assessment Information. 3 Credits.

Specific strategies and techniques to analyze, interpret, and synthesize assessment information for the development of comprehensive academic/vocational profiles for adolescents and adults with disabilities. Observation and recording procedures, report development, and postassessment conferencing are emphasized. Material fee.

SPED 6230. Vocational Assessment of Individuals with Disabilities. 3-6 Credits.

Investigation of vocational appraisal processes and techniques for individuals with disabilities. Includes assessment for transition using field-based assignments. Three credits of practicum experience for students specializing in vocational evaluation. Material fee. Same as CNSL 6130.

SPED 6231. Curriculum and Instructional Methods in Special Education and Transition. 3 Credits.

Techniques and processes used in programming for the needs of individuals with disabilities as they prepare for inclusion at the secondary level, transition to postsecondary programs, and employment; skills related to professional liaison and support roles in the design of curriculum and instructional strategies for students with disabilities. Material fee.

SPED 6232. Foundations in Special Education, Career Development, and Transition. 3 Credits.

Overview of historical, theoretical, and philosophical foundations of career development and transition. Explores directions for career development/transition practices in the context of educational reform and social and political change. Material fee.

SPED 6233. Curriculum in Special Education. 3 Credits.

Theory and practice in planning, implementing, and evaluating curriculum for individuals with disabilities; techniques for modifying curriculum and materials for individualized programming. Field-site curriculum implementation is required. Materials fee.

SPED 6234. Seminar in Advanced Writing and Professional Presentation. 3-6 Credits.

Analysis and development of advanced professional writing skills, including literature synthesis, persuasive writing, and proposal writing. Material fee.

SPED 6235. Employment Models for Individuals with Disabilities. 3 Credits.

Rationale, occupational resources, and programming strategies for job placement and the development and coordination of employment programs for individuals with disabilities. Material fee.

SPED 6236. Introduction to Career and Career-Technical Education and Transition Services. 3-6 Credits.

Introduction to programs and services that provide career development and transition planning for individuals with disabilities. Material fee.

SPED 6237. Learning Strategies, Assessment, and Instruction for Individuals with Learning Disabilities. 3-6 Credits.

Theory and practice in evidence-based reading interventions. Learning strategies; content enhancement focused on literacy and self-determination. Material fee.

SPED 6238. Issues in Educating Individuals with Learning, Emotional, and Intellectual Disabilities. 3 Credits.

Introduction to the academic, cognitive, social, and emotional characteristics of individuals with learning disabilities; etiological theories; educational service delivery models, with particular emphasis on the adolescent with learning disabilities. Policy issues, continuum of services, and the transition from school to post-school environments. Material fee.

SPED 6239. Teaching and Collaboration for Professionals Working with Students with Disabilities. 3 Credits.

Attitudes and beliefs regarding team teaching, collaboration, and inclusionary environments; interpersonal communication, the dynamics of collaborative teams, and environments in which special educators work. Materials fee.

SPED 6240. Family Support and Guidance in Special Education. 3 Credits.

The developmental process of parenting and how that process is affected by having a child with developmental delay or disability. Family systems theory, stress and coping mechanisms, and communication and support strategies. Material fee.

SPED 6242. Neurodevelopmental Assessment and Programming for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities. 3 Credits.

Application of the neurodevelopmental model to techniques for developing and implementing educational programs for infants and toddlers with disabilities. SPED 6263 or SPED 6268 may be taken as a corequisite. Material fee. Prerequisites: SPED 6263 or SPED 6268; or permission of the instructor.

SPED 6243. Developmental Assessment of Infants. 3 Credits.

Theory and current practice in the assessment of infants with or at risk for developmental disabilities. Material fee.

SPED 6244. Ethical Considerations in Neonatal and Infant Intervention. 3 Credits.

Overview of the major ethical issues involved in neonatal and infant intervention. The impact of recent and emerging technological innovations considered from medical, legal, ethical, and psychosocial perspectives. Material fee.

SPED 6245. Developmental Implications of Prematurity and Risk. 3 Credits.

Causes of prematurity. Conditions that place children at developmental and educational risk.

SPED 6253. Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders. 3 Credits.

Overview of autism spectrum disorders with a focus on etiology, characteristics, and evidence-based practices. Topics include defining, assessing, accommodating, and instructing students with autism spectrum disorders.

SPED 6254. Autism Spectrum Disorders and Transition to Employment and Post-Secondary Life. 3 Credits.

The policies, principles, models, and processes involved in job development, job accommodations and modifications, and employment and post-secondary placement services for individuals with autism and related disabilities. Legislation is reviewed in terms of its impact on placement of persons with autism who transition into the workplace and/or post-secondary education.

SPED 6255. Collaboration with Systems and Families. 3 Credits.

Overview of models and strategies for coordinating services across disciplines and among school and community agencies for special populations. Emphasis on interdisciplinary team coordination, communication, decision making, planning, and follow-up for individuals with disabilities. Material fee.

SPED 6260. Developmental Assessment in Special Education. 3 Credits.

Key issues of effective collaboration, culture, and school-family partnerships in special education explored through a framework of educational research best practice.

SPED 6261. Practicum: Methods and Materials for Young Children with Disabilities. 3,6 Credits.

Implementation of educational strategies and materials, including designing and developing teaching materials, classroom teaching, feedback and evaluation with professor. A seminar accompanies this clinical experience.

SPED 6262. Formal Assessment of Young Children with Disabilities. 3 Credits.

Weekly seminar designed to prepare early childhood special educators to translate formal assessment data into instructional programming. Requires fieldwork with children. Material fee. Prerequisite: SPED 6260 .

SPED 6263. Development of the Infant with Special Needs. 3 Credits.

The processes of normal infant development and interrelationships among areas of development; relationship of these processes to the growth and development of infants with or at risk for developmental disabilities. Material fee.

SPED 6264. Medical and Genetic Conditions of Infants and Children with Developmental Disabilities. 3 Credits.

Introduction to medical and genetic conditions that affect the cognitive, language, and social development of infants and children with developmental disabilities.

SPED 6266. The Development of Language and Literacy. 3 Credits.

Within the context of typical and atypical development, the impact of various disabilities on language and literacy development. Material fee.

SPED 6267. Instructional and Assistive Technology in Early Childhood Special Education. 2,3 Credits.

Instructional strategies and assistive technology and their implications and uses for young children (0 to 5 yrs) in a wide variety of environments. Lectures, laboratory, and demonstrations. Material fee.

SPED 6268. Development of Children and Youth with Disabilities. 3 Credits.

Theories of human growth and development are considered as a framework for examination of typical and atypical development of children and youth. Material fee.

SPED 6269. Etiology, Symptomatology, and Approaches to Intervention with Children with Disabilities. 3 Credits.

An in-depth examination of the causes and characteristics of various disabilities. Current principles and approaches to intervention are examined. Material fee.

SPED 6272. Strategies for Inclusion: Addressing the Needs of Diverse Learners. 3 Credits.

Strategies by which teachers can more effectively assume the responsibility to serve all children in an inclusionary setting, including those who are second language learners and students with disabilities. Same as CPED 6172. Material fee.

SPED 6273. Impact of Culture on Education. 3 Credits.

The impact of culture and ethnicity on educational experiences. The relationship between school culture in the United States, one's own culture(s), and the cultures of diverse populations existing within our schools. Values, norms, rules, ethics, beliefs, attitudes, expectations, and assumptions of various cultures. Material fee.

SPED 6274. In-Service Planning/Programmng. 3 Credits.

SPED 6275. The Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Student with Disabilities: Policy, Research, and Trends. 3 Credits.

Educational service delivery for the culturally and linguistically diverse student. National, state, and local policies; current research in bilingual education, special education, and bilingual special education. Same as CPED 6175. Material fee.

SPED 6276. Academic and Psychosocial Assessment of the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Student. 3 Credits.

Issues in academic and psychosocial assessment of second language learners. The impact of second language acquisition and culture on the assessment process; differentiation between language difference and disability; IEP development; the use of interpreters and translators; the involvement of family and communities; standardized and alternative assessments; and legislative mandates. Same as CPED 6176. Material fee.

SPED 6277. Teaching Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students with Disabilities. 3 Credits.

Methods and materials for teaching students with disabilities who are English language learners. Classroom management, instructional and assessment strategies, materials and curricula, and collaborating with families and communities to meet the cultural, linguistic, academic, social, and emotional needs of students in various settings. Material fee.

SPED 6280. Developmental Assessment of Adolescents. 3 Credits.

Formal and informal psychoeducational assessment; assessment instruments commonly used with upper-elementary, junior, and senior high school students; the writing of psychoeducational reports. Material fee.

SPED 6283. The Urban Impact on Children and Youth with Disabilities. 3 Credits.

Effects of the total environment in which inner-city children live on their ability to learn and their cognitive, social-behavioral, and physical/health development. Material fee.

SPED 6288. Characteristics of Individuals with Learning, Emotional, and Intellectual Disabilities. 3 Credits.

An in-depth examination of typical and atypical growth and development, psychiatric diagnosis and psychosocial development issues, and general and specific characteristics of the student with serious emotional disabilities. May be repeated for credit. Material fee.

SPED 6290. Affective Development and Behavior Management in Special Education. 3 Credits.

Theory, programming, and behavior management strategies from theoretical and practical points of view. Material fee.

SPED 6299. Federal Education Policy Institute. 3 Credits.

The federal role in education policymaking in the context of national, state, and local efforts to create school environments for effective learning and the promotion of social and emotional health in children and youth. Same as CPED 6199.

SPED 6990. Internship in Teaching Children with Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities: Assistant Teacher. 3-6 Credits.

The federal role in education policymaking in the context of national, state, and local efforts to create school environments for effective learning and the promotion of social and emotional health in children and youth. Same as CPED 6199.

SPED 6991. Internship in Teaching Children with Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities: Co-Teacher. 3-6 Credits.

Continuation of SPED 6990. Graduate students become the primary teaching team in the classroom with ongoing supervision. Graduate students plan and apply psychoeducational teaching strategies with children with emotional and behavioral disabilities. Refinement of instructional and behavior management strategies. Weekly seminar continues. Material fee.

SPED 6992. Behavior Management Practicum: Adolescents with Disabilities. 3 Credits.

Field-based examination of theory of behavior development and techniques for classroom management. Material fee.

SPED 6993. Internship: Teaching Young Children with Disabilities. 3,6 Credits.

Supervised internship in early childhood special education. Weekly seminar. Material fee.

SPED 6994. Internship: Early Intervention. 3-6 Credits.

Supervised internship in early intervention. Weekly seminar. Material fee.

SPED 6995. School- and Community-Based Internship in Special Education and Transition. 1-9 Credits.

A 50- to 450-hour supervised internship in school- and community-based settings involved in career, vocational, and transition services.

SPED 6996. Teaching Internship in Transition Special Education. 3-6 Credits.

Supervised teaching internship; seminar required. Permission of the instructor required prior to enrollment. Material fee.

SPED 6997. Internship in Teaching Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students with Disabilities. 3-6 Credits.

Supervised internship and weekly seminar. A full-time, field-based teaching experience working with students with disabilities who are English language learners. Writing an appropriate IEP, interacting with families and communities, and planning and implementing instructional approaches and strategies. Material fee.

SPED 8100. Selected Topics. 1-12 Credits.

Topics and fees announced in the Schedule of Classes.

SPED 8101. Research and Independent Study. 1-3 Credits.

Individual research under guidance of a staff member. Program and conferences arranged with program advisor.

SPED 8301. Research Seminar in Special Education. 1-12 Credits.

Participation in a small group with a selected faculty member; research on and discussion of an area of common interest. Permission of the instructor required prior to enrollment.

SPED 8303. Administration and Supervision of Special Education. 3 Credits.

Philosophy and nature of special education; program organization, administration, and development. Surveying local needs; program evaluation and supervision. Permission of the instructor required prior to enrollment. Material fee.

SPED 8304. Research and Trends in Special Education. 3 Credits.

Emphasis on topical research issues, problems of conducting research, and research syntheses. Material fee.

SPED 8305. Foundations of Neuroscience in Special Education. 3 Credits.

Develops understanding of the neurological bases of sensation and perception, object recognition, control of motor action, learning and memory, emotion and language, attention, consciousness and cognitive control, and social cognition.

SPED 8306. Advanced Study in Development Science and Variance I: The Early Years. 3 Credits.

Consideration of cognitive neuroscience research on developmental issues of infancy and early years; assessment, identification, and related prevention and intervention. Prerequisite: SPED 8305.

SPED 8308. Preparation for the Professoriate in Special Education. 3 Credits.

Philosophical, ethical, and methodological aspects of personnel preparation in university and field-based programs; opportunities for practice in pedagogical design and delivery. Material fee.

SPED 8310. Advanced Study in Development Science and Variance II: The Later Years. 3 Credits.

Consideration of cognitive neuroscience research on adolescent development, including executive functioning, self-regulation, atypicality in learning, social and emotional behavior, motivation, and attention. Prerequisite: SPED 8306.

SPED 8311. Doctoral Proseminar: Scholarly Writing in Applied Settings. 3 Credits.

Professional writing enrichment course that builds upon recent approaches to scholarly writing instruction and adapts them to the level of skill required of graduate and advanced graduate students. Prerequisite: SPED 8310.

SPED 8343. Psychoeducational Diagnosis in Special Education. 3 Credits.

The range of diagnostic and intervention strategies applicable to the student who presents psychosocial and related learning difficulties. Permission of the instructor required prior to enrollment. Material fee.

SPED 8345. Consultation and the Change Process. 3 Credits.

Consultation models from organizational development, organizational psychology, and mental health applied to professional practice in education and special education. Material fee.

SPED 8352. Disability and Public Policy. 3 Credits.

Overview of current legislation and public policy affecting education, employment, and civil rights of individuals with disabilities. The evolution of disability policies and their relationship to principles of social justice. Material fee.

SPED 8353. Post-Master's Internship in Special Education. 1-6 Credits.

Supervised professional internship in college teaching, administration, supervision, research, or policymaking. Internships are individually arranged. Permission of the instructor required prior to enrollment.

SPED 8354. Doctoral Internship: Special Education. 1-6 Credits.

Supervised professional internship in research college teaching, administration, policymaking, or private agency function. Permission of the advisor required prior to enrollment.

SPED 8360. Interdisciplinary Techniques in the Diagnostic Process in Special Education. 3 Credits.

Application of theoretical concepts of assessment; development of assessment programs; interpretation and application of interdisciplinary diagnostic evaluations. Material fee. Prerequisites: SPED 6260 and permission of the instructor.

SPED 8998. Doctoral Seminar in Special Education. 3-6 Credits.

Review of literature in a topical area; preparation of a dissertation proposal and a manuscript of publishable quality. Permission of the instructor and major advisor required prior to enrollment. Material fee.

SPED 8999. Dissertation Research. 3,6 Credits.

Prerequisite: SPED 8998.