



Plan of Study: Master of Arts in Special Education Autism Spectrum Disorder Focus

Name

Address Street City State Zip Code

Primary Phone () E-mail Address

Goals and Focus of the Program:

The Master of Arts in Special Education with Autism Spectrum Disorder Focus program focuses on special education theory and evidence-based practices. Special emphasis is placed on the assessment and intervention of core and related deficits of students with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Candidates will gain knowledge and skills related to the diagnosis, program planning, instruction and interventions for students with an ASD. Candidates will develop key assessments and develop clinical decision making skills appropriate for use in the education of students with an ASD. Candidates will develop skills in becoming effective communicators and collaborators with parents, families, community providers and support systems in addition to gaining in-depth knowledge in this area of study.

Program Design:

The Master of Arts in Special Education with Autism Spectrum Disorder Focus program follows a cohort instructional model with a hybrid delivery structure. Eight-week courses include a combination of face-to-face as well as online classes determined by course content. This program includes face-to-face sessions that take place from 4:45 PM - 8:45 PM on the same night of the week at a central location, and online sessions that may require meeting virtually during this scheduled class time. The duration of the program is approximately two years.

Prerequisites:

Students in the Master of Arts in Special Education with Autism Spectrum Disorder Focus program must have a Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution with a minimum GPA of 2.5; one year of full time, contracted teaching experience; and access to a classroom and students throughout the duration of the program to fulfill field study requirements.

Degree Requirements and Career Outcome:

The degree requirements for this program are successful completion of the program's respective courses (listed below) and completion of a capstone project as a university requirement, which is embedded within the coursework. Upon completion of this program, students will have earned a Master of Arts degree in Special Education. **This is not a licensure or endorsement program, but students who complete the program will be eligible for a University of Saint Joseph Autism Spectrum Disorder Graduate Certificate.**

Course	Course Title	Start Week	End Week	Credits
SPEC 560	Autism: Nature and Characteristics	Feb. 28, 2022	Apr. 25, 2022	3
SPEC 562	ACC & AT: Facilitating a Least Restrictive Environment	May 2, 2022	Jun. 20, 2022	3
SPEC 561	Behavioral Interventions	Aug. 29, 2022	Oct. 17, 2022	3
SPEC/IABS 565	Psychological Interventions for Autism Spectrum Disorders	Oct. 24, 2022	Dec. 12, 2022	3
SPEC 564	Autism: Application of Instructional Strategies	Jan. 9, 2023	Feb. 27, 2023	3
SPEC 540	Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary Interventions	Mar. 6, 2023	May 1, 2023	3
SPEC 554	Research-Based Math Interventions	May 8, 2023	Jun. 26, 2023	3
SPEC 505	Assistive Technology for Access to the Curriculum Special Education	Aug. 28, 2023	Oct. 16, 2023	3
SPEC 539	Universal Design for Learning: Proactive Inclusion for All Students	Oct. 23, 2023	Dec. 11, 2023	3
SPEC 530	Research in Special Education*	Jan. 8, 2024	Feb. 26, 2024	3
Total Credit Hours				30

*MASTER'S CAPSTONE PROJECT INCLUDED

PLAN OF STUDY AGREEMENT: (Initial each line, then sign and date)

- I have read and understand all information in the Student Information Packet, including the Important Information on page 20 that lists information regarding admissions, transferring credits, refund, enrollment and tuition and fees.
- I understand that I will receive a license for LiveText and be required to use the product for the duration of the program.
- I understand the Off-Campus Education cohort requires all candidates to complete their coursework with grades of C or better.
- I understand that I can only re-take two courses, one time each.
- I understand that I have to submit a course evaluation at the conclusion of each course.
- I have read and understand this Plan of Study and agree to this Plan of Study Agreement.

Signature Date

The courses for this program may be offered in a different order. This list should not be considered the finalized course sequence.