SPECIAL EDUCATION – Online Master of the Arts in Learning Disabled (LD) or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Application Deadlines:

LEARNING DISABLED – FEBRUARY 15.
AUSTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS – FEBRUARY 15.

Program Philosophy, Expectations and Standards

Preparing the highest quality practitioners for teaching students with special needs in the state and nation:

- access to a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum
- access to research-validated methods in all courses
- opportunity to study with faculty with expertise in literacy, mathematics, teacher learning, policy, assistive technology, collaboration, and school reform
- extensive practicum and internship experiences that exceed minimum requirements
- a highly mediated program that provides you with extensive and ongoing feedback from professors and instructors
- the opportunity to participate in a professional community of practice with colleagues

Apprenticing practitioners into a series of professional dispositions necessary for effective practice in the 21st Century

- Teacher as consultant and collaborator with all stakeholders
- Teacher as a researcher of their own teaching and accountable for learning and behavior
- Teacher as resource provider to colleagues, students, families and communities
- Teacher as instructional leader
- Teacher of diversity, social justice, access, and inclusion
- Teacher as advocate for the rights and needs of all persons
- Teacher as member of multiple communities of practice for providing Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support
- Teacher as life long learner and connected to ongoing professional development

State of Michigan Requirements for a Teaching Endorsement that can Impact your Program Plan

State requirements demand that all special education teachers have at least 3 credits in mathematics methods (elementary math instruction).

Students who do not have a developmental mathematics methods course must meet these requirements as part of their program in one of two ways: (1) taking CEP 855 (elementary math requirement) and TE 846 through MSU, or (2) taking equivalent courses at another institution to meet these requirements. However, it is important to contact your advisor prior to taking a
prerequisite course to make sure that it meets this requirement. In most cases, copies of the course syllabus will need to be submitted to your advisor for approval.

The State of Michigan requires 6 credits of Human Growth and Development.

The State of Michigan requires that a Technology requirement be met for all teachers.

**Overview of Master's Degree Program Leading to Endorsement**

*Developing a Program Plan with Your Advisor*

Factors impacting your individual program plan:
- initial or second endorsement; type of endorsement (internship implications; electives)
- background requirements in reading, mathematics, human growth and development, technology
- prior coursework (waiving and replacing)
- elementary or secondary certification
- age of course (10 year rule)
- you may transfer up to 9 credits from within (e.g. Lifelong Learning) or outside the university
  (Exception: MSU returning students from 5-Year plan may be able to apply up to 12 credits taken during their Internship year)
- Returning TE Interns teachers may transfer 6 credits towards their Masters.

**Program Plan**
- Program Plan must be on file within one-year of your acceptance into the program
- Program must be completed within 5 years from the date of the first course listed on the program plan (Note: Extensions can be granted)
- The Program Plan is a contract with the University
- The Program Plan can be revised and is negotiated with one's advisor in response to the program requirements and the unique background, needs, and interests of the student

We strongly recommend that you see your advisor as soon as possible once you are accepted into the Master's program to complete your program plan. Students will need to meet or email their advisors once they have been admitted to the program.

**SCOPE AND SEQUENCE OF COURSES: LEARNING DISABILITIES**

**LD Course Descriptions**

**CEP 801A - Collaboration and Consultation in Special Education**

**CEP 803A - Assessment of Students with Mild Disabilities**

**CEP 804A - Literacy Instruction for Students with Mild Disabilities**

**CEP 828 - Behavioral Analysis and Intervention for Students with Emotional Impairments**

**CEP 840 - Policies, Practices, and Perspectives in Special Education**

**CEP 841 - Classroom and Behavior Management in the Inclusive Classroom**

**CEP 842 - Content Area Instruction for Students with Mild Disabilities**
CEP 850 - Technology and Literacy for Students with Mild Disabilities
CEP 894G - Special Education Practicum: Children and Youth with Learning Disabilities
CEP 893F - Special Education Internship: Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities
TE 846 - Accommodating Differences in Literacy Learners

Note:
• Students must complete or be taking CEP 801A, CEP 803, CEP 804A and CEP 842 before taking the Certifying Examination
• Students must be enrolled in a course the semester they are taking the Certifying Exam

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE OF COURSES: AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

ASD Course Descriptions

CEP 801A - Collaboration and Consultation in Special Education
CEP 803A - Assessment of Students with Mild Disabilities
CEP 840 - Policies, Practices, and Perspectives in Special Education
CEP 841 - Classroom and Behavior Management in the Inclusive Classroom
CEP 842 - Content Area Instruction for Students with Mild Disabilities
CEP 843 - Autism Spectrum Disorders
CEP 844 - Applied Behavior Analysis
CEP 845 - Autism Spectrum Disorders: Assessment and Intervention
CEP 846 - Autism Spectrum Disorder: Advanced Topics
CEP 850 - Technology and Literacy for Students with Mild Disabilities
CEP 883 - Psychology of Classroom Discipline
CEP 894J - Special Education Practicum: Children and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders
CEP 893J - Special Education Internship: Teaching Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders
TE 846 - Accommodating Differences in Literacy Learners
PRACTICUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTENT AREA INSTRUCTION (CEP842/894H) AND LITERACY (CEP 804A/894H)

• 90 practicum hours are required in content area instruction and 90 hours in literacy.
• Two or more students in the instructed group must have a disability that matches the endorsement area.
• Teachers need to have at least 6 contact hours in the instructed group each week in the subject area they are teaching.
• Teachers must arrange for an onsite supervisor within their district who has certification in the proposed endorsement area and obtain approval from MSU.
• A signed log of hours must be completed and turned in at the conclusion of the practicum.
• The practicum experience must be completed in a public school setting. It is highly preferable that students are in the 3rd grade or higher in content area instruction. Tutoring students outside the school setting is not accepted as a practicum experience.
• Pre-primary impaired classrooms are not generally acceptable for completing the practicum experience.
• Videotapes will be required in content area instruction and literacy course (you will need to arrange for equipment).
• If you are currently employed as a special education teacher or are under emergency or temporary approval in a special education classroom, you may use your classroom to meet the practicum experience if they conform to the above guidelines (and if your setting has been approved by the instructor).

INTERNSHIP

The internship experience in Learning Disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorder are currently being redefined to meet the needs of an online program.

Certifying Examination

• A certifying examination is required for all MA students in LD and ASD.
• Students must apply for certifying examination with the program secretary during the first week of the semester that they will take the exam.
• Students must be enrolled in coursework at MSU during the semester they are taking the exam.
• Core courses must be completed prior to or be taken during the semester you are taking the certifying examination.
• The certifying examination is a five week take home examination.
• The certifying examination is taken in the final third of the Fall and Spring semesters only.
• No summer examination period is available.
• The certifying examination consists of 4 questions taken from core classes in the MA program. There is a page limit of 8 double-spaced pages per question. The examination is scored on a 0-4 scale by four different scorers. A mean of the four scores requires a 2.5 or above to pass the exam. Therefore, it is possible to fail an individual question and still pass the examination. Students receive a copy of the scoring rubric used by raters from each of the four questions.
• Failing the examination requires the development of an 'action plan' with the student's advisor. The student must retake the question(s) failed on the examination at the next regularly scheduled examination period.

• Successful passing of the certifying examination is required for completing the endorsement and MA program.

PAPERWORK FOR COMPLETION OF ENDORSEMENT

• Students must successfully pass the State of Michigan Endorsement Test in their disability area before the State will issue an official endorsement.

• Information regarding the State of Michigan Endorsement Test can be found at the Michigan Department of Education website. http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530_5683-24791--,00.html

• Students must apply for their State of Michigan Endorsement during the first week of their final semester (MSU sends the State of Michigan documentation that you successfully completed the endorsement program in a disability area).

Please complete the following forms and send to:
Michigan State University
College Of Education- Teacher Certification Office
134 Erickson Hall
E. Lansing, MI 48824

This the page that lists all the available applications in case the one is not listed that they need - http://education.msu.edu/certification/forms.asp

If you are just adding the additional endorsement – http://www.educ.msu.edu/programs/forms/2009/AdditionalEndorsementApplication.pdf

If you are renewing their Provisional Certificate and adding the additional endorsement at the same time – http://www.educ.msu.edu/programs/forms/2009/FirstRenewalofProvisionalApplication.pdf

If you are applying for their Professional Certificate and adding the additional endorsement at the same time - http://www.educ.msu.edu/programs/forms/2009/ProfessionalApplication.pdf

• Students must apply for graduation in the Registrar's Office (or online) during the first week of the final semester of taking courses.
http://www.reg.msu.edu/stuforms/gradapp/gradapp.asp

For information on State Endorsement Testing: http://www.michigan.gov/mde
DEPARTMENT APPLICATION FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL ADMISSION
Special Education

Application Deadlines:
LEARNING DISABLED/EMOTIONALLY IMPAIRED – FEBRUARY 15.
AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS – FEBRUARY 15.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM

Application for: Semester 20 ______ Type or Print Legibly!

Ms. ______
Mrs. ______
Miss ______ Last Name ______ First Name ______ Middle
Mr. ______

PID (if previous MSU student) Birth Date

E-mail Address:

Permanent mailing address: Phone (include international code)

Day: 

Evening: 

FAX: 

Temporary (current) mailing address: Phone:

Day: 

Evening: 

Last Date to receive mail at this address: FAX:

Program for which you are applying:

Special Education (choose concentration)

_____ Autism Spectrum Disorder _____ Learning Disabled _____

_____ Would you be interested in participating in research projects during a Master’s program?

_____ Are you interested in eventually pursuing a Ph.D. in Special Education?

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
TOEFL Score (Total) _________ (THIS IS A REQUIREMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS)

Do you have teaching experience? Yes _____ No ______

Fill in years & level: K-12 ______ community college/2 year ______ 4 year Institution ______

Degrees earned (or in progress)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution and location</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Field of Study-Major/Minor</th>
<th>Date earned/expected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Undergraduate GPA last 2 years:  Overall Undergraduate GPA:  Overall Graduate GPA:

Signature: ___________________________  Date: ___________________________
APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL ADMISSION
Special Education

Application Deadlines:
LEARNING DISABLED – FEBRUARY 15
AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER – FEBRUARY 15.

DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS REQUIRED:
(Please use this as a personal checklist)

__ University Admissions Application
   Application Fee: $50.00
   http://grad.msu.edu/apply/

__ Departmental Application
   http://www.educ.msu.edu/cepse/appforms.asp

__ Statement of Goals

__ Three Letters of Recommendation
   Must be submitted on letterhead stationery of recommender’s school or company.

__ Vita or Resume
   List professional experience, awards, honors, publications, presentations, professional affiliations, and professional development activities.

__ Two (2) official copies of transcripts
   from all previous institutions attended.
   These must be sent directly from the institution; please contact the Registrar’s Office at the institutions you attended for appropriate procedures and fee information.
   www.reg.msu.edu

PLEASE SEND ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS TO:

Mellissa Davis, Graduate Secretary
CEPSE
Michigan State University
335 Erickson Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824-1034 USA
517-355-1837