

SPECIAL EDUCATION GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Banner Code: E1-CERG-EDSE

Adapted Curriculum K-12

703-993-3670

Email: speced@gmu.edu (speced@gmu.edu)

<https://gse.gmu.edu/special-education/teacher-licensure/adapted-curriculum>

Early Childhood Special Education

703-993-3844

Email: earlyed@gmu.edu

<https://gse.gmu.edu/early-childhood/academics/graduate-certificate-early-childhood-special-education-licensure>

General Curriculum (K-12)

703-993-3670

Email: speced@gmu.edu

<https://gse.gmu.edu/special-education/teacher-licensure/general-curriculum>

Specialized Reading Instruction for Students with Specific Learning Disabilities

703-993-3670

Email: speced@gmu.edu

<https://gse.gmu.edu/special-education/professional-studies/specialized-reading-instruction>

Visual Impairments Licensure (PK-12)

703-993-3670

Email: speced@gmu.edu

<https://gse.gmu.edu/special-education/teacher-licensure/visual-impairments>

Available Concentrations

Concentration in Adapted Curriculum (K-12)

This concentration offers required coursework for Virginia teacher licensure in Special Education: Adapted Curriculum.

The certificate with this concentration qualifies for Title IV Federal Financial Aid. For more information about program graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our disclosure information page (https://irr2.gmu.edu/gedt/Students_With_Disabilities_Who_Access_Adapted_Curriculum/Gedt.html).

Concentration in Early Childhood Special Education

This concentration offers required coursework for teacher licensure in Early Childhood Special Education.

The certificate with this concentration qualifies for Title IV Federal Financial Aid. For more information about program graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our disclosure information page

(https://irr2.gmu.edu/gedt/Early_Childhood_Special_Education/Gedt.html).

Concentration in General Curriculum (K-12)

This 33-credit concentration offers required coursework for Virginia teacher licensure to individuals who will be working with students with disabilities who access the general curriculum. The concentration prepares individuals to work with students with disabilities who take Standards of Learning tests (SOLs) or Virginia Grade Level Assessments (VGLA).

The certificate with this concentration qualifies for Title IV Federal Financial Aid. For more information about program graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our disclosure information page (https://irr2.gmu.edu/gedt/Students_With_Disabilities_Who_Access_General_Curriculum/Gedt.html).

Concentration in Specialized Reading Instruction for Students with Specific Learning Disabilities

This 15-credit concentration prepares educators to meet the unique needs of K-12 students with specific learning disabilities who experience severe deficits in reading and written language. Candidates develop a deep level of knowledge in literacy development, reading, difficulties, assessment, instruction and progress monitoring for these students. This certificate does not apply toward teacher licensure.

This graduate certificate is a cohort-only program in which students begin and end the program together as a group.

Concentration in Visual Impairments Licensure (PK-12)

This concentration is designed for students seeking Virginia initial teacher licensure in visual impairments (PK-12).

Admissions & Policies

Policies

Students who have completed graduate or undergraduate coursework equivalent to certificate coursework prior to admission to this program may request that some courses in this certificate be waived. Students who are eligible to waive coursework must complete a minimum of 15 credits to graduate. Students must earn a B- or better in all coursework.

For policies governing all graduate certificates, see AP.6.8 Requirements for Graduate Certificates.

Requirements

Certificate Requirements

Total credits: 15-36

This certificate may be pursued on a full-or part-time basis.

Students pursuing this graduate certificate may choose from any of the following concentrations:

Concentration in Adapted Curriculum (K-12) (ADCU)

Total credits: 36

The certificate with this concentration may be pursued on a full-or part-time basis.

Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
EDSE 501	Introduction to Special Education	3
EDSE 531	Transition and Community-Based Instruction	3
EDSE 532	Positive Behavior Supports	3
EDSE 533	Curriculum and Assessment in Severe Disabilities	3
EDSE 534	Communication and Severe Disabilities	3
EDSE 547	Medical and Developmental Risk Factors for Children with Disabilities	3
EDSE 557	Foundations of Language and Literacy for Diverse Learners	3
EDSE 661	Curriculum and Methods: Severe Disabilities	3
EDSE 663	Collaborative Teamwork to Support Students with Significant Disabilities	3
EDSE 669	Interdisciplinary Approach for Children with Sensory and Motor Disabilities	3
6 credits of Internship		6
EDSE 784	Internship: Adapted Curriculum	
Total Credits		36

Concentration in Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)

Total credits: 33

The certificate with this concentration may be pursued on a full-or part-time basis.

Students enrolled in this concentration must earn a B- or higher in all coursework.

Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
ECED 501	Developmental Pathways of Diverse Learners, Birth-Adolescence	3
ECED 502	Foundations of Language and Literacy for Diverse Prekindergarten and Kindergarten Learners	3
ECED 503	Inclusive Curriculum for Young Learners: Planning Instruction and Guidance	3
ECED 504	Engaging Families of Diverse Young Learners	3
ECED 505	Introduction to Early Childhood Special Education	3
ECED 506	Medical and Developmental Aspects of Disabilities of Diverse Young Learners	3
ECED 511	Assessment of Diverse Young Learners	3
ECED 522	Developing Language, Literacy, and Communication of Diverse Infants and Toddlers	3

ECED 523	Early Intervention for Infants Toddlers with Disabilities: Collaborative Consultative Approaches	3
Select one from the following:		6
ECED 791 & ECED 793	Internship with Diverse Infants and Toddlers and Internship in Preschool Early Childhood Special Education	
ECED 789	Internship in Early Childhood Special Education Birth - Five	
Total Credits		33

Concentration in General Curriculum (K-12) (GECU)

Total credits: 33

The certificate with this concentration may be pursued on a full-or part-time basis.

Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
EDSE 501	Introduction to Special Education	3
EDSE 502	Classroom Management and Applied Behavior Analysis	3
EDSE 503	Language Development and Reading	3
EDSE 540	Characteristics of Students with Disabilities who Access the General Curriculum	3
EDSE 544	Adapted Instructional Methods and Transition for Secondary Learners	3
EDSE 627	Assessment	3
EDSE 628	Elementary Reading, Curriculum, Strategies for Students Who Access the General Education Curriculum	3
EDSE 629	Secondary Curriculum and Strategies for Students with Disabilities who Access the General Curriculum	3
EDSE 662	Consultation and Collaboration	3
Six credits of		6
EDSE 783	Internship: Special Education in General Curriculum ¹	
Total Credits		33

¹ Must complete two 3-credit internships: one elementary placement and one secondary placement.

Concentration in Specialized Reading Instruction for Students with Specific Learning Disabilities (SRLD)

Total credits: 15

The certificate with this concentration may only be pursued on a part-time basis.

Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
EDSE 562	Foundations of Reading Instruction for Students with Specific Learning Disabilities	3

EDSE 563	Language Structure and Literacy Development for Students with Specific Learning Disabilities	3
EDSE 564	Phonology, Phonics, and Fluency for Students with Specific Learning Disabilities	3
EDSE 565	Vocabulary, Comprehension, and Written Expression for Students with Specific Learning Disabilities	3
EDSE 567	Practicum for Specialized Reading Instruction for Students with Specific Learning Disabilities	3
Total Credits		15

Concentration in Visual Impairments Licensure (PK-12) (VILI)

Total credits: 34

The certificate with this concentration may be pursued on a part-time or full-time basis.

Students enrolled in this concentration must earn a B- or higher in all coursework.

Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
EDAT 522	Assistive Technology for Individuals with Sensory Impairments	3
EDSE 511	Characteristics of Students with Visual Impairments	2
EDSE 512	Braille Code	3
EDSE 513	Medical and Educational Implications of Visual Impairments	3
EDSE 514	Orientation and Mobility for Students with Visual Impairments	2
EDSE 518	Curriculum and Assessment of Students with Visual Impairments	3
EDSE 532	Positive Behavior Supports	3
EDSE 613	Teaching Methods for Students with Visual Impairments	3
EDSE 616	Braille Reading and Writing	3
EDSE 663	Collaborative Teamwork to Support Students with Significant Disabilities	3
EDSE 785	Internship: Visual Impairment (must complete six credits)	2-6
Total Credits		34