

SPECIAL EDUCATION, BSED

Banner Code: E1-BSED-EDSE

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This bachelor's degree is designed to prepare both educators for the classroom and individuals working in a special education context outside of the classroom with the specialized skills and content knowledge needed to support the needs of individuals with disabilities. Students may focus their program on a specific area in the field by completing a teacher licensure concentration (i.e., Teaching Students with Disabilities who Access the General Curriculum K-12, Teaching Students with Disabilities who Access the Adapted Curriculum K-12, Teaching Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments PK-12) or a non-licensure sequence to fulfill the requirements for the BSEd in Special Education degree program.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

Students with an interest in majoring in Special Education will initially be accepted into the Special Education, BSEd, without concentration.

Four-Year Students

To declare a concentration in General K-12 Licensure, Adapted K-12 Licensure, or Blindness and Visual Impairments PK-12 Licensure, four-year students must:

- complete a minimum of 45 credits
- attain a cumulative GPA of 2.50

Degree-Seeking Transfer Students

To declare a concentration in General K-12 Licensure, Adapted K-12 Licensure, or Blindness and Visual Impairments PK-12 Licensure, transfer students must:

- complete a minimum of 45 credits
- earn either a cumulative GPA of 2.50 from their previous institution or a minimum of a 2.50 GPA of at least 12 credits at Mason

Policies

Students in the licensure concentrations must maintain at least a 2.50 GPA and earn a C or better in their program core and concentration coursework. Prior to applying for internships students in all licensure concentrations, must successfully complete:

- Emergency First Aid, CPR and AED certification or training
- Virginia Communication & Literacy Assessment (VCLA)

Students enrolled in the General K-12 Licensure concentration must also complete:

- Praxis Teaching Reading: Elementary

Students enrolled in the Blindness and Visual Impairments PK-12 Licensure concentration must also complete:

- Praxis II: Braille Proficiency
- Praxis Teaching Reading: Elementary

Licensure testing requirements are determined by the Commonwealth of Virginia and may change at any time. If changes to these requirements occur, students must meet the current testing and licensure requirements as set forth in the legal Code of Virginia.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: 120

Mason Core

Code	Title	Credits
Foundation Requirements:		
	Written Communication (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written)	3
ENGH 101	Composition (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) (recommended course)	
	Oral Communication (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#oral)	3
	Quantitative Reasoning (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#quantitative)	3
	Information Technology and Computing (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#information-technology)	3
Exploration Requirements:		
	Arts (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#arts)	3
	Global Understanding (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global)	3
	Literature (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature)	3
	Natural Science (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#natural-science)	7
	Social and Behavioral Sciences (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#social-behavioral-science)	3
	Global History (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-history)	3
Integration Requirement:		
	Written Communication (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written)	3
ENGH 302	Advanced Composition (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
	Writing Intensive (fulfilled by major requirements)	
	Synthesis/Capstone (fulfilled by major requirements)	
Total Credits		37

Program Core Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
EDUC 200	Introduction to Education: Teaching, Learning and Schools (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
EDUC 302 or PSYC 211	Human Growth and Development Lifespan Development (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
EDSE 201	Introduction to Special Education	3
EDSE 251	Classroom Management and Positive Behavior Supports	3
EDSE 351	Technology Integration for Specialized Instruction	3
EDSE 352	Assessment	3
EDSE 353	Individualized Behavior Supports	3
EDSE 354	Consultation and Collaboration	3
EDSE 381	Exploratory Field Experience in Special Education	3
EDSE 451	Transition and Self-Determination	3
EDSE 452	Intersectionality and Disability	3
EDSE 481 or EDSE 482 or EDSE 483 or EDSE 484	Internship: Professional Services (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) ¹ Internship: General Curriculum (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) Internship: Adapted (Severe Disabilities) Internship: Blindness and Visual Impairments	12
Total Credits		45

¹ Students enrolled in the BSEd without concentration must successfully complete EDSE 481 Internship: Professional Services (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>). EDSE 482 Internship: General Curriculum (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) is required for students in the General K12 concentration. EDSE 483 Internship: Adapted (Severe Disabilities) (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) is required for students in the Adapted K-12 concentration. EDSE 484 Internship: Blindness and Visual Impairments (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) is required for students in the Blindness and Visual Impairments concentration.

BSEd in Special Education without Concentration

Students who do not select an optional concentration must complete the special education core and select at least 15 credits from the special education offerings below (NOTE: A minimum of 45 upper-level credits in the major is required):

Code	Title	Credits
Select 15 credits from the following:		15
EDSE 203	Disability in American Culture (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
EDSE 204	Disability in a Global Society (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
EDSE 230	Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders	

EDSE 241	Characteristics of Students with Disabilities who Access the General Curriculum	
EDSE 311	Characteristics of Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments	
EDSE 341	Language Acquisition and Reading and Writing Development	
EDSE 361	Characteristics of Students with Severe Disabilities	
EDSE 362	Communication with Severe Disabilities	
EDSE 410	Deaf History	
EDSE 412	Braille Code	
EDSE 413	Medical and Educational Implications of Blindness and Visual Impairments	
EDSE 414	Orientation and Mobility for Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments	
EDSE 417	Teaching Methods for Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments	
EDSE 418	Curriculum and Assessment of Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments	
EDSE 419	Braille Reading and Writing	
EDSE 420	Deaf Culture	
EDSE 441	Instructional Strategies for Reading and Writing	
EDSE 443	Instructional Strategies for Math	
EDSE 463	Curriculum and Methods in Severe Disabilities	
EDSE 467	Foundations of Language and Literacy for Individuals with Severe Disabilities	
EDSE 469	Individualized Supports and Specialized Care of Students with Severe Disabilities	
EDAT 422	Assistive Technology for Individuals with Sensory Impairments	
Additional EDSE or EDAT courses with advisor approval (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/)		
Total Credits		15

Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Select an additional 23 credits from any courses. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/)		23
Total Credits		23

Concentration in General K-12 Licensure (GLIC)

Code	Title	Credits
EDSE 241	Characteristics of Students with Disabilities who Access the General Curriculum	3
EDSE 341	Language Acquisition and Reading and Writing Development	3
EDSE 441	Instructional Strategies for Reading and Writing	3
EDSE 443	Instructional Strategies for Math	3
EDSE 445	Clinical Practice and Seminar 1: General	3

EDSE 446	Clinical Practice and Seminar 2: General	3
Total Credits		18

Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Select an additional 20 credits from any courses. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/)		
Total Credits		20

Concentration in Adapted K-12 Licensure (ALIC)

Code	Title	Credits
EDSE 361	Characteristics of Students with Severe Disabilities	3
EDSE 362	Communication with Severe Disabilities	3
EDSE 463	Curriculum and Methods in Severe Disabilities	3
EDSE 465	Clinical Practice and Seminar 1: Adapted (Severe Disabilities)	3
EDSE 466	Clinical Practice and Seminar 2: Adapted (Severe Disabilities)	3
EDSE 467	Foundations of Language and Literacy for Individuals with Severe Disabilities	3
EDSE 469	Individualized Supports and Specialized Care of Students with Severe Disabilities	3
Total Credits		21

Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Select an additional 17 credits from any courses. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/)		
Total Credits		17

Concentration in Blindness and Visual Impairments PK-12 Licensure (BVI)

Code	Title	Credits
EDSE 311	Characteristics of Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments	3
EDSE 341	Language Acquisition and Reading and Writing Development	3
EDSE 412	Braille Code	3
EDSE 413	Medical and Educational Implications of Blindness and Visual Impairments	3
EDSE 414	Orientation and Mobility for Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments	2
EDSE 417	Teaching Methods for Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments	3
EDSE 418	Curriculum and Assessment of Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments	3
EDSE 419	Braille Reading and Writing	3
EDAT 422	Assistive Technology for Individuals with Sensory Impairments	3
Total Credits		26

Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Select an additional 12 credits from any course. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/)		
Total Credits		12

4-Year Plan**Bachelor of Science in Education, Special Education Sample Plan of Study**

The sample plan below is a recommended sequencing of courses based on pre-requisites and scheduling. This may not fit every student's needs and is a guideline, not a requirement. Students should confirm major requirements with their academic advisor and with PatriotWeb Degree Evaluation to ensure they enroll in the proper courses and are on track to graduate.

BSEd in Special Education without Concentration**First Year**

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDUC 200	3	EDSE 201	3
Mason Core/ Electives	12	Mason Core/ Electives	12
15		15	

Second Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDSE 251	3	EDSE 353	3
EDSE 381	3	Mason Core/ Electives	12
PSYC 211 or EDUC 302	3		
Mason Core/ Electives	6		
15		15	

Third Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDSE 352	3	EDSE 451	3
Electives in the major	3	Electives in the major	6
Mason Core/ Electives	9	General Electives	6
15		15	

Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDSE 354	3	EDSE 481	12
EDSE 452	3	EDSE 351	3
Electives in the major	6		

General Electives	3	
	15	15

Total Credits 120

Detailed four year plans and degree planning checklists can be found at <https://advising.gmu.edu/academic-planning/>.

Concentration in General K-12 Licensure

First Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDUC 200		3 EDSE 201	3
Mason Core/ Electives	12	Mason Core/ Electives	12
	15		15

Second Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDSE 251		3 EDSE 241	3
EDSE 381		3 EDSE 353	3
PSYC 211 or EDUC 302		3 Mason Core/ Electives	9
Mason Core/ Electives	6		
	15		15

Third Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDSE 352		3 EDSE 341	3
Mason Core/ Electives	12	EDSE 443	3
		EDSE 445	3
		EDSE 451	3
		General Electives	3
	15		15

Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDSE 354		3 EDSE 482	12
EDSE 441		3 EDSE 351	3
EDSE 446	3		
EDSE 452	3		
General Electives	3		
	15		15

Total Credits 120

Detailed four year plans and degree planning checklists can be found at <https://advising.gmu.edu/academic-planning/>.

Concentration in Adapted K-12 Licensure

First Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDUC 200		3 EDSE 201	3
Mason Core/ Electives	12	Mason Core/ Electives	12
	15		15

Second Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDSE 251		3 EDSE 353	3
EDSE 381		3 EDSE 361	3
PSYC 211 or EDUC 302		3 Mason Core/ Electives	9
Mason Core/ Electives	6		
	15		15

Third Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDSE 352		3 EDSE 451	3
EDSE 362		3 EDSE 463	3
Mason Core/ Electives	9	EDSE 465	3
		General Electives	6
	15		15

Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDSE 354		3 EDSE 483	12
EDSE 452		3 EDSE 351	3
EDSE 466	3		
EDSE 467	3		
EDSE 469	3		
	15		15

Total Credits 120

Detailed four year plans and degree planning checklists can be found at <https://advising.gmu.edu/academic-planning/>.

Concentration in Blindness and Visual Impairments PK-12 Licensure

First Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDUC 200		3 EDSE 201	3
Mason Core/ Electives	12	Mason Core/ Electives	12
	15		15

Second Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits	Summer Semester Two	Credits
EDSE 251	3	EDSE 353	3	EDSE 414	2
EDSE 311	3	Mason Core/ Electives	12		
EDSE 381	3				
PSYC 211 or EDUC 302	3				
Mason Core/ Electives	1				
		<hr/>			
	13		15		2

Third Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits	Summer Semester Two	Credits
EDSE 352	3	EDSE 341	3	EDSE 417	3
EDSE 412	3	EDSE 418	3		
Mason Core/ Electives	6	EDSE 419	3		
		EDSE 451	3		
		General Electives	3		
		<hr/>			
	12		15		3

Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
EDAT 422	3	EDSE 484	12
EDSE 354	3	EDSE 351	3
EDSE 413	3		
EDSE 452	3		
General Electives	3		
		<hr/>	
	15		15

Total Credits 120

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