

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Degrees: Master of Arts
 Division: Teacher Education
 Building 85, Room 125
 (850) 474-3263
 dted@uwf.edu
 College: Professional Studies

The division offers three programs in Special Education: Varying Exceptionalities, Teaching of Exceptional Children, and a Military Career Transition Program (MCTP). There is a critical shortage of teachers, administrators, related professionals, and specialists in many areas of special education.

The division offers an NCATE approved program of study leading to an M.A. degree and certification in Varying Exceptionalities. It is designed for teachers and support personnel responsible for services to exceptional children and youth. The coursework and field experiences provide the student with a foundation of varying exceptionalities, standardized and alternative methods of assessment, integrated curriculum and instruction, management of individual and group behavior, instructional technology, home/school/community collaboration, and applied research.

The division offers a program of study leading to an M.A. degree in clinical teaching of children who are exceptional in three areas: emotional handicaps, learning disabilities, and mental handicaps. It is designed for teachers and auxiliary personnel responsible for services to exceptional children and youth. The course work provides the student with a knowledge of assessment and educational evaluation, behavior management, and remedial and/or compensatory educational activities relative to children with mental handicaps, specific learning disabilities, and emotional handicaps. Lectures, research projects, and practicum experiences are utilized.

The Military Career Transition Program (MCTP) is an innovative program that has been designed as a field-experience intensive fast-track into one of three areas of special education: learning disabilities, emotional handicaps, or mental handicaps. The program takes into consideration military teaching and leadership experiences and is condensed into 42 semester hours. The student must select one area for specialization and should understand that this is not a platform program on which to add other special education certificates. Students enrolled in this program will be in a cohort group with specially designed courses that are open only to MCTP candidates.

Course descriptions are listed alphabetically by prefix in the back of this catalog.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to meeting the minimum University standards for admission to graduate studies, students should contact the Office of Teacher Education for information on admission to professional education programs.

VARYING EXCEPTIONALITIES (students with teacher certifications)

Core (9 sh)

EDF 6218	Current Issues in Student Development & Learning	3
EDF 6602	Trends & Issues in Education: Social, Multicultural, Historical & Philosophical Analysis	3
EEX 6945	Research Practicum in Special Education	3

Major Courses (24 sh)

EDG 6344C	Instructional Management & Technology	3
EEX 5052	Foundations of Varying Exceptionalities	3
EEX 5085	Integrating Curriculum & Instruction	3
EEX 6051	Exceptionalities	3
EEX 6227	Assessment of Exceptional Children	3
EEX 6612	Classroom Management	3
EEX 6340	Action Research	3
EEX 6756	Home/School/Community Collaboration	3

Electives (3 sh)

Choose 3 sh from the following areas:

- Severe Disabilities
- Technology
- Consultation/Collaboration
- ESOL
- Corrections
- Special Methods (Elementary Education)

Comprehensive Examination (0 sh)

Students must successfully complete a comprehensive examination.

VARYING EXCEPTIONALITIES (students without teacher certifications)

Requirements for teacher education programs may change due to legislative mandates. Therefore, the actual program requirements may differ from those listed in the catalog. Candidates must inquire with the Chair of the Division of Teacher Education or with Teacher Education Student Services to obtain the most current program requirements.

Core (9 sh)

Same as Varying Exceptionalities with Certification

Major Courses (24 sh)

Same as Varying Exceptionalities with Certification

Additional Courses Required for Teacher Certification (38 sh)

EDE 3946	Practicum I: Elementary Education	1
EDE 4221	Integrated Elementary Curriculum	4
EDG 4330	Senior Seminar: Teaching in Special Education Settings	2
EDG 4940	Student Teaching	10
EED 4944	Instructional Strategies/Technology/Reading Practicum for Students with Emotional Handicaps	3
EEX 5283	Employment, Social, and Personal Skill Building for Exceptional Students	3
ELD 4945	Instructional Strategies/Technology/Reading	

	Practicum for Students with Learning Disabilities	3
EMR 4945	Instructional Strategies/Technology/Reading Practicum for Students with Mental Handicaps	3
LAE 3314	Language Skills & Literature in the Elementary School	3
MAE 4310	Teaching Mathematics in the Elementary School	3
RED 3310	Teaching Developmental Reading in the Elementary School	3

ELD 6942	Research Practicum-LD	3
Emotional Handicaps		
EED 6116	Assessment of Exceptional Children-EH	3
EED 6235	Curriculum Prescriptions for Exceptional Children-EH	3
EED 6247	Instructional Strategies-EH	3
EED 6942	Research Practicum-EH	3

Recommended Electives (9 sh)

EEX 4141	Survey of Normal & Abnormal Language and Speech Development	3
EMR 4221	Curriculum for Moderately, Severely and Profoundly Mentally Handicapped	3
TSL 4080	Foundations of Teaching ESOL in the Schools	3

Practicum and Student Teaching (15 sh)

<i>(Students without teacher certification)</i>		
EDG 4330	Senior Seminar: Teaching in Special Education Settings	2
EDG 4940	Student Teaching	10
EED 5940	Practicum in Emotionally Handicapped	3

Comprehensive Examination (0 sh)

Students must successfully complete a comprehensive examination.

CLINICAL TEACHING OF EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

In addition to general University requirements, students seeking the M.A. in Clinical Teaching must complete a minimum of 36 semester hours of approved course work including the core plus additional courses prescribed by the student's committee. A research project or action research and a comprehensive examination are required for graduation.

Professional Education Common Core (9 sh)

(taken in sequence)

EDF 6602	Trends and Issues in Education: Social, Multicultural, Historical and Philosophical Analysis	3
EDF 6218	Current Issues in Student Development and Learning	3
EDF 6481	Educational Research	3

Special Education Requirements (12 sh)

EED 6930	Issues & Trends in Emotionally Handicapped Conditions	3
EEX 6051	Exceptionalities	3
ELD 6051	Current View of Exceptional Children-LD	3
EMR 6051	Current View of Exceptional Children-MH	3

Specialization Courses (12 sh)

Choose one specialization area:

Mental Handicaps

EMR 6105	Assessment of Exceptional Children-MH	3
EMR 6247	Instructional Strategies-MH	3
EMR 6335	Curriculum Prescriptions for Exceptional Children-MH	3
EMR 6942	Research Practicum-MH	3

Learning Disabilities

ELD 6111	Assessment of Exceptional Children-LD	3
ELD 6235	Curriculum Prescriptions for Exceptional Children-LD	3
ELD 6247	Instructional Strategies-LD	3

MILITARY CAREER TRANSITION PROGRAM (MCTP)

In addition to general University requirements, students seeking the M.A. in MCTP must meet the following requirements:

- A. Verification of status as active duty or recently retired military or civilian displacement due to downsizing of the armed forces;
- B. Completion of a bachelor's or master's degree with 3.0 GPA or 1000 on the GRE;
- C. Completion of the GRE before second semester enrollment in the program;
- D. Submission of a personal portfolio to be evaluated by faculty members including: (1) impressions of teaching special education in each of the areas during 10 hours of observations in public schools; (2) documentation of military teaching and leadership experiences; and
- E. Interview with a committee to ascertain the best program for the candidate.

Guidelines for the preparation of the personal portfolio are available in the MCTP Office found in the Division of Teacher Education.