

SPECIAL EDUCATION (B.A.)

Program Description

The Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Special Education prepares students to earn certification in Exceptional Student Education, grades K-12, which covers teaching children with emotional and behavioral disorders, developmental/intellectual disabilities, specific learning disabilities, and physical and health disabilities. Field experiences are central to the special education program and begin in the first semester with increasing involvement throughout the program. English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) endorsement and Reading endorsements are also embedded in the program. Coursework and extensive field experiences enable students to dynamically integrate theory and teaching practices. Competencies include content-specific knowledge applicable to the unique developmental needs of this population including a thorough understanding of cultural diversity, individual differences, and skills to work with children in individual ways, particularly ESOL students, students experiencing difficulty in learning to read with an emphasis on capabilities of teachers to work with children with atypical abilities and special needs.

Program Progression and Additional Graduation Requirements

Degree-seeking students are classified as pre-majors prior to formal transition into a College of Education (COE) major. In order to transition from a COE pre-major to a major, students must complete the following:

- An overall GPA of 2.5 on all credits attempted.
- Attempt all subsections of the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE) General Knowledge Test. Please refer to Rule: 6A-4.0021 - Florida Teacher certification Examinations for alternative assessment options.
- Satisfy all General Education requirements.
- Satisfy the College-Level Skills requirements.
- Satisfy common prerequisite requirements.
- Successfully complete a background check.

Students must have passed the FTCE Subject Area Exam prior to beginning Block Four Integrated Field Experience.

Students must complete all coursework and have passed the FTCE Professional Education Exam prior to beginning Block Five Internship.

In addition to the program requirements and to qualify for Florida Teacher Certification, students must:

- Pass the FTCE, General Knowledge Test (or alternative assessment option), the subject area examination and the Professional Education Test.
- Complete a minimum of 120 credits.
- Complete a minimum of 48 of the 120 credits at the upper division (3000-4999 level).
- Satisfy the residency requirement: 30 of the last 60 credits must be completed at FGCU.
- Earn a cumulative GPA of 2.0 for all coursework attempted at FGCU.
- Satisfy the College-Level skills and foreign language admission requirements.
- Satisfy the Service-Learning requirement.

- Satisfy the Civic Literacy requirement.
- Complete the summer course enrollment requirement.
- Submit an Application for Graduation by the deadline listed in the FGCU Academic Calendar.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
FGCU General Education Program (https://www.fgcu.edu/academics/undergraduatestudies/generaleducation/)		
To prevent or minimize excess hours, select general education courses that satisfy common prerequisite requirements for your intended major.		
Common Prerequisites		
A minimum grade of C is required in each course		
EDF 2005	Intro to Teach Prof (Acceptable Substitute: EDFX005)	3
Required Courses in the Major		(57 credits)
A minimum grade of C in each course and a GPA of 2.5 is required		
EDF 3251	Classroom Org & Management	3
EDF 4112	Child Growth and Development	3
EDG 3323	Professional Teaching Practice	3
EEX 4050	Theories & Prac in Spec Educ	3
EEX 4221	Educ Assess of Exceptional Stud	3
EEX 4254	Tching Students w/Mild-Mod Dis	3
EEX 4474	Tchng Students Mod/Sev Disabil	3
EEX 4604	BehavMgmt SpecNeed/AtRisk Stud	3
EEX 4940	Internship: Special Ed	9
EEX 4942	Integr Field Exper in Spec Ed	3
MAE 4310	Math Content & Processes	3
RED 4310	Early Literacy Learning	3
RED 4350	Literacy Content and Processes	3
RED 4942	Pract Assess/Instruc Read (capstone)	3
TSL 3080	Foundations of ESOL	3
TSL 4340	Methods, Cur, and Instr Effect	3
TSL 4520	Second Language Acquisition	3
Sustainability Course Graduation Requirement		(3 credits)
Select at least 3 credits in sustainability coursework (SCGR Attribute)		
Additional Electives		
As needed to reach total credits required for the degree		
Recommended options include:		
EME 2040	Intro to Tech for Educ	3

Total Credits Required: 120