

Bachelor of Science Major in Exceptional Student Education

(Grades K-12)

Minimum Credit in the Major - 48 Credit Hours

The major in Exceptional Student Education (ESE) focuses on the design and provision of teaching and other educational services to children with special learning needs or disabilities and prepares individuals to function as special education teachers in grades K-12. The major's content and requirements prepare students to teach in diverse and inclusive environments, serving both children and their families. Competencies and skills are aligned with those defined by the Florida Department of Education for certification in ESE. Course requirements address skills, understanding and a demonstration that students are able to perform. These include, but are not limited to, the following: provision for multiple methods of instruction to accommodate a broad range of student differences; implementation of a curriculum that enables our students to complete a program that emphasizes collaboration with families and other professionals; an understanding of statutes and policies that affect families' access to desirable services; and participation in several field experiences, which serve as the foundation from which theories about child development, learning, and the curriculum are applied.

Upon completion of the major in Exceptional Student Education, students will be able to:

- Create a set of modifications to help students with disabilities learn and participate in a wide-range of functional activities at home, school, work environment and the community.
- Identify, assess and prescribe programs for students with a wide range of disabilities.

Graduates in this major will meet the general standards for teachers established by the state of Florida:

- They will know and demonstrate competence in each of the 12 standards of the Educator Accomplished Practices (see B.S. Handbook).
- They will demonstrate mastery of the subject area specialization requirements for certification by the state including: foundations of ESE; assessment and evaluation; instructional practices; the transition process; design and implementation of a Positive Behavioral Support program; language and communication development; and teaching interpersonal interactions and participation skills.

NOTE: (All Education courses may be taken for either three or four credits. A modified syllabus reflecting the four-credit amount of work will be provided.)

Foundations Courses in Education (3 - 4 credits each)

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| EDU 317 | Psychological Foundations of Education |
| EDU 330 | Classroom Management |
| EDU 331 | Foundations and Practices in Teaching Reading |
| EDU 334 | Educational Assessment |
| EDU 335 | Effective Instructional Practices |

Core Courses in the Major (3 - 4 credits each)

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| ESE 321 | Foundations of Exceptional Student Education (Completion of this course is a prerequisite for <u>all</u> other courses having the ESE prefix.) |
| ESE 322 | Assessment of Exceptional Students |
| ESE 333 | Teaching Social and Personal Skills to Exceptional Students |
| ESE 331 | Educational Management of Exceptional Students |

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| ESE 336 | Individualized Education Plans: Planning and Implementing |
| ESE 337 | Transition Planning |
| ESE 338 | Family and Community Collaboration |
| ESE 339 | Instructional Practices in Special Education |
| ESE 327 | Language Development and Learning |

Electives (3 - 4 credits each)

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| EDU 306 | Curriculum Development |
| ESOL 321 | Cross-Cultural Communication |
| ESOL 322 | Applied Linguistics |

Also,

ESE 100/200 ESE Independent Studies (1-4 cr.). Each may be taken up to two times.
300/400

ESE 190/290 ESE Special Topics (1-4 cr.). Each may be taken up to two times.
390/490

Additional elective learning may be accepted when appropriate to the major. Acceptable elective learning may include: prior learning that meets program criteria for acceptance; general education courses (beyond those required by the program) and courses offered through other majors, following published syllabi; and/or individually designed courses developed by the student in consultation with a faculty advisor and submitted using the learning agreement form. All additional electives must be endorsed by the faculty advisor and the dean and documented in the approved degree plan prior to registration.

Culminating Graduation Requirement:

As part of course work in the major, every student will complete a culminating graduation requirement (CGR). Students meet the capstone requirement for the Bachelor of Science major in Exceptional Student Education by satisfactorily completing **one of the following:**

- Student Teaching (12 credits total) Which consists of
EDU 496 Capstone Foundations Workshop: Student Teaching Seminar (3 credits)
EDU 499 Capstone (CGR) Learning Experience: Student-Teaching (9 credits)

OR

- Capstone Courses (3 - 4 credits each, two required)
EDU 497 Contemporary Perspectives on Classroom Organization
EDU 498 Historical, Philosophical and Contemporary Issues in Special Education

OR

- Research Paper (Taken in a major core class – separate credit not awarded).

Note: Upper-level prior learning examinations and certified learning credits are accepted toward education major course requirements.