

SPECIAL EDUCATION: SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDIES (BA)

Program Description

Special Education Studies prepares students to work with individuals with disabilities outside the classroom setting. This major will serve you well if:

- You are pursuing a Special Education degree and plan to work with state, local, or nonprofit agencies that serve individuals with disabilities. This includes direct-service providers and advocacy groups.
- You plan to pursue an advanced degree in special education or related fields (e.g., researchers in special education, speech therapists, occupational therapists, and physical therapists).

In collaboration with the Special Education advisor, students are placed in community-based settings working directly with individuals with disabilities, working in agencies that serve students with disabilities, or working alongside professors on research projects dealing with disability issues.

- This practicum is set up in collaboration with a special education advisor or the students self-selects a placement for advisor approval.
- This practicum is not for teacher certification. However, the practicum can take place in a non-traditional public school setting.

Please note this major does not lead to certification.

Entering and Completing the Major

In order to earn a degree, you must complete at least one academic major. SPU encourages students to explore various academic paths, so if you change your mind about a major, or want to include an additional program, you are able to do so, as outlined below.

Note that the University encourages you to enter your chosen major(s) as soon as you have determined it and are eligible to join it, especially by the start of your junior year. Students who transfer as juniors and seniors should enter a major within their first two quarters at SPU.

- If this is your first quarter at SPU and you identified a major in this department as your first choice on your application for admission to the University, you have gained entry to the major. To change or add a major, follow these instructions (<https://spu.atlassian.net/l/cp/a3th1keb/>).
- If you are an SPU student with an SPU cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better, follow these instructions (<https://spu.atlassian.net/l/cp/a3th1keb/>) to enter a major in this department.
- The University requires a grade of C- or better in all classes that apply to a major; however, programs may require higher minimum grades in specific courses. You may repeat an SPU course only once for a higher grade.
- To advance in this program, meet with your faculty advisor regularly to discuss your grades, course progression, and other indicators of satisfactory academic progress. If your grades or other factors indicate that you may not be able to successfully complete the major

or minor, your faculty advisor can work with you to explore options, which may include choosing a different major.

- You must complete the major requirements that are in effect in the SPU Undergraduate Catalog for the year you enter the major.

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50 Credits Minimum, Including 23 Upper Division (UD)

Code	Title	Credits
Requirements for Special Education Major		
EDSP 3107	Exceptionality in the Classroom	3
PSY 1180	General Psychology: Individual in Growth	5
PSY 2470	Lifespan Developmental Psychology	5
EDRD 2000	Reading I: Psychology of Reading	3
EDSP 4642	Individual Education Programs	3
EDSP 4646	Severe Disabilities	3
EDSP 4648	Teaching Students with Emotional and Behavior Disorders	3
EDSP 4651	Special Education Assessment	3
EDSP 4652	Disabilities of Learning and Attention	3
EDSP 4653	Teaching Reading to Exceptional Students	3
EDSP 4657	Positive Behavioral Supports and Interventions	3
EDSP 4899	Issues in Special Education - Capstone	3
Section Credits Required		40
Practicum		
EDU 4930	Education Practicum	10
Section Credits Required		10
Total Credits		50

Suggested Course Sequence

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Variable		
PSY 1180	General Psychology: Individual in Growth	5
WRI 1000	Academic Inquiry and Writing Seminar	5
WRI 1100	Disciplinary Research and Writing Seminar	5
Credits		15
Third Year		
Variable		
EDRD 2000	Reading I: Psychology of Reading	3
EDSP 3107	Exceptionality in the Classroom	3
EDU 2000	Introduction to Teaching	5
EDU 2300	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Education	3
PSY 2470	Lifespan Developmental Psychology	5
Credits		19
Autumn		
EDSP 4646	Severe Disabilities	3
EDSP 4651	Special Education Assessment	3
Credits		6
Winter		
EDSP 4657	Positive Behavioral Supports and Interventions	3
EDSP 4642	Individual Education Programs	3
EDSP 4652	Disabilities of Learning and Attention	3
Credits		9
Spring		
EDSP 4653	Teaching Reading to Exceptional Students	3

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EDSP 4648	Teaching Students with Emotional and Behavior Disorders	3
EDSP 4899	Issues in Special Education - Capstone	3
Credits		9
Fourth Year		
Autumn		
EDU 4930	Education Practicum	3
Open space for Courses related to Minor		
Open space for other Gen Ed requirements		
Credits		3
Winter		
EDU 4930	Education Practicum	3
Open space for Courses related to Minor		
Open space for other Gen Ed requirements		
Credits		3
Spring		
Education Practicum		4
Open space for Courses related to Minor		
Open space for other Gen Ed requirements		
Credits		4
Total Credits		68

The major will fulfill WKSS and CUE requirements. Be sure to fulfill Foreign Language, W, Common Curriculum (UCOL, WRI, UCOR and UFDN), and remaining Exploratory Curriculum Requirements (WE, WKA, WKH, WKFS, WKAS, and WKQR). This major permits a minor and is highly recommended.