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Special Education courses include:

For a full listing of courses under Special Education, visit our website. All courses listed are 3 credits, 4 weeks, unless otherwise noted.

AUT 510 Autism Spectrum Disorders: Foundations

This course provides foundational information about autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Participants identify general characteristics associated with autism spectrum disorders, including learning preferences, behaviors, and patterns. Participants also learn interventions, accommodations, and supports, with emphasis on current evidence-based practices.

SPED 530 Introduction to Learners with Special Needs

This course is designed to provide an overview for working with exceptional learners, ages 3 years to 21 years. Participants explore methods to instruct and assess learners with special needs and create individualized education programs. Historical perspectives, special education law, and current policies and practices are examined.

SPED 531 Special Education Teaching Methods

This course provides an overview of teaching methods used in the K-12 special education classroom, with an emphasis on students with specific learning disabilities, emotional disabilities, and other mild to moderate disabilities. Participants explore the relationship between individual student characteristics and the development of an individualized education program, as well as instructional implications of special education categories, characteristics of various service delivery models, lesson planning, instructional strategies, classroom organization and management, crisis prevention, transition planning, and career counseling. Communication through consultation and collaboration, and professional and ethical practices are also examined.

See reverse for additional course listings.

SPED 532 Special Education Assessment

This course provides an overview of assessment in the K-12 special education classroom. Participants focus on assessing learners with special needs, with an emphasis on measuring a learner's abilities and diagnosing his or her strengths and needs. Common tests and evaluation systems used in public school special education programs are examined. Participants review guidelines and procedures for developing the individualized education program and evaluate the use of progress monitoring to assess student performance. The special education referral process, the use of response to intervention for assessment and remedial purposes, and basic remediation principles and strategies are also discussed.

SPED 533 Mainstreaming and Inclusion

The focus of this course is mainstreaming and inclusion of students with special needs in regular classrooms. Participants explore the history and evolution of special education, including federal legislation and related standards. Identification and referral, lesson planning, modifications and accommodations, communication and collaboration, and assessment are also examined.

SPED 534 Speech and Language Disorders

This course provides educators with an overview of speech and language disorders. Participants examine language acquisition and development; language disorders; speech, articulation, and phonological disorders; voice, swallowing, and fluency disorders; and hearing disorders. Classroom management, instructional strategies, assessment, and augmentative and alternative technologies are also explored.

SPED 535 Overview of Severe Disabilities

This course provides K-12 educators with an overview of severe disabilities. Participants examine the categories and characteristics of severe disabilities, including impairments, injuries, and disorders. Special education laws, teaching strategies, assessment, placement options, augmentative and assistive technology, communication and collaboration among stakeholders, and cultural considerations are also explored.

SPED 536 Transition Planning for Adolescents with Disabilities

This course focuses on the role of the special education teacher in transitioning adolescents with disabilities into adult living. The course examines student transition between the educational setting, the home environment, and employment and community environments. Emphasis is placed on the needs of adolescents with cognitive and behavioral disorders in secondary school special education programs. Strategies to improve academic, social, career/vocational, and transition skills are also discussed. Participants learn skills and concepts in working with students with special needs, their families, and the community.

SPED 538 Special Education in Early Childhood

This course helps prepare participants to support the development and learning of young and diverse students with special needs. Participants learn the basic foundations and principles of early childhood special education, including diagnosis and monitoring, ethics, and assessment. Best practices for classroom management, behavior modification techniques, and effective ways to communicate with families are also explored.

Want to explore other areas of study?

Visit our website or ask us about courses in:

- Administration
- Bilingual Education
- Early Childhood Education
- Education and General Topics
- Educator Ethics
- English as a Foreign or Second Language Education
- K-12 Online Teaching
- Reading
- Special Education
- STEAM/STEM
- Teaching Methods
- Technology in the Classroom

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Continuing Education Units (CEUs) cannot be converted into academic credit. It is the student's responsibility to confirm whether or not CEUs earned at University of Phoenix will be accepted by employers and/or applicable licensing agencies. While widely available, not all Continuing Education Unit coursework is available in all states or in both online and on-campus formats. Please check with a University Enrollment Advisor.

Although our continuing education for teachers courses are accepted by many state agencies in the United States toward teacher certifications and endorsements, this may not be the case in all states or foreign jurisdictions. If you plan to use courses for certification or endorsement, please check with your own state agency and your school district for applicability. Continuing education for teachers courses are not eligible to apply to degree programs at University of Phoenix. These courses are not eligible for federal financial aid.

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