Elementary Education with Special Education for Mild/Moderate Disabilities

Degree(s)
+ Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in elementary education with special education for mild/moderate disabilities
+ Minor in Catholic education

Program Overview

The B.A. in elementary education with special education for mild/moderate disabilities program at Saint Louis University aims to develop reflective practitioners educated in the liberal tradition and committed to service, inquiry and value-centered teaching. It also seeks to prepare future teachers who have leadership qualities including risk-taking, civic responsibility and ethical character.

The program is for students who are curious, creative and well-organized. Students learn communication skills and special techniques specific to learners in grades K–12 and with students who have disabilities. Education professionals are expected to have knowledge about all subjects and are well-equipped to work with students of varying abilities. Students in this program will be certified to teach in elementary education and special education.

To be accepted into the teacher certification program, students must have: a 2.75 cumulative GPA, a 3.0 GPA in professional education and in their content area, a passing score in MoGEA and completed the MEP. In addition, a student must pass the content area test in the chosen field, complete a program portfolio and complete the MoPTA.

The department has instituted the “block” concept into the teacher education program. The first block addresses issues related to classroom observation, studying learning theory and examining schools as a social system, and human growth and development. Block two examines diversity, learning and teaching styles, and exceptionality. The remaining blocks include methods of teaching various subject matter areas and levels, diagnosing learning problems and developing learning activities. The culmination of the program is the professional semester block. During this semester the student will spend the greatest amount of time teaching in a public or private school setting.

Students in the School of Education are also required to complete the core curriculum required by the University, providing a well-rounded liberal arts background to enhance their educational experience and professional value.

About the Faculty

Our faculty members take a genuine interest in students, serve as strong role models of success and acquaint students with the challenges and joys of the profession. We seek an appropriate balance between theory and practice, between action and reflection, and between intellect and affect.

Curriculum

In addition to the courses required for all education majors in the School of Education, courses required for students pursuing a B.A. in elementary education with special education for mild/moderate disabilities include:

+ EDF 2020: Foundations of Elementary School
+ EDI 2000: Children’s Literature and Media
+ EDSP 3700: Introduction to Disability Studies: Mild/Moderate
+ EDI 3000: Foundations of Literacy and Language Arts
+ EDI 3001: English Language Learners in the Mainstream Classroom
+ EDI 3420: Elementary Math Methods
+ EDI 3490: Creative Arts and Movement
+ EDI 4250: Elementary School Curriculum and Instruction
+ EDI 4000: Literary Assessment and Instruction for Diverse Learners
+ EDSP 4400: Speech and Language Development for the Exceptional Child
+ EDSP 4560: Special Education Process
+ EDSP 4600: Medical Implications in Special Education
+ EDSP 4250: Classroom Organization and Management
+ EDSP 4510: Counseling in Special Education
+ EDI 4420: Assessing Classroom Performance
+ EDI 3610: Health for Education Majors
+ EDSP 4660/4670: Practicum in Mild/Moderate Disabilities: Elementary or Practicum in Mild/Moderate Disabilities: Secondary
+ EDI 3420: Elementary Math Methods
+ EDI 4100: Language and Language Arts in an Integrated Curriculum
+ EDI 3410: Elementary Methods of Teaching Sciences
+ EDI 3445: Elementary Methods of Teaching Social Studies
+ EDI 4290: Remedial Math Methods
+ EDSP 4610/4620: Methods in Mild/Moderate Disabilities: Elementary/Middle/Secondary
+ EDSP 4850: Student Teaching; Elementary Inclusive Classroom
+ EDI 4860: Professional Development Semester
+ EDI 4620: Cultural Diversity in the Classroom
+ EDI 4240: Growth, Development and Learning
+ EDI 4310: Education and Psychology of the Exceptional Individual

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Saint Louis University offers a variety of graduate programs in education, educational leadership and higher education. For a full listing of programs, visit graduate.slu.edu.

Learn More For course listings and more information about our faculty, visit slu.edu/education.xml.

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Admission Requirements

Freshman: All applications are thoroughly and carefully reviewed. Solid academic performance in college preparatory course work is a primary criterion in reviewing a freshman applicant’s file. College admission test scores (ACT or SAT) are used as an additional indicator of the student’s ability to meet the University’s academic requirements and to qualify the student for certain University scholarship programs. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be approaching graduation from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer: Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED. An official high school transcript and official test scores are required only of those students who have attempted fewer than 24 transferable semester hours (or 30 quarter hours) of college credit. Those having completed 24 hours or more of college credit need only submit a transcript from previously attended college(s). In reviewing a transfer applicant’s file, the office of admission holistically examines the student’s academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student’s ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University.

Internships and Careers

Practica, classroom observations and student teaching are integrated in the education and public service curriculum experience at Saint Louis University. Throughout the program, students will spend a significant amount of time in local public or private schools. The faculty at Saint Louis University arranges placement in schools. Mutual satisfaction of the student, University and school districts is the goal of such placements.

Most graduates elect to pursue a career in teaching, but many choose to continue their studies in one of our graduate programs before entering the work force.

Careers in elementary with special education include:
+ Day care specialist
+ Educational outreach professional
+ Preschool teacher
+ Teacher, grades K–12
+ Private tutor
+ Special educator
+ Nonprofit specialist

Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:
+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.