Degree Requirements: Curriculum and Instruction- Special Education, M.S. (on-campus)

A total of 33 semester hours must be completed. Students select a specialization area and choose between a thesis or non-thesis track within the specialization. Required courses comprise 6 semester hours of the program; specialization courses, 27 hours.

**Required coursework** (6 semester hours):
- EDG 5XXX: Practitioner Research in Schools and the Community (3 semester hours)
- EEX 5906: Directed Independent Study (3 semester hours) – to be discussed and approved by the student’s major advisor

**Specialization areas** (27 semester hours, including thesis/comprehensive exam):

### Autism Specialization – Dr. Kelly Whalon
Specialization coursework (18 hours):
- EEX 5210: Assessment & Diagnosis of ASD and ID
- EEX 5248: Positive Behavior Support
- EEX 5298: Teaching Learners with ASD
- EEX 5767: AAC Systems
- EEX 5836: Practicum in Severe Cognitive Disabilities/ASD OR an elective
- EEX 5498: Single Case Design for Educators

Plus one of the following (3 hours)
- EEX 5XXX: General Curriculum Access
- EDE 5237: Differentiating Instruction

Plus one of the following tracks (6 hours)
**Thesis track:**
- EEX 5971: Thesis (6 hours)
- EEX 8976: Master’s Thesis Defense (zero credit hours)

**Non-thesis track:**
- 6 hours elective coursework in a related field
- EEX 8966: Comprehensive Examination (0 hours)

### Early Childhood Special Education Specialization – Dr. Mary Frances Hanline
Specialization coursework (15 hours):
- EEX 5017: Typical and Atypical Early Development
- EEX 5456: Program Development for Young Children with Disabilities
- EEX 5239: Assessment and Methods in Early Childhood Special Education
- EEX 5708/4751: Teaming and Collaboration
- EEX 5940: Practicum in Early Childhood Special Education OR an elective

Plus one of the following tracks (12 hours)
**Thesis track:**
- 6 hours elective coursework in a related field
- EEX 5971: Thesis (6 hours)
- EEX 8976: Master’s Thesis defense (0 hours)

**Non-thesis track:**
- 12 hours elective coursework in a related field
- EEX 8966: Comprehensive Exam (0 hours)

### Reading Specialization – Dr. Laura Steacy
Specialization coursework (21-27 hours)
- To be determined on an individual basis

### Severe Disabilities – Dr. Jenny Root
Specialization coursework (18 hours)
- EEX 5210: Assessment & Diagnosis of ASD and ID
- EEX 5248: Positive Behavior Support
- EEX 5767: AAC Systems
- EEX 5498: Single Case Design for Educators
- EEX 5XXX: Advanced Seminar in Applied Behavior Analysis
- EEX 5XXX: General Curriculum Access

Plus one of the following (3 hours)
- EEX 5286: Preparing Individuals for Transition
- EVI 5131: Teaching Deaf-Blind/Multisensory Impaired Individuals

Plus one of the following tracks (6 hours)
**Thesis track:**
- EEX 5971: Thesis (6 hours)
- EEX 8976: Master’s Thesis defense (0 hours)

**Non-thesis track:**
- EEX 5836: Practicum in Severe Cognitive Disabilities/ASD
- 3 hours coursework in a related field
- EEX 8966: Comprehensive Exam (0 hours)