

SPECIALIZATION

Special Ed/SPED Administration (16 weeks)

Course ID	Course Title	Credits
SPEC 8401	Special Education Law & Policy	3
SPEC 8402	Families, the Law & Exceptionalities	3
SPEC 8403	Conferencing with Parents & Families of Individuals with Dis.	3
SPEC 8404	Organization & Administration of Special Education Programs	3
SPEC 8405	Collaboration & Consultation	3
** { SPS 8580	Intervention Strategies for the Development of Social Competency	3
** { SPS 8579	Families, the Law, and Exceptional children and Youth	3
*** { SPS 8578	Assessment/Prg. Design and Eva. for Exceptional Children & Youth	3
*** { SPS 8581	The Impact of Cult., Moral and Ethical Iss. on Exceptional Children & Youth	3
EDL 8301	Issues in Special Education Administration	3
Total Specialization Credits		18

** Courses must be taken at the same time

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NOTE: Select **ONLY** 18 credits within this specialization.

SPEC 8401 Special Education Law and Policy (3 Credits)

This course focuses on laws and policies that apply to individuals with disabilities across the lifespan. The American legal system, the constitutional and statutory provisions of federal and state law, and the judicial decisions interpreting laws (case law) are reviewed. Students will examine equal protection, procedural due process, and substantive due process doctrines provided under IDEA, ADA, and related legislation. In addition, students will examine the six principles of IDEA and similar principles in state legislation with particular emphasis on school practices in special education.

SPEC 8402 Families, the Law and Exceptionalities (3 Credits)

Students will analyze legislation and case law in the context of applied settings with particular emphasis on advocacy and self-determination training for individuals with disabilities, families, caretakers, and other professionals. Implementation strategies concerns related to legal principles (e.g., referral, placement, program [IEP] development, dismissal, and inclusion issues), and the impact of such on families, educators, and human services personnel will be addressed.

**SPEC 8403 Conferencing with Parents and Families of Individuals with Disabilities
(3 Credits)**

Students will analyze legislation and case law in the context of applied settings with particular emphasis on advocacy and self-determination training for individuals with disabilities, families, caretakers, and other professionals. Implementation strategies concerns related to legal principles (e.g., referral, placement, program [IEP] development, dismissal, and inclusion issues), and the impact of such on families, educators, and human services personnel will be addressed.

**SPEC 8404 Organization and Administration of Special Education Programs
(3 Credits)**

This course will address the organization, administration, and supervision of special education programs provided by schools, agencies, and other support services. Particular emphasis will be placed on the development, implementation, and evaluation of effective program designs, and will include the analysis of leadership practices and personnel performance as factors in program efficacy. The impact of recent and proposed legislation, including regulatory policies and procedures, on program development and implementation will be addressed.

SPEC 8405 Collaboration and Consultation (3 Credits)

This course is designed to provide the student with the knowledge and skills required to conduct effective collaboration and consultation activities among professionals from schools and agencies, parents and families, and individuals with disabilities. Methods and techniques for collaborative problem solving, program planning, shared decision-making will be examined through course materials and related experiential activities.

**SPS 8580 Intervention Strategies for the Development of Social Competency
(3 credits)**

This course is designed to identify the effective needs and social competencies of exceptional children and youth. Behavioral and coping strategies to enhance social skills are investigated. The impact and consequences of varying management practices on special services professional and their clients are assessed.

SPS 8579 Families, the Law, and Exceptionalities (3 credits)

Students analyze legislation governing exceptional populations and its impact on families, educators, and social services personnel. Topics such as due process, family involvement, referral processes, and advocacy procedures are examined within a case management framework.

SPS 8578 Assessment/Program Design and Evaluation for Exceptional Children and Youth (3 credits)

Current practices in the assessment and identification of exceptional children and youth are examined. Academic and/or training programs that reflect the student's professional goals and responsibilities are designed and evaluated.

SPS 8581 The Impact of Cultural, Moral, and Ethical Issues on Exceptional Children and Youth (3 credits)

Students investigate current issues confronting exceptional children and youth. Problems such as drug and alcohol dependency, AIDS counseling, sex education, medical support systems, divorce, single family parenting, and the influence of these problems on exceptional children and youth are studied. Educational and social policy directions for the 21st century are explored.

EDL 8301 Issues in Special Education Administration (3 credits)

This course is designed for those who are responsible for planning, developing, and implementing educational programs for students with disabilities. It will provide these educators with the legal and ethical bases for providing services to children with disabilities, and with instructional and organizational methods to help these children succeed in their schools.