Major in Special Education

The Special Education program is organized into cohorts that are under the mentorship of one faculty member who is responsible for assuring that each student meets standards and competencies needed for Special Education General Curriculum certification in the state of Georgia. Cohort admission requirements include completing an application packet, three professional letters of recommendation using the GC format, a passing score or exemption on the GACE Program Admission Assessment, a Pre-service Certificate from the PSC, verified structured experience with children of the level the applicant wishes to teach, an interview by a faculty admissions committee, and documentation of having completed Educator Ethics 350.

The conceptual framework of this program is constructed on a professional knowledge base that focuses on the following core concepts: foundation in liberal arts, foundation in professional preparation, foundation for addressing human relations and diversity issues and development of dynamic leadership abilities. This program offers a degree that leads to certification for teachers in Grades PK-12.

The special education program has been approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission and recognized by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). The John H. Lounsbury College of Education is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). In 2016, the Special Education program was ranked 19th out of 400 colleges analyzed across the United States by Teacher.org and was the only Georgia university listed in the top 20.

Develop Skills

- written communication
- presentation
- leadership
- reasoning
- interpersonal
- direct student contact
- problem solving
- presentation
- child development
- analysis techniques
- critical thinking
- oral communication
- relationship building
- curriculum
- presentation
- software
- assessment strategies
- problem solving
- communication
- curriculum
- critical thinking
- child development
- reasoning
- leadership

Make an Impact

The breadth and depth of knowledge gained will prepare graduates for a variety of career paths...

- Teacher
- Tutor
- Librarian
- Curriculum Developer
- Human Resources Director
- School Counselor
- School Administrator
- Vice Principal
- Principal
- Superintendent
- Physical Education Teacher
- Children’s Minister
- Curriculum Development Specialist
- Education Management Specialist
- Family Services Worker
- Religious School Teacher
- School Administrator
- School Counselor
- Social Services Specialist
- Youth Program Director
- Youth Specialist
- Teaching Assistant

...the possibilities are endless.
Explore and Engage with Special Education

- Ask faculty about attending professional conferences
- Join Kappa Delta Pi, the International Honor Society of Education
- Ask faculty about study abroad opportunities
- Meet with a career advisor to discuss your plan
- Join Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Join student government
- Talk to your academic advisor
- Connect with alumni via LinkedIn

Considering adding a Minor?

These minors can complement the Special Education major

- Business Administration
- English
- History
- International Studies
- Urban Studies
- Sociology
- Rhetoric
- Philosophy
- Marketing
- Management

Top employers at GC for Special Education majors

- Baldwin County Schools
- Gwinnett County Schools
- Fulton County Schools
- Jones County Schools
- Putnam County Charter Schools

Median Starting Salary for Special Education majors

$42,750*

*based on GC First Destination Surveys, 2019 - 2022

Mean Starting Salary for Special Education majors

$41,772*

*based on NACE First Destinations for the College Class of 2020

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