



MASTER OF SCIENCE  
IN EDUCATION

# SPECIAL EDUCATION



Exceptional individuals require highly skilled educators, specialists, and support staff that can plan and facilitate special education curricula in a safe and engaging environment. The Online MSE in Special Education program is designed to provide an avenue for students with bachelor's degrees to expand upon their education with the option of three emphases to customize their learning experience.

### Curriculum

This program offers a high quality, practitioner-oriented approach that is committed to developing highly qualified and effective educators, specialists, and support staff that work with exceptional individuals.

The Online MSE in Special Education is a 36-credit program with an emphasis in either Applied Behavior Analysis, Cross-Categorical Licensure or Evidence Based Practice. This fully online program can be started any term and at a pace that works best for you. Full-time students can finish in as little as a year and a half.

### Tuition

Our graduate programs at UW-Whitewater are of superior value. If you compare our graduate tuition to others, you will find that this per-credit price is quite reasonable.

### Why UW-Whitewater Online?

- Top-notch, 100% doctoral instructors
- Flexible and convenient for your schedule
- Scholarships available for qualifying students
- 98% employment rate for college graduates

### Admission Requirements

To ensure a high-quality graduate student group, all students must have a bachelor's degree from a recognized institution and meet graduate admission criteria.



# Special Education MSE Emphasis

## Emphasis in Applied Behavior Analysis

The Applied Behavior Analysis emphasis Master's degree is designed to prepare professionals with undergraduate degrees in education or related fields to use Applied Behavior Analysis to create, coordinate, and/or implement ABA-based interventions with individuals who have challenging behavior and/or disabilities. The Association for Behavior Analysis International has verified the ABA courses toward the coursework requirements for eligibility to take the Board Certified Behavior Analyst® examination. Applicants will need to meet additional requirements before they can be deemed eligible to take the examination.

## Emphasis in Cross Categorical

The MSE in Special Education with an emphasis in Cross Categorical Special Education is designed for working professionals with a bachelor's degree who seek initial licensure in special education. Individuals with current emergency licenses are also ideal candidates for this program.

## Emphasis in Evidence Based Practice

The MSE in Special Education with an emphasis in Evidence Based Practice is designed for currently licensed teachers or professionals in related fields who seek advanced knowledge in special education. In the Evidence Based Practice emphasis, students can combine two graduate certificates as part of their master's degree. Graduate certificates include Assistive Technology, Autism, Dyslexia and Language Based Learning Disabilities, Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health in Schools, Trauma Informed Practice in Education, and Transition.

## Online Graduate Certificate Programs in Special Education

### Applied Behavior Analysis

The Applied Behavior Analysis Online Graduate Certificate is designed for professionals with undergraduate degrees in education or related fields to use Applied Behavior Analysis to create, coordinate, and/or implement ABA-based interventions with individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder, other disabilities, and/or challenging behavior.

### Assistive Technology

The Assistive Technology online graduate certificate is designed to broaden the knowledge and skill set of current and future educators in the field of computer and web-based instruction to meet the unique needs of students with disabilities, with a focus on neurodivergent individuals (e.g. individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorders, Intellectual Disabilities). Furthermore, this certificate will address digital and cognitive accessibility, such as using technology to improve communication and/or access to instructional materials available through the web, computers, and mobile devices.

### Autism Specialist

The Autism Specialist Certificate is designed for professionals with undergraduate degrees in education or related fields to work with individuals on the autism spectrum using advanced knowledge and skills specific to autism spectrum disorders that are evidence based.

### Dyslexia and Language Based Learning Disabilities

The online graduate certificate in Dyslexia and Language Based Learning Disabilities prepares professionals with undergraduate degrees in education or related fields to provide intensive reading intervention based on the science of reading. Professionals completing the certificate know the neurobiological causes of dyslexia and language-based LD, skillfully intervene in phonological awareness and phonics, vocabulary, comprehension, and fluency, and are proficient evaluators of educational needs in reading.

### Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health in Schools

The Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health in Schools certificate is an interdisciplinary program for professionals working with children and adolescents in school-based settings with a focus on understanding the social, emotional, and behavioral characteristics and needs of youth, especially when identified mental health needs are present. The program extends beyond understanding student mental health to providing support and intervention for students, teachers, and staff in school-based settings targeting social, emotional, and behavioral well-being. The certificate was developed by faculty in the Counselor Education and Special Education Departments and courses are taught by faculty in both departments.

### Trauma Informed Educational Practice

The online graduate certificate in Trauma Informed Educational Practice certificate prepares professionals with undergraduate degrees in education or related fields to provide support for districts whose students have been impacted by trauma. Certificate holders will acquire interprofessional and team-based approaches to trauma prevention and trauma intervention. Certificate holders will be able to provide leadership in building responsive practices in both educational and community settings. Participants may be special educators, general educators, speech therapists, school counselors, school social workers, school psychologists, school administrators, or others committed to providing support for students impacted by trauma. Participants do not need to have a teaching license to enroll.

### Transition

The Online Transition Specialist Graduate Certificate prepares educators, independent living professionals, and transition specialists to work effectively with adolescents and young adults in education, independent living, and employment programs.