The Department of Educational Studies of SUNY New Paltz offers master's degree in Special Education. Teacher candidates pursue a program of study in Early Childhood Special Education (Birth – Grade 2), Childhood Special Education (Grades 1-6), or Adolescence Special Education (Grades 7-12). Professional certification for each of these programs requires three years of successful teaching experience at the appropriate grade level(s).

Early Childhood Special Education (Birth – Grade 2) (060E)
Applicants with initial certification in Early Childhood Education B-2 will complete 36 credit hours of course work. Upon successful completion of the program, teacher candidates are eligible for NYS Education Department initial certification in Early Childhood Special Education B-2.

Childhood Special Education (Grades 1-6) (060C)
Applicants with initial certification in Childhood Education 1-6 will complete 36 credit hours of course work. Upon successful completion of the program, teacher candidates are eligible for NYS Education Department initial certification in Childhood Special Education 1-6.

Adolescence Special Education (Grades 7-12) (060G)
The Adolescent Special Education Program consists of at least 36 credit hours and leads to the Students with Disabilities Generalist 7-12 certificate. This NYS certificate requires that candidates have 6 credit hours in each of the following content areas: English, social studies, science, and math. Students who are deficient in any of these credits must fulfill them before graduation from the Adolescence Special Education master’s program.

Master of Science in Education Dual Certification Programs

NOTE: Application to the dual certification programs in Literacy and Special Education have been temporarily suspended. Students should contact the department for alternative options.

Graduate Programs in Special Education

- MSEd in Special Education - Early Childhood Special Education (Birth-Grade 2) (http://catalog.newpaltz.edu/graduate/education/special-education/msed-special-education-early-childhood-special-education-birth-grade-2)
- MSEd in Special Education - Childhood Special Education (Grades 1-6) (http://catalog.newpaltz.edu/graduate/education/special-education/msed-special-education-childhood-special-education-grades-1-6)
- MSEd in Special Education - Adolescence Special Education (Grades 7-12) (http://catalog.newpaltz.edu/graduate/education/special-education/msed-special-education-adolescence-special-education-grades-7-12)

NOTE: Application to the dual certification programs in Literacy and Special Education have been temporarily suspended. Students should contact the department for alternative options.

SPE513. Single Subject Research. 3 Credits.
Provides an overview of single subject research methodology. Topics include measurement of behaviors, single subject research designs, threats to validity, and data analysis.
Prerequisites:
- SPE 512 with a minimum grade of D-
Restrictions:
- Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE514. Advanced Applied Behavior Analysis. 3 Credits.
Provides an application of the principals and concepts of behavior analysis to social behaviors. Topics include: applied behavior analysis (ABA), identifying and defining target behaviors, measuring behaviors, assessing behaviors, determining functions of behavior, using behavior change systems, selecting intervention strategies, and implementing and managing services.
Prerequisites:
- SPE 512 with a minimum grade of D-
Restrictions:
- Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE515. Ethical Considerations in Applied Behavior Analysis. 3 Credits.
Provides an overview of ethical considerations in the field of behavior analysis. Topics include: history of ethics, qualifications and responsibilities of being a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), selection of interventions for clients, and implementation and evaluation of behavior change procedures.
Prerequisites:
- SPE 512 with a minimum grade of D-
Restrictions:
- Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE516. Methods of Instruction. 3 Credits.
Provides behavioral techniques to teach individuals academic, functional living, and communication skills. Topics include instructional objectives, chaining response prompting, incidental teaching, observational learning, preference assessment, naturalistic interventions, and verbal behavior.
Prerequisites:
- SPE 512 with a minimum grade of D- and SPE 513 with a minimum grade of D-
Restrictions:
- Must have the following level: Graduate
SPE517. Management Procedures for Severe Problem Behaviors. 3 Credits.
Learn how to evaluate severe problem behavior and intervene in order to decrease the occurrence of the problem behavior and teach individuals exhibiting these behaviors more socially appropriate behaviors. You will also consider ethical issues when evaluating interventions that target severe problem behaviors.
Prerequisites:
  • SPE 512 with a minimum grade of D-
Restrictions:
  • Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE518. Autism Practicum. 3 Credits.
Provides candidates with the opportunity for hands on experience with assessing behaviors, creating behavior modification programs, and making decisions on current cases with individuals with autism under the supervision of a licensed behavior analyst.
Prerequisites:
  • SPE 512 with a minimum grade of D- and SPE 513 with a minimum grade of D-
Restrictions:
  • Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE563. Multiple Intelligences in Inclusive Classrooms . 3 Credits.
Participants will develop understanding and skills in the use of multiple intelligences for planning and collaborating in instructional design, supporting students' full participation, and working with colleagues and community.
Restrictions:
  • Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE565. Teaching in Inclusive Classrooms . 3 Credits.
Examines a variety of issues and strategies related to educating learners with disabilities in general education classrooms. It also is designed to provide students with an understanding of the nature and needs of exceptional children and youth from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
Restrictions:
  • Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE571. Teaching Communication Skills to Learners with Disabilities . 3 Credits.
Methods, materials, and procedures for increasing the communication skills of students with disabilities.
Restrictions:
  • Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE572. Tchg. Learners of Culturally/Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds. 3 Credits.
This course examines the academic and social challenges education poses faced by students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Methods for implementing culturally relevant instruction and programs for all students will be discussed.
Restrictions:
  • Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE575. Technology in Special Education . 3 Credits.
This course is designed for educators who are interested in learning how to use educational technology with individuals with disabilities. Technology content dealing with ways technology can be employed to teach exceptional students will be discussed as well as other practical applications of educational technology.
Restrictions:
  • Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE593. Special Ed Selected Topic. 3-12 Credits.
Restrictions:
  • Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE594. Fieldwork in Autism Studies. 0 Credits.
Restrictions:
  • Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE595. Indep Study Special Ed. 1-12 Credits.
Restrictions:
  • Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE700. Educating Special Learners . 5 Credits.
This course will examine issues related to the education of learners with special needs, including the philosophical, historical, social, and legal foundations of special education; characteristics of learners with disabilities; employment and independence for learners with disabilities; and professionalism and ethical practices. The course will also offer students field-based experiences working with learners with disabilities in educational programs that address a wide range of academic, social, and transitional needs.
Restrictions:
  • Must have the following level: Graduate
  • Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or concentration):
    • Literacy Ed and Adol Spec Ed (029B)
    • Adol Special Ed and Lit Ed (059A)
    • Special Ed:Adolescence Ed. (060G)
    • Adol Special Ed and Lit Ed (059G)
    • Special Ed: Adolescence Ed (060A)
    • Special Ed: Childhood Ed (060C)
    • Special Ed: Early Childhood Ed (060E)
    • Literacy Ed and Child Spec Ed (029A)
    • Child Special Ed and Lit Ed (059C)
SPE701. Educational Assessment of Learners with Disabilities . 5 Credits.
This course explores critical issues in the educational assessment process and focuses on the use of informal and formal assessment strategies to identify and assess learners with disabilities. This course offers students field-based experience in assessing the educational performance of learners with disabilities.
Prerequisites:
• SPE 700 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of B-
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or concentration):
  • Literacy Ed and Adol Spec Ed (029B)
  • Adol Special Ed and Lit Ed (059A)
  • Special Ed:Adolescence Ed. (060G)
  • Adol Special Ed and Lit Ed (059G)
  • Special Ed: Adolescence Ed (060A)
  • Special Ed: Childhood Ed (060C)
  • Special Ed: Early Childhood Ed (060E)
  • Literacy Ed and Child Spec Ed (029A)
  • Child Special Ed and Lit Ed (059C)

SPE702. Teaching Math, Science and Technology in Inclusive Classrooms. 3 Credits.
This course examines methods for planning, implementing, and evaluating instructional strategies for students with disabilities, particularly in the areas of math, science, and technology. It emphasizes differentiating instruction based upon learner characteristics, learning environment, curriculum and standards.
Prerequisites:
• SPE 700 with a minimum grade of B-
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or concentration):
  • Special Ed:Adolescence Ed. (060G)
  • Special Ed: Early Childhood Ed (060E)
  • Special Ed: Adolescence Ed (060A)
  • Special Ed: Childhood Ed (060C)

SPE703. Research in Special Education . 3 Credits.
Reviews current issues in special education research. Students design and execute a research project addressing their interest.
Prerequisites:
• SPE 700 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of B-
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or concentration):
  • Literacy Ed and Adol Spec Ed (029B)
  • Adol Special Ed and Lit Ed (059A)
  • Special Ed:Adolescence Ed. (060G)
  • Adol Special Ed and Lit Ed (059G)
  • Special Ed: Adolescence Ed (060A)
  • Special Ed: Childhood Ed (060C)
  • Special Ed: Early Childhood Ed (060E)
  • Literacy Ed and Child Spec Ed (029A)
  • Child Special Ed and Lit Ed (059C)

SPE706. Working with Learners with Emotional/Behavioral Problems . 3 Credits.
Students with emotional/behavioral problems will be studied through analysis of case studies.
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE711. Educating Learners with Autism Spectrum Disorders. 3 Credits.
Provides an overview of the educational strengths and challenges of students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Topics include: historical overview, major theories and trends, effective practices, and collaboration strategies.
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE712. Learning Environments for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. 3 Credits.
This course will focus on planning and implementing safe, positive, supportive and universally designed learning environments. Teaching prosocial skills, and employing evidence-based best practices for including students with Autism Spectrum Disorders in general education settings will be included.
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE722. Practicum in Special Education . 6 Credits.
This course provides students with the opportunity to teach childhood learners with disabilities in a school setting under the direction of a cooperating teacher and a university supervisor.
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or concentration):
  • Special Ed: Childhood Ed (060C)
  • Special Ed: Adolescence Ed (060A)
SPE723. Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities . 3 Credits.
A study of students with learning disabilities including an emphasis on
diagnosis and prescription. Different theories of learning disability are
examined.
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE728. Seminar in Special Education . 3 Credits.
Explores selected problems in the education of learners with disabilities.
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE731. Literacy and Social Studies Inst. for Childhood Learners w/Disabilities . 5 Credits.
This course will examine methods for planning, implementing, and
evaluating instructional strategies for students with disabilities on the
childhood level, particularly in the areas of literacy and social studies.
Emphasis will be placed on methods for differentiating instruction based
upon learner characteristics, learning environment, curriculum and
technology considerations, and state, and national standards.
Prerequisites:
• SPE 700 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of B-
and SPE 701 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of B-
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or
concentration):
  • Special Ed: Childhood Ed (060C)
  • Special Ed: Early Childhood Ed (060E)
  • Child Special Ed and Lit Ed (059C)

SPE732. Learning Environments for Childhood Learners with Disabilities . 3 Credits.
This course will focus on planning and implementing safe, positive
and supportive learning environments. Teaching prosocial skills, and
employing best practices for including childhood learners with disabilities
in general education settings will be included.
Prerequisites:
• SPE 700 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of B-
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or
concentration):
  • Special Ed: Early Childhood Ed (060E)
  • Special Ed: Childhood Ed (060C)
  • Literacy Ed and Child Spec Ed (029A)
  • Child Special Ed and Lit Ed (059C)

SPE733. Practicum in Childhood Special Education . 6 Credits.
This course provides students with the opportunity to teach childhood
learners with disabilities in a school setting under the direction of a
cooperating teacher and a university supervisor.
Prerequisites:
• SPE 700 with a minimum grade of B- and SPE 701 with a minimum
grade of B- and SPE 731 with a minimum grade of B- and SPE 732
with a minimum grade of B-
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or
concentration):
  • Child Special Ed and Lit Ed (059C)
  • Special Ed: Childhood Ed (060C)
  • Literacy Ed and Child Spec Ed (029A)

SPE741. Literacy and Social St. Instr. for Adol. Learners w/Disabilities. 5 Credits.
Examines methods for planning, implementing, and evaluating
instructional strategies for students with disabilities on the adolescent
level, particularly in the areas of literacy and social studies. It emphasizes
differentiating instruction based upon learners, environment, curriculum,
and standards.
Prerequisites:
• SPE 700 with a minimum grade of B- and SPE 701 with a minimum
grade of B-
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or
concentration):
  • Special Ed:Adolescence Ed. (060G)
  • Special Ed: Adolescence Ed (060A)
  • Adol Special Ed and Lit Ed (059A)
  • Adol Special Ed and Lit Ed (059G)

SPE742. Learning Environments for Adolescent Learners with Disabilities. 3 Credits.
This course will focus on planning and implementing safe, positive
and supportive learning environments. Teaching prosocial skills, and
employing best practices for adolescent learners with disabilities in
general education settings will be included.
Prerequisites:
• SPE 700 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of B-
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or
concentration):
  • Special Ed:Adolescence Ed. (060G)
  • Adol Special Ed and Lit Ed (059G)
  • Special Ed: Adolescence Ed (060A)
  • Literacy Ed and Adol Spec Ed (029B)
  • Adol Special Ed and Lit Ed (059A)
SPE743. Practicum in Adolescent Special Education. 6 Credits.
Provides students with the opportunity to teach adolescent learners with disabilities in a school setting under the direction of a cooperating teacher and a university supervisor.
Prerequisites:
• SPE 700 with a minimum grade of B- and SPE 742 with a minimum grade of B- and SPE 701 with a minimum grade of B- and SPE 741 with a minimum grade of B-
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or concentration):
  • Special Ed: Adolescence Ed. (060G)
  • Adol Special Ed and Lit Ed (059G)
  • Special Ed: Adolescence Ed (060A)
  • Literacy Ed and Adol Spec Ed (029B)
  • Adol Special Ed and Lit Ed (059A)

SPE750. Collaboration Strategies for Educators. 3 Credits.
Offers information, theories, resources, and guidelines to help educators enhance their ability to collaborate effectively with families, other professionals, and community members to support the teaching and learning processes.
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE753. Practicum in Early Childhood Special Education. 6 Credits.
Provides teacher candidates with the opportunity to teach young children with disabilities in a school setting under the direction of a cooperating teacher and a university supervisor.
Prerequisites:
• SPE 700 with a minimum grade of B- and SPE 701 with a minimum grade of B- and SPE 731 with a minimum grade of B- and SPE 732 with a minimum grade of B-

SPE761. Working with Families of Students with Disabilities. 3 Credits.
An investigation of various problems confronting parents, siblings, and other members of the family of persons with disabilities. Such issues as schooling, personal-social adjustment, vocational adjustment, and independent living arrangements are addressed.
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE793. Special Ed Selected Topic. 3-12 Credits.
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate

SPE794. Field Experience Spec Ed. 1-12 Credits.
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or concentration):
  • Special Ed: Childhood Ed (060C)
  • Special Ed: Adolescence Ed (060A)

SPE795. Indep Study Special Ed. 1-12 Credits.
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or concentration):
  • Special Ed: Childhood Ed (060C)
  • Special Ed: Adolescence Ed (060A)

SPE798. Young Children with Disabilities. 3 Credits.
This course examines current issues, research, and best practices to support successful programming for young children with disabilities (birth to eight years) and their families.
Prerequisites:
• SPE 700 with a minimum grade of D- and SPE 701 with a minimum grade of D-
Restrictions:
• Must have the following level: Graduate
• Must have the following field(s) of study (major, minor or concentration): Special Ed: Early Childhood Ed (060E)