



Doctor of Philosophy in **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

THE PROGRAM

The **DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN SPECIAL EDUCATION** prepares graduates for leadership positions in higher education, school districts, and community agencies in the field of special education. Students work closely with their Major Professor to conduct, publish, and disseminate research; develop and teach courses; prepare grants; and, engage in service to the field. Students interested in delving into different areas of inquiry within special education (e.g. teacher education, applied behavior analysis, curriculum development, inclusive education) are invited to apply. The program is offered hybrid and accommodates full- and part-time students.

COURSES

Area 1 | Special Education Core - 12 credits

- Contemporary Trends in Special Education
- Historical, Theoretical and Legal Foundations of Special Education
- Grant Writing
- Teaching and Learning for Individuals with Disabilities

Area 2 | Specialization - 12 credits

- Students choose 4 courses in one area of focus: Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), Early Childhood Special Education, or Special Education Intervention Specialist

Area 3 | Research & Statistics - 18 - 21 credits

- Advanced Educational Research
- Advanced Educational Statistics
- Three (3) electives in Quantitative or Qualitative Method
- *Precandidacy Research

Area 4 | Doctoral Seminars in Special Education - 6 credits

- Triad of Professional Activities in Higher Education
- Course Development and College Teaching
- Professional Dissemination

Area 5 | Internship & Residency - 6-9 credits

- Doctoral Internship in Special Education
- Doctoral Residency in Special Education

Area 6 | Dissertation Research - 12 credits

- *Students complete an original dissertation study.
- Dissertation credits must be completed across a minimum of two semesters (fall and spring only), with a maximum of 6 credits within a semester.

***Students are expected to publish this research.**



561-297-3281



SpecialEd@fau.edu

How to APPLY



APPLICATION

Students are admitted for fall entry (August) only. Application deadline for domestic and international applicants: February 1st. To be considered for admission into the doctoral program in the Department of Special Education, applicants must complete a graduate application online through FAU's Graduate College at <https://www.fau.edu/graduate>. Select the option for Ph.D. in Special Education.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Domestic and International Applicants

- Meet University and College admission requirements
- Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 (in last 60 credit hours);
- Graduate of 3.0
- A minimum of two years full time experience working with/supporting individuals with disabilities
- Personal statement*
- Major Professor selection statement
- Original writing sample
- Interview, if applicable.

International Applicants - Additional Requirement

- English Proficiency. Have attained minimum English proficiency scores, in any of one the following within the last two years:
 - TOEFL 500 (paper-based test), or 213 (computer-based test), or 79 (Internet-based test).
 - ELTS score of at least 6.0.
 - Duolingo 110.

*Domestic or international applicants with less than two years' work experience, or an undergraduate or graduate GPA below 3.0, are required to address this in the personal statement.

Completed applications are forwarded to the Department of Special Education for a decision. Once applications are received from the Graduate College, students are then asked to complete the writing sample under specific conditions, and possible interview.