

**Florida Atlantic University Department of Special Education**  
**Doctoral Degree in Special Education (phd)**  
**DOCTORAL CURRICULUM PLAN: FULL-TIME STUDENTS WITH A NON-SPECIAL EDUCATION MASTER'S DEGREE**  
**4 year program**

| Year 1 (Y1)                   |  |   |  |
|-------------------------------|--|---|--|
|                               | Fall 1: 8 credits  | Spring 1: 10 credits  | Summer 1: 9 credits  |
| <b>Y1 Doctoral Coursework</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EEX 7026 Historical, Theoretical, and Legal Foundations of Special-3cr (Special Education Core 1 of 4)</li> <li>EEX 7938 Triad of Professional Activities-2cr (SPED Leadership Seminar 1 of 3)</li> <li>Specialization course-3cr (1 of 4)</li> <li>{1 cr. DIS course for students needing 9 credits}</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EEX 7025 Contemporary Trends in Special Education-3cr (Special Education Core 2 of 4)</li> <li>EEX 7938 Professional Dissemination-2cr (SPED Leadership Seminar 2 of 3)</li> <li>EEX 7938 College Teaching-2cr (SPED Leadership Seminar 3 of 3)</li> <li>Research Course-3cr (1 of 6)</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EEX 7866 Teaching and Learning for Individuals with Disabilities-3cr (Special Education Core 3 of 4)</li> <li>Research Course-3cr (2 of 6)</li> <li>Specialization course-3cr (2 of 4)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Y2 Doctoral Activities</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend Department of Special Education (DSE) Doctoral Orientation.</li> <li>Meet with Major Professor to complete the <i>Doctoral Student Planning Sheet</i></li> <li>Create curriculum vita (CV)</li> <li>Attend a DSE HOOT/Community of Learner (CoL) event</li> <li>Complete CITI Training. Inform the Major Professor of the completion and submit evidence of completion to FAU <i>Research Integrity Office</i> (Novelution) by the end of Fall 1.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete Graduate College e-POS.</li> <li>Familiarize yourself with professional journals in special education and your area(s) of focus</li> <li>Attend a DSE HOOT/Community of Learner (CoL) event</li> <li>In consultation with your Major Professor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify two or more professional organizations you may want to become a member of attend/present at their conference;</li> <li>Submit a presentation proposal to a state and/or national professional conference.</li> <li>Discuss DSE dissertation formats and have a preliminary discussion of Pre-Candidacy research.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update Curriculum vita (CV) (yearly entry)</li> <li>Think about Pre-Candidacy research, Internship, and Residency activities and prepare <i>Preliminary Pre-Candidacy, Internship, and Residency Activity Plan</i>.</li> <li>Complete credentialing process for Teaching Internship.</li> <li>Suggested change</li> <li>Consult with your Major Professor to submit FL-CEC presentation proposal</li> </ul> |

Special Education Core Courses are offered online, synchronous or asynchronous, full semester.

SPED Leadership Seminars are offered online, synchronous, and fast-track (8 weeks).

Research courses not within the DSE department; they may be offered in a variety of delivery formats.

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|                               |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete the department's annual evaluation of doctoral students.</li> </ul>   |  |
| <b>Year 2 (Y2)</b>            |   |   |  |
|                               | <b>Fall 2: 9 credits</b>  | <b>Spring 2: 6-9 credits</b>  | <b>Summer 2: 9 credits</b>   |
| <b>Y2 Doctoral Coursework</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EEX 7526 Grant Writing-3cr (Special Education Core 4 of 4)</li> <li>Research Course-3cr (3 of 6)</li> <li>EEX 7945 Doctoral Internship-3cr Internship &amp; Residency</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EEX 7918 Pre-Candidacy Research-3 to 6 cr Research Course (4 of 6)</li> <li>Research Course-3cr (5 of 6)</li> <li>Specialization course-3cr (3 of 4)</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research Course -3cr (6 of 6)</li> <li>Specialization course -3cr (4 of 4)</li> <li>EEX 7982 Doctoral Residency-3cr Internship &amp; Residency</li> </ul> |
| <b>Y2 Doctoral Activities</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In consultation with Major Professor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>plan Candidacy research. Prepare and submit Pre-Candidacy research Institutional Review Board (IRB) application, if applicable.</li> <li>plan Internship activities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Lead a DSE HOOT/CoL presentation-contact HOOT Coordinator</li> <li>Consider attending TEC-CEC &amp; FL-CEC</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In consultation with Major Professor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>select dissertation committee members/comprehensive exam readers and finalize dissertation format.</li> <li>discuss and finalize plan for Residency activities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Meet with dissertation committee members/comprehensive exam readers, to prepare for the Doctoral Comprehensive Exam.</li> <li>Be a guest speaker in at least one DSE undergraduate or master's course</li> <li>Consider attending the National CEC Conference.</li> <li>Complete the department's annual evaluation of doctoral students.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct Residency Activities.</li> <li>Read for comps - Start narrowing your dissertation focus</li> </ul>  |

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| Year 3 (Y3)                   |   |   |  |
|-------------------------------|---|---|--|
|                               | Fall 3: 1 credit  | Spring 3: 3 credits   | Summer 3   |
| <b>Y2 Doctoral Coursework</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EEX 7906 Directed Independent Study- Dissertation Prospectus Preparation -1cr.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EEX 7980 – 3cr Dissertation</li> </ul>   |  |
| <b>Y3 Doctoral Activities</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete Doctoral Comprehensive Exam (October)</li> <li>Develop and submit Dissertation study IRB application (if applicable).</li> <li>Meet with Major Professor to finalize prospectus.</li> <li>Finalize Prospectus.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Defend Dissertation Prospectus by the end of January.</li> <li>Have IRB ready to submit <b>after</b> you successfully defend proposal.</li> <li>Begin to conduct dissertation research</li> <li>Complete the department’s annual evaluation of doctoral students.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue dissertation research</li> </ul> |
| Year (Y4)                     |   |   |  |
|                               | Fall 4: 3-6 credits   | Spring 4: 3-6 credits   |  |
| <b>Y4 Doctoral Coursework</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dissertation: EEX 7980 – 3-6 6cr</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dissertation: EEX 7980 – 3-6cr</li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>Y4 Doctoral Activities</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct dissertation research</li> <li>Analyze results and write final dissertation document.</li> <li>If applicable, request letters of recommendation for job applications</li> <li>If applicable, organize materials for submission for jobs (transcripts, vita, application letter drafted, presentation of research, course you could teach)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyze results and write the final dissertation document.</li> <li>Defend dissertation.</li> <li>Complete FAU graduation requirements.</li> <li>Graduate!</li> <li>Complete the department’s annual evaluation of doctoral students.</li> </ul>                             |  |

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