

MASTER OF ARTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Masters of Arts (MA) in Special Education is designed for a broad range of professionals (e.g., general or special education teachers, graduates in related fields) to provide in-depth learning and experiences related to supporting children and adults with disabilities and at risk for learning and behavioral difficulties.

The MA program provides programs of study in three specialization areas with nationally known faculty researchers: 1) School-Wide Positive Behavior Supports positive behavior supports, 2) Literacy Supports, and 3) Transition and Postsecondary supports. Students may also design an individualized program of study in collaboration with their advisor.

The MA in Special Education is for special or general educators who:

- Want advanced specialized knowledge and skills in positive behavioral supports, literacy supports, or transition and postsecondary supports;
- Are interested in increasing the breadth and depth of their knowledge and skills in supporting the increasingly diverse learning needs of students in today's classrooms;
- Want to support all students, including students with disabilities and at risk for learning and/or behavior difficulties, in a variety of classroom settings within a Response to Intervention (a.k.a. SRBI in CT) framework.

SPECIFIC AREAS OF INTEREST

For information about specific areas of interest, please contact the following respective faculty.

School-Wide Positive Behavior Supports

Dr. Brandi Simonsen, Assoc. Professor
Phone: (860) 486-2763
E-mail: brandi.simonsen@uconn.edu

Literacy Supports

Dr. Natalie Olinghouse, Assoc. Professor
Phone: (860) 486-6153
E-mail: natalie.olinghouse@uconn.edu

Transition and Postsecondary Services for Students with Disabilities

Dr. Allison Lombardi, Assist. Professor
Phone: (860) 486-2213
E-mail: allison.lombardi@uconn.edu

Master of Arts: General Studies in Special Education

Dr. Allison Lombardi, Assist. Professor
Phone: (860) 486-2213
E-mail: allison.lombardi@uconn.edu

Please Note: The Master of Arts in Special Education does not lead to initial certification or cross endorsement.

REQUIRED COURSES

EPSY 5119	Policy, Law, and Ethics in Special Education
EPSY 5121	Developmental Foundations of Exceptionality
EPSY 5092	Practicum (3-6 credits)
EPSY 5601	Principles and Methods in Educational Research (or equivalent)

SAMPLE ADDITIONAL COURSES

EPSY 5108	Instruction for Students with Special Needs in the Mainstream
EPSY 5113	Beginning Reading Supports for Students with Learning Difficulties
EPSY 5114	Adolescent Reading Supports for Students with Learning Difficulties
EPSY 5115	Writing Supports for Students with Learning Difficulties
EPSY 5116	Individual Pupil Assessment
EPSY 5123	Instructional Strategies and Adaptations for Students with Special Learning Needs
EPSY 5140	Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities
EPSY 5141	Classroom and Behavior Management
EPSY 5142	Individualized Positive Behavior Supports
EPSY 5145	Issues in Postsecondary Disability Services
EPSY 5220	Introduction to Educational Technology
EPSY 5405	Applied Behavior Analysis

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

All students seeking the Master of Arts Degree in Special Education must be formally admitted to the Master's Program in Education through the University's Graduate School.

The following elements are considered for admission to the Master's Program in Special Education:

- Undergraduate and/or graduate grade point average (ordinarily 3.0 or above on a 4-point scale).
- 3 Strong letters of recommendation.
- Personal statement indicating:
 - Professional goals;
 - Area of interest based on specializations listed above; and
 - Explanation of experience with and demonstrated commitment to children and/or adults with disabilities or children at-risk for failure

For **application materials**, please contact:

Graduate School Office of Admissions
University of Connecticut
438 Whitney Road Ext., Unit 1006A
Storrs, CT 06269-1006
Phone: (860) 486-3617

Or visit their website at www.grad.uconn.edu

Application deadlines are:

October 31st for Spring Semester
February 15th for Fall Semester

For information on initial teacher licensure please contact:

Teacher Certification Program for College Graduates (TCPCG)
<https://teachered.education.uconn.edu/tcpcg-overview/>

The University of Connecticut's Master's Program in Special Education encourages applications by students from traditionally underrepresented groups.

The mailing address for all faculty is as follows:

University of Connecticut
Neag School of Education
Department of Educational Psychology
249 Glenbrook Road, Unit 3064
Storrs, CT 06269-3064

This publication is available in alternate format upon request. For alternate format or any additional information, please contact:

Dr. Allison Lombardi, Assist. Prof.
Department of Educational Psychology
University of Connecticut
249 Glenbrook Road, Unit 3064
Storrs, CT 06269-3064

E-mail: allison.lombardi@uconn.edu



Masters in Educational Psychology with A Concentration in Special Education

Tailored for your specific professional goals:

- ✓ Specialization in School-Wide Positive Behavior Supports
- ✓ Specialization in Literacy Supports
- ✓ Specialization in Postsecondary Education or Students with Disabilities
- ✓ General Studies in Special Education

University of Connecticut
Department of Educational Psychology
Neag School of Education
249 Glenbrook Road, Unit 3064
Storrs, CT 06269-3064

<http://specialed.education.uconn.edu/>