Special Education, M.A. (LBS I)

Overview
The field of special education is a diverse collection of academic, social, and physical support services to assist the exceptional child, such as those individuals with disabilities and/or gifts and talents. The Master of Arts in Special Education (LBS I) Program prepares the special education teacher to work diligently to transform the lives of students with disabilities. This graduate program develops professionals who are new to teaching and those who are already licensed but seeking a master’s degree. Candidates graduate with the ability to work effectively with students across a wide range of disabilities (K-12) in public and private school settings. Our program provides initial teaching licensure with endorsement in special education (LBS I) from an accredited institution.

Credit hours required: 47

Program of Study

Block I:
- SPED-500 Research I: Critical Writing and Research in Special Education (3 cr.)
- SPED-501 Development and Characteristics of Children and Youth with Disabilities (3 cr.)
- SPED-502 Development of Cognition, Learning and Language (3 cr.)
- SPED-503 Historical, Philosophical and Legal Foundations (3 cr.)
- SPED-504 Assessment I: Principles of Educational Assessment in Special Education (4 cr.)

Block II:
- SPED-506 Instructional and Assistive Technology in Special Education (3 cr.)
- SPED-509 Methods I: Specialized Curriculum & Methods in Special Education (3 cr.)
- LTCY-402 Issues in Reading Instruction (3 cr.)
- SPED-507 Internship I: Assessing and Teaching Individuals with Mild to Moderate Disabilities (2 cr.)

Block III:
- SPED-505 Consultation and Collaboration: Special and Regular Education (3 cr.)
- SPED-508 Methods II: General Curriculum & Methods in Special Education (3 cr.)
- SPED-511 Alternative Programming and Curriculum in Special Education (3 cr.)
- SPED-512 Internship II: Assessing and Teaching Individuals with Moderate to Severe Disabilities (2 cr.)

Block IV:
- SPED-510 Strategies of Behavior Management (3 cr.)
- SPED-520 Assessment Lab: Applied Diagnostic Assessment (2 cr.)
- SPED-516 Professional Development of the Special Educator (1 cr.)
- SPED-514A Student Teaching in Special Education (3 cr.)
- OR SPED-514B Applied Diagnostic Teaching in Special Education (for licensed teachers only)

Careers
Graduates of the MA-LBS I program are prepared to teach children and youth with special needs from grades K to 12 across a wide range of disabilities in public and private school settings. Our graduates secure jobs all over the state and elsewhere in the country. School administrators actively seek to hire our special education teacher graduates. The special education teacher is one of the fastest growing occupations in the state of Illinois.

Admissions
Applicants must meet the general requirements for admission to the College of Graduate Studies and Research. Additionally, candidates are required to fulfill the following requirements:
1) One of the following: A passing score on the ILTS- Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP), or a composite ACT Plus Writing score of 22, or a composite SAT score of 1030.
2) Spontaneous writing sample and/or interview at the discretion of the Department
GRE: Not required

Attending Northeastern
- Classes are offered during the late afternoon and evening hours to accommodate professionals working full-time
- Students may attend either part-time or full-time
- Current in-state graduate tuition is less than $400 per credit hour (tuition & fees)
- Financial support: Financial aid (loans), merit tuition scholarships, and graduate assistantships are often available to help fund your graduate education. Contact us for further details.

Contact Us
Give us a call: (773) 442-6001
Email us: graduateadmissions@neiu.edu
Visit us at the Graduate Admissions office:
M–Th: 8:30 a.m.–7 p.m. Fri: 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
5500 North St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625
Room D-101D
Visit our website: www.neiu.edu/graduatestudies

Subject to change. See current University catalog for up-to-date information.

Newsweek magazine has named Northeastern Illinois University the Sixth Best Investment among all universities in the nation and number one in Illinois.