

**The University of Arizona**  
Disability and Psychoeducational Studies

**COURSE OUTLINE FOR TEACHERS OF VISUALLY IMPAIRED STUDENTS SPECIALIZATION**

*Core Courses in Special Education*

Course	Credits	Semester Plan to Take	Semester Completed	Grade
Prerequisite SERP 400 Survey of Exceptionality	3			
SERP 503 Special Services in Schools	3			
SERP 556 Research Methods in Education	3			
SERP 504 Cultural and Linguistic Diversity in Exceptional Learners (offered Fall only) or LRC 516 Structured English Immersion	3			

*Teacher of the Visually Impaired Core Requirements*

SERP 521 Introduction to Visual Impairments and Deaf-Blindness	3			
SERP 520 Low Vision and Visual Functioning	3			
SERP 524 Methods of Teaching the Visually Impaired	3			
SERP 522 Orientation & Mobility for Teachers of Individuals with Visual Impairments	3			
SERP 523a Braille I	3			
SERP 523b Braille II	3			
*SERP 575 Observation and Participation in Special Education Programs	3			
SERP 593 Internship	8			

\*May be waived for students with 3 years of teaching experience or at adviser's discretion.

Students must also take 3 credits in Teaching of Reading if they have not previously taken this course.

**Master's students will select one of three areas of specialization****1. Low vision specialization***Courses*

SERP 519c Advanced Low Vision (2 credits)

504-704 Low Vision Assessment and Intervention Internship (SALUS University)

*Internship*

Teacher candidates who select the low vision track will complete 100 hours of their internship at the Desert Low Vision Clinic or with the Arizona State Schools for Deaf and Blind (ASDB) low vision program.

**2. Students with multiple disabilities***Two courses selected from*

SERP 464 Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders (3 credits)

SERP 518 Augmentative Communication for Learners with Severe and Multiple Disabilities (3)

SERP 513 Assessing and Educating Students with Intellectual and Severe Disabilities (3)

*Internship:* Teacher candidates who specialize in multiple disabilities will complete at least five weeks in an education setting that services students with severe and multiple disabilities in Tucson Unified School District, Sunnyside School District, or Arizona Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

**3. Post-secondary transition***Two courses selected from*

SERP 568 Transition Methods (3 credits) (University of Arizona)

ESE 504 Methods and Materials in Special Education—Transition to work (Northern Arizona)

ESE 509 Foundations of Special Education—Adolescent Transitioning (Northern Arizona)

*Internship:* Teacher candidates who select the transition track will complete 100 hours of their internship at the Southern Arizona Association for the Visually Impaired (SAAVI) “Steppin’ Out” program, designed for post-high school graduates to develop their skills in independent living, assistive technology, orientation and mobility, job readiness, and post-secondary education.

**Teaching certificate requirements**

If you are not certified as a teacher in Arizona, you will be required to:

- Complete a course in Structured English Immersion. If you take LRC 516 at The University of Arizona, this will count as an elective in your Master's program.
- Take an Arizona/U.S. Constitution course within three years of obtaining your initial certificate.
- Take and pass the AEPA Elementary Professional Knowledge exam in Elementary Education (91) and the Special Education Exam in Visually Impaired (32) unless you are earning a Master's degree in Visual Impairment from The University of Arizona.

Upon completion of your program, you will apply for an Institutional Recommendation for a teaching certificate by obtaining an application from the Dean's Office in the College of Education.