

Pursue Your Potential

with Cross Cats!

The Cross-Categorical K-12 Special Education Teacher Preparation Program prepares you to work with K-12 students with mild to moderate disabilities in the areas of learning disabilities, mental retardation, and emotional and behavioral disorders.

The 60-credit program – in our Department of Disability and Psychoeducational Studies – leads to the bachelor of science degree in special education and includes three semesters of coursework, culminating in a one-semester supervised internship with a certified special-education teacher.

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College
of
Education



1 Build relationships and share experiences with fellow students

All admitted students begin the program together, take coursework together, intern together, and finish together! Small cohort sizes allow students to develop close working and mentoring relationships with each other and with the faculty. This model provides maximum support to students and helps build professional networks. Students enter as a cohort twice each year, in the fall and spring semesters.

2 Real-life practice

College of Education students observe and interact with students with disabilities in public-school settings and meet regularly for seminars on topics such as classroom management and technology for students with disabilities.



3 15-week internship

The internship is an intensive 15-week period of full days in an approved special-education setting. Interns work with a student population in which a minimum of three disability categories are represented. Student teachers receive biweekly visits from a UA supervisor, as well as regularly scheduled seminars to discuss their experiences.

4 Professional portfolio

Students also complete a standards-based, professional teaching portfolio, documenting their mastery of teaching competencies and standards across the 15-week internship.

Your advisor

Upon admission, you will be linked with an advisor in the College of Education Office of Student Services. Keep in touch with your advisor and schedule regular appointments to review your program prior to registration each semester.

Dual degrees and licensure

Some cross-categorical K-12 special-education students also pursue an elementary education degree, including the additional courses and an internship in an elementary classroom. Contact your advisor for more information about this option.

Graduation and beyond

For information about graduation and licensure requirements, check with your assigned advisor. Information about the licensure application process also is available in the Department of Disability and Psychoeducational Studies.

Admission

The cross-categorical program is competitive. Only 25 to 30 students are admitted each academic year.

For more information, please contact Program Coordinator Betty Carlson at 520-626-0441 or bettyc@u.arizona.edu.

Before you meet with an advisor, be sure to take the online general information session at coe.arizona.edu/gis.