**Emphasis - Special Education**

- Ed.S. in Curriculum and Instruction
- Emphasis - Special Education

**Ed.S. in Curriculum and Instruction**

**Description**
The Ed.S. degree provides students with educational development beyond the master's level. Graduates may pursue this degree to obtain additional credentials or as a step while deciding whether to work for a doctoral degree. Specialist's degree candidates address national board standards with special emphasis on lifelong learning and development of leadership skills.

**Minimum Total Credit Hours: 30**

**Goals/Mission Statement**
The philosophy of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, as it applies to the preparation of teachers, is reflected by the belief that teachers should be prepared to: - Develop and engage in appropriate teaching strategies by studying, interacting, practicing, and reflecting; - Collaborate in identifying and meeting the broad range of goals for which schools are responsible in today’s society; - Show by modeling and encouraging students the dispositions of leading, thinking, problem solving, and lifelong learning; - Respect and serve culturally diverse populations and communities; and - Assume responsibility for the quality and effectiveness of their professional lives.

**Course Requirements**
The Ed.S. degree requires 30 semester hours of course work beyond the master's level. Students must complete an emphasis in either elementary, secondary, or special education. The requirements include a set of foundation courses, a set of specialization requirements (in either elementary, secondary, or special education), and a selection of emphasis area and elective courses.

**Other Academic Requirements**
Specialist's candidates must complete a minimum of 65 hours of approved field experiences and submit a scholarly paper to a refereed journal.

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**Course Requirements**
Requirements for the Ed.S. with emphasis in special education include foundation requirements (18 hours), Edci 601, Edrs 605, Edci 658, Edrs 501, Edci 557, Educ 555; specialization requirements (12 hours), Edsp 674 and Edsp 651, with the remaining 12 hours (6 from the emphasis area and 6 general electives) being electives that must be approved by the candidate's adviser. Total hours in the special education Ed.S. program are 36.