

ONLINE MASTER OF ARTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION



A NEW WAY TO LEARN – A NEW WAY TO TEACH

An online special education master's degree for the modern classroom

Special education isn't just for special education teachers anymore. The online Master of Arts in Special Education from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota will provide you with the skills and experience to turn your classroom into an inclusive learning environment for students of all ability levels. With more special needs students learning in mainstream classrooms, expertise in special education is no longer a specialty – it's a necessity.

What you can do with a Saint Mary's online Master of Arts in Special Education:

- Create a more inclusive classroom environment for students across the entire educational continuum.
- Become an authority on special education strategies and research at your school.
- Understand the unique needs of students with learning disabilities, emotional/behavioral disorders and other exceptionalities.
- Get an accredited master's degree from a top-rated university at an affordable price.

- Enrich your teaching career with new skills that give you greater career flexibility.
- Learn with the latest mobile technology that is revolutionizing the special education profession.
- Learners who hold a Minnesota teaching license may choose to complete additional requirements to be eligible to apply for Minnesota licensure for Learning Disabilities (LD) and/or Emotional or Behavioral Disorders (EBD).
- When you complete the online Master of Arts in Special Education program at Saint Mary's University, you will be prepared to work with learners who receive special education services for specific learning disabilities and/or emotional or behavioral disorders.

A TOUCH OF CLASS

Saint Mary's powerful iPad app puts coursework right at your fingertips

Online Master of Arts in Special Education students at Saint Mary's University receive an iPad at no additional cost. That iPad – combined with Saint Mary's custom coursework app – is your gateway to a highly interactive online education. Through the app, you can organize and complete assignments, compile research and chat with fellow students and professors. It's perfect for busy, working teachers.

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THE MASTER'S IN SPECIAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM

The M.A. in Special Education is a 36-credit program. If you select both exceptionality areas, the program is 42-credits. The program includes core courses complemented by classes covering specific exceptionalities and graduate-level research strategies.

CORE COURSES	CREDITS
EDSE 600 Orientation	0
EDSE 631 Foundations of Special Education	3
EDSE 632 Survey of Learners with Exceptionalities	3
EDUC 539 Scientifically Based Reading Instruction (K-6)	3
EDSE 634 Assistive Technology, Instruction & Interventions	3
EDSE 635 Behavior Theories	3
EDSE 636 Assessment & Evaluation of Learners with Exceptionalities	3
EDSE 637 The Individual Education Process	3
EDSE 638 Transition and Collaboration	3

EXCEPTIONALITY-SPECIFIC COURSES	CREDITS
EDSE 641 Characteristics: Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	3
EDSE 642 Strategies and Assessment: Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	3
EDSE 651 Characteristics: Learning Disabilities	3
EDSE 652 Strategies and Assessment: Learning Disabilities	3

MASTER OF ARTS COMPLETION COURSES	CREDITS
EDSE 698 Research Methods	3
EDSE 699 Action Research in Special Education	3

Please note: Students seeking to be prepared for licensure in Minnesota will need to complete additional coursework, practicums, and field experience.

*Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition, special education teachers, <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/education-training-and-library/special-education-teachers.htm> (accessed April 30, 2013).

CAREER FLEXIBILITY IS THE NEW STABILITY

Learning never stops – it rings true for students, and it's never been more true for teachers. The modern education profession values continuing education and professional development, and the online Master of Arts in Special Education from Saint Mary's University will help you stay at the forefront of a successful teaching career.

Consider these career statistics from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics*:

- Of all education professions, teachers with special education credentials are expected to see the most aggressive job growth – as high as 21 percent – in the next several years
- Projected job growth for preschool, kindergarten and elementary school teachers with special education credentials is 50 percent higher than the national average for all occupations
- At all levels – kindergarten, elementary, middle and high school – the Labor Statistics Bureau expects job growth for teachers with special education experience to be higher than for those without

THE SAINT MARY'S ADVANTAGE

Here are just a few of the many reasons why Saint Mary's University is the best place to earn your online Master of Arts in Special Education:

- **Our long history:** A private Lasallian Catholic university, Saint Mary's was established in 1912
- **A heritage of innovation:** The University has been at the forefront of change and technology in education, most recently with the iPad app that brings your classes wherever you are
- **Highly ranked:** The University has been recognized by *U.S. News & World Report*, the *Princeton Review* and *Forbes* as one of the top universities in the United States
- **Convenience and choice:** Classes are offered online and on the ground in campuses in Minnesota and Wisconsin
- **Accreditation:** Saint Mary's is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
- Lower tuition rates make a Saint Mary's master's degree more affordable and more convenient