

ACADEMIC LEARNING PLAN

Exceptional Student Education, M.A.

Special Education Specialization

Mission Statement

The mission of the School of Education is to prepare students to become empowered professionals making a difference. Programs are designed to provide students with knowledge, opportunities to take action, and leadership skills in order to produce graduates who are decision makers, problem solvers, critical thinkers, lifelong learners, counselors/mentors, and ethical moral professionals.

Student Learning Outcomes

UWF ESE Special Education M.A. graduates should be able to do the following:

Content

- Analyze evidence-based instructional strategies designed to reduce learning barriers and increase engagement and learning for students with diverse learning needs.

Critical Thinking

- Systematically evaluate peer-reviewed research evidence for approaches and strategies designed to serve students with diverse learning needs.

Communication

- Develop logical, well-reasoned arguments to guide future curriculum, instructional, and assessment practices.

Integrity/Values

- Use data and culturally responsive teaching practices to create equitable learning experiences for all students..

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the program have completed the verified course sequence required to apply for the From the beginning of their studies, master's degree students develop content knowledge, engage in critical thinking activities, communicate with their classmates and professors both orally and in writing, engage in self-reflection, enhance their professional behaviors, learn to manage increasingly complex projects, and

refine their interactions related to diverse populations. The knowledge, skills, and dispositions that they develop culminate in the action research capstone experience. Thus, this experience becomes the primary assessment tool in identifying success with the Student Learning Outcomes. Students work individually or in small groups to identify an education problem; Research that problem in the current literature; Design a study; Collect and analyze data related to the design; And then report the findings. The experience is considered 04/11/2022 successful if the student is able to produce a project acceptable to his faculty mentor who is teaching the action research course. The SLOs are integrated into individual course activities, “critical tasks,” and are assessed through common rubrics. Progress on the SLOs are monitored through TEEL Assessment and Reporting System. Collective data are used to track individual student’s achievement of the SLOs and Conceptual Framework Outcomes. These data are aggregated and used in programmatic continuous improvement to affect policy, initial broad curricular changes as needed, and to modify individual course activities and assessments

Job Prospects for ESE Special Education Graduates

Florida, the 4th largest school system in the nation, comprises over 4,000 public schools situated in 67 public school districts. With a current annual enrollment of almost three million students, Florida continues to have a tremendous need for highly qualified teachers, including a critical need in the areas of mathematics, science, reading, technology, and exceptional student education. The Exceptional Student Education: Applied Behavioral Analysis, M.A. is designed to enhance the professional skills and knowledge of special educators in the classroom as well as to help them advance their careers in agencies and private settings.

Find out more about Exceptional Student Education – Special Education at UWF:

<https://onlinedegrees.uwf.edu/online-degrees/ma-masters-special-education/>