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PROGRAM/DEGREE REQUIREMENT CHANGE INFORMATION

SUBMITTER KEY:

Department	Special Education	College/Center/School	School of Education
Prepared by	Janet Monahan	Faculty Contact	
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See <http://www.uaf.edu/collegeofeducation> for a complete description of the program.

PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION:

DEGREE PROGRAM	M. Ed. in Special Education
Degree Level	M.Ed.

A. CHANGE IN DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: (Include statement of proposed degree changes and justifications)

1. Reword catalog entry for the M. Ed. in Special Education to be eligible for degree requirements for teachers from those for students seeking initial teacher certification in special education.
2. Add a second course for Special Education Clinical Practice for students in the initial teaching program: EDSE F678 Special Education Clinical Practice Initial.

B. CURRENT REQUIREMENTS AS IT APPEARS IN THE CATALOG:

Master of Education in Special Education

Prepares K-12 special educators at the graduate level with specific training in the areas of diagnosis, assessment, intervention strategies, current law and the implementation of programs including development of legally defensible federal IDEA documents. Graduates will have mastery of the Council for Exceptional Children standards for special education teachers; foundations in special education, development and characteristics of learners, individual learning differences, instructional strategies, learning environments and social interactions, communication, instructional planning, assessment, and professional and ethical practice.

The program will provide individuals who already possess or are eligible for a current Alaska teaching certificate or a bachelor's degree with the necessary prerequisites and specific training in the area of special education. The program prepares K-12 special education teachers who can effectively understand state and national education issues and respond appropriately to those that are specific to Alaska's special education candidates will progress through a series of developmentally sequenced field experiences for all ages, times and levels. Graduates will have the opportunity to work with students in the program and provide services of being able to meet the national Council for Exceptional Children content standards for beginning Special Education teacher level.

The program, which shares a strong common core and the same credit requirements with the special education M.Ed. programs at UAF and UAS, provides development in content and instructional models and program development in multicultural settings. Completion of this program meets requirements for Alaska licensure as a K-12 special education teacher.

Program Requirements:

1. Complete the following:
 1. Admission requirements for the master of education degree.
 2. Current teaching certificate or a current Alaska teacher certificate or a relevant state equivalent.

- i. Current of recent employment of minimum of 17 hours in an educational setting with children experiencing disabilities with a recommendation from their supervisor.
- ii. Applicant must have these courses or comparable transfer courses being following within the last 5 years:
 - ED F245--Child Development--3 credits
 - ED F201--Introduction to Education (3)
 - or EDSC E 255--Introduction to Student Teacher Education (3) Education (3)
 - or EDSC F415--Foundations of Modern Educational Practice (3)
 - or ED F624--Foundations of Education in Alaska: From Discovery to Standards--3 credits
- iv. An Alaska studies course approved by an Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Office of Teacher Education and Certification...
- v. A multicultural or education/cross-cultural communication course approved by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Office of Teacher Education and Certification.
- vi. Passing scores on the Praxis I or another test acceptable to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development before or during the first semester of classes. Acceptable scores are:
 - Praxis I--Writing 172, Reading 175, Math 173
 - or WEST-B: Writing 240, Reading 240, Math 240
 Passing score on the following Praxis I subtests during or during the first semester of classes:
 - 0014--Elementary Content Knowledge: Minimum score 143.
 - and 0041 English Content Knowledge: Minimum score 158
 - and/or 0061 Math Content Knowledge: Minimum score 116

2. All prerequisite courses must be completed with a minimum final grade of "C" in order to progress to the 600-level graduate certification courses. Once all prerequisite courses and requirements have been met, and the applicant completed the requirements of graduate school admission, the applicant will be formally admitted to the special education graduate program.

3. All students not possessing a current Alaska teacher certificate are required to complete the following:

1. All applicants (certified and non-certified) must complete the following:
 - EDSE F482--Introduction to All Children or have a comparable transfer course from another institution.

4. Complete the general university requirements.
5. Complete the M.Ed. degree requirements.
6. Complete the following:
 - EDSE F610--Assessment of Students With Disabilities--3 credits
 - EDSE F612--Curriculum and Strategies for Low Incidence--3 credits
 - EDSE F622--Curriculum and Strategies in High Incidence--2 credits
 - EDSE F632--Special Education Law: Principles and Practices--3 credits
7. Complete two of the following:
 - EDSE F625--Teaching Mathematics to Special Learners (3)

or EDSE F605--Early Childhood Special Education (3)
or EDSE F677--Reading Assessment, Curriculum, and Strategies--3 credits

8. Complete two of the following:
EDSE F624--Social/Emotional Development, Assessment and Intervention (3)
or EDSE F633--Autism: Communication and Social Disorders (3)
or EDSE F640--Collaboration and Collaboration in Schools (3)
or EDSE F642--Autism and Asperger Syndrome: Social and Behavioral Issues (3)

9. Complete the following courses:
EDSE F680--Clinical Practice (3 credits) Alaska credit or 6 credits in certification
Special Education (3) 3 credits
EDSE F601--Introduction to Applied Social Science Research--3 credits
EDSE F603--Field Study Research Methods--3 credits

10. Minimum credits required***--36 credits

* Additional fee required. Charges are added to fee statements every semester.

** Students pursuing a K-12 special education certificate must complete clinical practice and placements in a public school setting.

*** 36 credits with Alaska Teacher license or 39 without Alaska Teacher license

Note: UAA also requires that the Praxis II elementary or content knowledge test for the content area for secondary candidates be passed before they will issue a professional teaching certificate. We recommend that candidates for the UAA program pass the Praxis II test as a prerequisite for the program. Completion of this program meets the requirements for the teaching core classes for students who qualify for special education at the secondary level.

**C. PROPOSED REQUIREMENTS AS IT WILL APPEAR IN THE CATALOG WITH THESE CHANGES:
(Underline new wording strike through old wording and use complete catalog format)**

Master of Education in Special Education

Prepares K-12 special education teachers to use appropriate assessment, intervention strategies, current law and the implementation of programs including development of legally defensible IEP documents. Graduates understand the characteristics of learners; individual learning differences; instructional strategies; learning environments; social interactions; communication; instructional planning; assessment; and professional and leadership.

The program will provide individuals who are already possess or are engaged in a bachelors in Alaska and a teaching certificate or bachelors degree with the necessary prerequisites with specific training in the area of special education. The program prepares K-12 special education teachers who can effectively understand state and national education issues and respond appropriately to those that are specific to Alaska. Special education candidates will progress through a series of developmentally sequenced new experiences for all ages, types and levels of abilities and collaborative opportunities. All those who complete the program will provide evidence of being able to meet the national Council for Exceptional Children standards for a special education teacher.

The program, which shares a strong common core with the same credit requirements with the special education M.Ed. programs at UAA and UAS, provides development in collaboration/consultation models and program development in multicultural settings. Completion of this program meets requirements for Alaska licensure as a K-12 special education teacher.

Program Requirements

1. Complete the following admission requirements:

1. Admission requirements for the master of education program.

2. Current teaching certificate and eligibility for a current Alaska teacher certificate or

Baccalaureate degree with the following prerequisites:

- i. Current or recent experience (minimum of 12 hours) in an educational setting with children experiencing disabilities with a recommendation from their supervisor.
- ii. Applicants must have these courses or comparable advisor courses to determine equivalency within the last 5 years:
 - iii. ED F245 Child Development 3 credits
 - ED F201 Introduction to Education (3)
 - or EDSC F205 Introduction to Secondary Education (3)
 - or EDSC F415 Foundations of Modern Educational Practice (3)
 - or ED F2524 Foundations of Education in Alaska for Early Childhood to Standards 3 credits
- iv. An Alaska studies course approved by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Office of Teacher Education and Certification.
- v. A multicultural education/cross-cultural communication course approved by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Office of Teacher Education and Certification.
- vi. Passing scores on the Praxis for another test acceptable to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development before or during the first semester of classes. Acceptable scores are:
Praxis I - Writing 174; Reading 175; Math 173
CBEST: 23, no individual score less than 7
WEST B: Writing 240, Reading 240, Math 240
Passing scores on the following Praxis II before or during the first semester of classes:
0014 Elementary Content Knowledge: Minimum score 143
— and 0041 English Content Knowledge: Minimum score 150
— and/or 0061 Math Content Knowledge: Minimum score 116

2. All prerequisite courses must be completed at a minimum final grade of "C" in order to progress to the 600 level graduate certification courses. Once the prerequisite course and testing requirements have been met, and the applicants complete the requirements of graduate school admission, applicants will be formally admitted to the special education graduate certification program and can begin taking 600 level courses.

3. All students not possessing a current Alaska teacher certificate are required to take six weeks of clinical practice. Clinical practice courses are taken the first time of a student's first semester of graduate school. Students must apply for authorization from the state of Alaska. This includes fingerprinting and a background check. Fingerprinting and background checks must be completed before the clinical practice application is submitted to the state. The clinical practice requirement is completed with the requirement, satisfaction of an affidavit, or evidence of a criminal conviction that is named in the Professional Teaching Practices Commission (PTPC) is considered an ethics violation. This will result in limited access to the field in Alaska School Districts. Authorization is required before clinical practice can begin.

1. All applicants (certified and non-certified) must complete the following requirements:
EDSE F102 - Introduction to Special Education 3 credits
another institution in the last 5 years 3 credits

4. Complete the bench mark requirements:

5. Complete the M.Ed. degree requirements.

6. Complete the following:

- EDSE F610 - Assessment of Students with Disabilities 3 credits
- EDSE F612 - Curriculum and Strategies I: Low Incidence 3 credits
- EDSE F627 - Curriculum and Strategies II: High Incidence 3 credits
- EDSE F632 - Special Education Law: Principles and Practices 3 credits

7. Complete two of the following:

- EDSE F625—Cognitive Foundations of Special Education (3)
- or EDSE F605—Early Childhood Special Education (3)
- or EDSE F677—

8. Complete two of the following:

- EDSE F624—Social/Emotional Development, Assessment and Intervention (3)
- or EDSE F633—Autism: Communication and Social Disorders (3)
- or EDSE F640—Collaboration and Consultative Methods (3)
- or EDSE F642—Autism and Asperger Syndrome: Social and Behavioral Issues (3) 3 credits

9. Complete the following courses:

- EDSE F630—Clinical Teacher Experiences and a practicum or 6 credits under the Special Education Portfolio** 3 credits
- EDSE F601—Introduction to Applied Social Science Research 3 credits
- EDSE F603—Field Study-Research Methods 3 credits

10. Minimum credits required: ** 26 credits

* Additional fee required. Changes are added to fee statements every semester.

** 6 credits are required for candidates who are currently employed in a public-school setting.

*** 36 credits with Alaska Teacher License or 30 without Alaska Teacher License

Note: DEED also requires that all candidates for elementary content knowledge (0011) or secondary content knowledge (0012) must complete 0041 English Content Knowledge or 0046 Math Content Knowledge as a prerequisite completed by the first semester of enrollment. Districts want teacher candidates have 0041 or 0046 completed before they will issue a professional teaching certificate. We recommend having 0041 English Content Knowledge or 0046 Math Content Knowledge as a prerequisite completed by the first semester of enrollment. Districts want teacher candidates have 0041 or 0046 completed before they will issue a professional teaching certificate for students who are currently employed in a public-school setting.

Program Requirements for Certified Teachers

1. Complete the following admission requirements:

- a. Admission requirements for the graduate program
- b. Current Alaska teaching certificate or equivalent coursework towards Alaska teaching certificate.

2. Prerequisite: EDSE F482--Inclusive Classroom for All Children or comparable transfer course from another institution--3 credits

3. Complete the general university requirements.

4. Complete the M.Ed. degree requirements.

5. Complete the following:

- EDSE F610--Assessment of Students with Disabilities--3 credits
- EDSE F612--Curriculum and Strategies I: Low incidence--3 credits
- EDSE F627--Curriculum and Strategies II: High incidence--3 credits
- EDSE F633--Special Education Law, Principles and Practices--3 credits

6. Complete one or the following:

- EDSE F605--Early Childhood Special Education (3)
- or EDSE F677--Reading Assessment, Curriculum and Strategies--3 credits

7. Complete one of the following:

- EDSE F624--Social/Emotional Development, Assessment and Intervention (3)
- or EDSE F633--Autism: Communication and Social Disorders (3)
- or EDSE F640--Collaboration and Consultative Methods (3)

or EDSE F642--Special Education Electives Approved by Candidate's Graduate Committee - 6 credits

8. Complete two graduate level special education electives approved by candidate's graduate committee - 6 credits

9. Complete the following courses:

EDSE F680--Special Education Clinical Practice -3 credits

EDSE F681--Special Education Portfolio -3 credits

ED F601--Introduction to Applied Social Science Research - 3 credits

ED F603--Field Study Research Methods (3)

or ED/CE/SE604--Documenting Indigenous Knowledge Systems - 3 credits

10. Complete comprehensive examination**

11. Minimum credits required - 36 credits

* Additional fee required. Charges are added to fee statements every semester.

** Students pursuing a K-12 Special Education Certificate must complete a public school setting.

*** Must be enrolled in a graduate credits the semester the comprehensive exam is completed.

NOTE: The Alaska Department of Education requires passing Praxis II Elementary Content Knowledge #0014 or the Praxis II in the Candidate's content area for secondary teaching and/or passing Praxis II English Content Knowledge #0041 and/or Math Content Knowledge #0061 are recommended. Districts prefer candidates have both #0041 and #0061 for elementary students who qualify for special services. Prerequisite for the secondary level.

Program Requirements for Initial Certification

a. Admission requirements for the graduate program

b. Baccalaureate degree along with the following prerequisites:

i. Documented recent experience (minimum of 12 hours) in an educational setting with children experiencing disabilities

ii. UAF prerequisite courses or comparable transfer courses:

ED F245--Child Development--3 credits

ED F201--Introduction to Education (3)

or EDSC F205--Introduction to Secondary Education (3)

or EDSC F415--Foundations of Practice of Middle and Secondary Education (3)

or ED F624--Foundations of Education in Alaska: From State to Local Standards and Practices - 3 credits

EDSE F482--Inclusive Classroom for All Children--3 credits

iii. An Alaska state-level course approved by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

iv. A multicultural education course from and recommended by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

v. Passing scores on the Praxis I or another test acceptable to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development before or during the first semester of class enrollment. Acceptable test scores include:

Praxis I--Writing 174, Reading 174, Math 174

or CBES: 123, no individual score less than 37

or WEST-B: Writing 240, Reading 240, Math 240

vi. Passing scores on the following Praxis II before or during the first semester of class enrollment:

0014 Elementary Content Knowledge: Minimum score 143

or 0041 English Content Knowledge: Minimum score 150

and 0061 Math Content Knowledge: Minimum score 170

2. All prerequisite courses must be completed with a minimum final grade of "B". Once the admission requirements, prerequisite courses and testing requirements have been met, applicants will be formally admitted to the program.

3. Complete the general university requirements.
4. Complete the M.Ed. degree requirements.
5. All students not possessing a current Alaska teacher certificate are required to take six credits of clinical practice. Clinical practice courses are taken in the last two semesters of the program. One of the clinical practice students must apply for authorization from the state of Alaska. This includes fingerprinting and a background check. Fingerprint clearance may take up to six months to complete. Submit the clinical practice application two semesters prior to the desired placement and to comply with the requirement falsification of information or evidence of a criminal conviction that is named in the law or the Professional Teaching Practices Commission (PTPC) is considered an ethics violation. This will result in denied access to field placement in Alaska school districts. Authorization is required before clinical practice can begin.
6. Complete the following:
 - EDSE F62--Curriculum and Strategies I: Low Incidence--3 credits
 - EDSE F622--Curriculum and Strategies II: High Incidence--3 credits
 - EDSE F632--Special Education: Instructional Practices and Practices--3 credits
7. Complete one of the following:
 - EDSE F605--Early Childhood Social Education (3)
 - or EDSE F625--Teaching Mathematics to Special Learners (3)
 - or EDSE F677--Reading Assessment, Curriculum, and Strategies (3 credits)
8. Complete one of the following:
 - EDSE F624--Social/Emotional Development, Assessment and Intervention (3)
 - or EDSE F633--Autism: Communication and Social Disorders (3)
 - or EDSE F640--Collaboration and Consultation Methods (3)
 - or EDSE F642--Autism and Asperger Syndrome: Social and Behavioral Issues (3 credits)
9. Complete two graduate level special education electives approved by candidate's graduate committee.
10. Complete the following courses:
 - EDSE F678--Special Education Clinical Practice: Initial--3 credits*
 - EDSE F680--Special Education Clinical Practice--3 credits*
 - EDSE F681--Special Education Portfolio**--3 credits
 - ED F601--Introduction to Applied Social Science Research--3 credits
 - ED F602--Field Study Research Methods (3)
 - or ED/CCS F604--Documentation of Indigenous Knowledge Systems--3 credits
11. Complete comprehensive examination.
12. Minimum credits required 30 credits

* Additional fee required. Charges are added to each student's bill every semester.

** Students pursuing the Special Education certification must complete Portfolio and Clinical Practicum during school setting.

*** Must be enrolled in 3 graduate credits the semester the comprehensive exam is completed.

Note: The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development requires passing Praxis II Elementary Content Knowledge #0041 and/or Main Content Knowledge #0061 as a condition for issuing a professional teaching certificate. English content knowledge #0041 and/or Main Content Knowledge #0061 are recommended for students seeking certification in #0041 and #0061. Students seeking certification for special education at the secondary level must pass the following:

D. ESTIMATED IMPACT

What programs/departments will be affected by this proposed action?

Most of the programs in this major program group are affected. The impact on budget, space or faculty

The addition of EDSE F678, Special Education Clinical Practice Initial may have the following impact.

Faculty -- This course will become a part of an existing faculty member's workload. No additional responsibilities will be added for the instructor.

Budget -- As enrollment in the program increases, an adjunct faculty member will be needed to assume extra supervision responsibilities.

Space -- The course will utilize existing university classrooms, and/or audio conference room will be necessary.

E. IMPACTS ON PROGRAMS/DEPTS:

What programs/departments will be affected by this proposed action?
Include information on the Programs/Departments contacted (e.g., email, memo)

Addition of EDSE F678 will impact the Special Education program only. The course is restricted to admitted students to the M.Ed. in Special Education of the K-12 Special Education Licensure program. The course is a requirement for students.

F. IF MAJOR CHANGE - ASSESS

Description of the student learning outcomes assessment process.

Students in the Master of Education in Special Education program are assessed using the Council for Exceptional Children standards. Assessment information is gathered and reported as part of our accreditation through NCATE.

JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION REQUESTED

The purpose of the department is to provide a high quality education for students who are seeking a degree in an education field but have not been through a teacher preparation program at the elementary or secondary education and are not certified teachers.

Students admitted to the program are required to take education prerequisite classes, provide prior or experience working with special needs children and have passed the Praxis I and II exams. Once students are admitted to the program, they are required to take the clinical practice requirement in 2 semesters.

The original thought of the department was to simply have students register for EDSE F678 Education Clinical Practice twice (3 credits each) in two different semesters. However, there is not a way to present this in the catalog. A separate entry for the clinical practice requirement is needed to be as distinct from the student's first semester of clinical practice.

To be perfectly clear to admitted students that they are required to be in a clinical practice setting for two semesters, the addition of "EDSE F678 Special Education Clinical Practice Initial" taken prior to "EDSE F678 Special Education Clinical Practice" is proposed.

Justification for adding EDSE F678 Special Education Clinical Practice Initial

The Special Education program is adding an initial licensure program beginning in summer 2011. The program is designed for people who have a bachelor's degree in an education field but have not been through a teacher preparation program at the elementary or secondary education and are not certified teachers.

Students admitted to the program are required to take education prerequisite classes, provide prior or experience working with special needs children and have passed the Praxis I and II exams. Once students are admitted to the program, they are required to take the clinical practice requirement in 2 semesters.

The original thought of the department was to simply have students register for EDSE F678 Education Clinical Practice twice (3 credits each) in two different semesters. However, there is not a way to present this in the catalog. A separate entry for the clinical practice requirement is needed to be as distinct from the student's first semester of clinical practice.

To be perfectly clear to admitted students that they are required to be in a clinical practice setting for two semesters, the addition of "EDSE F678 Special Education Clinical Practice Initial" taken prior to "EDSE F678 Special Education Clinical Practice" is proposed.

Rewording the catalog entry was necessary to clarify the degree requirements for students. It was confusing for students to sift through the combined certified teacher and initial certification requirements to determine which applied to them. Separating the degree requirements into two catalog entries will eliminate admissions questions and degree requirement questions and assist students in their advising.

Please note that the only degree requirement that is changing is the addition of EDSE F678. All other changes are editorial.

APPROVALS:

Maureen P. Hogan Date *9-25-11*
Signature, Chair, School of Education Graduate Program, Maureen

[Signature] Date *9/25/11*
Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum & Instruction

Allan Morotti Date *9-25-11*
Signature, Dean, School of Education, Allan Morotti

ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE

Signature, Chair, DE Faculty Senate Curriculum Review Committee Date