

Shape the future of special education.

The online graduate certificate in leadership in special and inclusive education.

The [online graduate certificate in leadership in special and inclusive education](#) is designed to provide the necessary perspective and tools you need to enact change in any educational setting, as well as a thorough understanding of the laws and systems that inform the implementation of inclusive policies and practices. It offers a firm grounding in special education policy and law (especially the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), current best practices and methods to support and educate students with disabilities, and the opportunity to discuss and develop strategies for improving special education systems with an eye toward social justice.

Program Structure

- 4 courses
- 12 credit hours
- 8 weeks per course
- Complete in as few as 6 to 8 months

Admissions Requirements

- Completed [online application form](#)
- Professional resume or CV
- Completed bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Official transcripts from all colleges or universities attended
- [Letter of introduction](#) stating your area of interest and licensure status
- Three letters of recommendation from professional or academic references
- Application fee: \$35
- IELTS or TOEFL scores (for non-native English-speaking applicants)

Program Benefits

- Learn from renowned faculty in a department that has set the standard in the practice of special education for over 50 years
- Complete your coursework anytime, anywhere, through our innovative online format
- No GRE required for admission

The Curriculum

SPED 756: Special Education Leadership

SPED 757: History, Context, and Critique of Special Education

SPED 758: Appropriate Education and Least Restrictive Environment

SPED 759: Non-Discriminatory Evaluation, Parent Participation, and Procedural Due Process

What You'll Learn

This special education certificate program offers a big-picture view of special education policy and law, while challenging you to imagine new reform efforts based on up-to-date research. You will be prepared to advance the rights of all students, confront biases in and about special education and the students who are supported through special education services, and identify and overcome the barriers to inclusive education. It features an in-depth look at the history of special education in America, which provides essential context for efforts to improve current practices of educating and supporting students with disabilities, and an opportunity to critique these contemporary practices and devise new techniques to improve upon them.

Career Outcomes

The online graduate certificate in leadership in special and inclusive education prepares you to meet the challenges of being a special and inclusive education leader in a school setting, advocacy group or technical assistance center.

Rather than put you on a set path to a specific career, this program provides you with skills and knowledge that will serve you well in many different positions working with students with disabilities, especially leadership roles such as a building-level director of special education.