M.S.E IN SECONDARY SPECIAL EDUCATION & TRANSITION ONLINE MASTER'S PROGRAM*

KU THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
School of Education & Human Sciences

SPRING START COURSE SEQUENCE

YOUR PATH TO SUCCESS

This course roadmap illustrates the sequence of classes for the fastest progress given a spring program start and continuous enrollment. Read more complete descriptions of the courses in the drop-down menus on the course description page.



SPED 856: Transition Education and Services from Childhood through Adulthood

SPECIAL EDUCATION: The purpose of this course is to provide a background in career development and transition education for persons with disabilities from middle school through adulthood.



SPED 857: Career Development for Youth

SPECIAL EDUCATION: This course provides an overview of career development for youth with disabilities, focusing on theory and practice in career development, work-based learning, and vocational training models within school and community settings.



SPED 862: Work-Based Learning

SPECIAL EDUCATION: This course focuses on developing strategies to create work experiences for youth with disabilities, including job customization, community engagement, and workplace support.

NATIONAL LEADERS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

The University of Kansas' School of Education and Human Sciences is consistently ranked No. 1 in special education online master's programs. The programs are designed to prepare students for careers in teaching, research, and leadership, offering strong connections with national educational initiatives and networks.[1]

BEST ONLINE PROGRAMS
U.S.News & World Report
RANKINGS



SPED 858: Assessment for Transition Planning

SPECIAL EDUCATION: This course provides a review of psychometric principles and their utility as a foundation for quality assessment in transition assessment and planning for youth with disabilities.



SPED 859: Interagency Services for Transition to Adulthood

SPECIAL EDUCATION: This course provides an overview of interagency and community services and systems for adolescents and young adults with disabilities.



SPED 863: Student Engagement in School and Community

SPECIAL EDUCATION: This course is to provide students with an overview of models and issues pertaining to school and community engagement for secondary-age youth.

KEY MILESTONE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

Passed in 1975, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) ensures that children with disabilities receive a free and appropriate education in the least restrictive environment.[2]



SPED 861: Blending Academics and Transition

SPECIAL EDUCATION: This course provides students with research evidence of each of the components of universal design for learning within access to the general academic curriculum: multiple means of representation, expression, and engagement.

EPSY 715: Understanding Research in Education

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY: This course introduces key concepts and skills for analyzing educational research, covering basic research methodologies such as quantitative and qualitative methods and historical and descriptive research.

PLEASE NOTE: This course fulfills the requirement of a research methods course in the first 12 hours of graduate study.

KU SOEHS: AN EVOLVING LEGACY

The KU School of Education & Human Sciences, serving students since 1909, was renamed in 2020 to better reflect its expanded academic offerings and diverse programs—ranging from exercise science and sport management to community health. This new name honors the school's ongoing commitment to education while highlighting its growth into one of the nation's leaders in educational training, human science, research, and special education.[3]

ELECTIVE

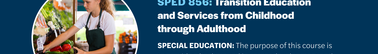
Deepen your expertise through your choice of electives focused on special education. Electives offered vary by term and are updated periodically to reflect changes in the education environment. View all electives on the course description page.

SPED 898: Master's Project

SPECIAL EDUCATION: This capstone project is graded on a satisfactory progress/limited progress/no progress basis, allowing students to demonstrate mastery in a specialized area of special education.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATE!

You are now part of a global community of Jayhawks shaping the future of special education. **ROCK CHALK!**



*Master of Science in Education (M.S.E.) in special education with an emphasis in secondary special education and transition

1. Retrieved on February 17, 2026, from usnews.com/education/online-education/university-of-kansas-155137
2. Retrieved on November 7, 2024, from ada.gov/resources/disability-rights-guide/#rehabilitation-act
3. Retrieved on November 7, 2024, from soehs.ku.edu/mission-vision/name-change