



For:

Current teachers with 1 year of teaching experience who wish to develop their skills in the area of Autism Spectrum Disorders for use in inclusive or mainstreamed schools and programs, grades PK-12.

Outcome:

M.A. Special Education – Autism Spectrum Disorders focuses on Special Education theory and best practices for the inclusive or mainstreamed school and program, grades PK-12, with special emphasis on development of strategies used in instruction of students on the Autism Spectrum Disorders continuum.

Focus of the Program:

Develop knowledge of research in autism, understanding of characteristics of children diagnosed as being on the autism disorder spectrum, build a collection of assessment and instructional strategies appropriate to educate this student population and develop skills in being effective communicators and collaborators.

Program Design:

The M.A. Special Education – Autism Spectrum Disorders program follows a cohort model. You will meet one night a week from 4:45 – 8:45 p.m. You will finish your coursework in approximately 2 years and then complete your comprehensive examination.

Career Outcome:

Upon completion of this program, students will have earned a Master of Arts in Special Education degree with a concentration and certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Prerequisites:

Students in the M.A. Special Education – Autism Spectrum Disorders program will hold at least a bachelor's degree and a current special education teaching certification, with one year of full time, contracted, licensed teaching experience. Students must have a classroom available to them, throughout the program, to fulfill field study requirements.

Degree Requirements:

Course Number	Course Title	# of Credits
SPEC 560	Autism: Nature & Characteristics	3
SPEC 561	Autism: Managing Behaviors	3
SPEC 562	Autism: Communication and Technology	3
SPEC 563	Autism: Assessment	3
SPEC 564	Autism: Application of Instructional Strategies	3
SPEC 539	Curriculum and Instruction: Adaptive Strategies	3
SPEC ST 590.01	Research in Special Education	3
SPEC ST 590.03	Math Diagnosis and Remediation	3
SPEC 540	Reading for the Inclusive Classroom Tier I , II	3
SPEC 565	Psychosocial Interventions	3
Total Credit Hours:		30

Please Note:

While this list includes each of the courses that make up the Master of Arts degree, this is not a class schedule, and your cohort may take these courses in a different order. Academic policies and courses are subject to change.

A Master of Arts degree at Saint Joseph College culminates in a comprehensive exam following the final courses and passing scores are required to receive the degree.