



For:

Current certified regular education teachers with **1 year of teaching experience**. There is an option to become cross endorsed in special education, grades PK-12 (**copy of teaching certificate required for application; 2 years experience are required for those wishing to obtain cross endorsement**).

Outcome:

The M.A. Special Education – Comprehensive Special Education PK-12 focuses on Special Education theory and best practices for the inclusive school, grades PK-12. Candidates will develop understand all aspects of special education law and procedures to serve the needs of children, classrooms, schools and districts.

Focus of the Program:

Develop leadership skills and perspectives to advocate for all children in developing compassionate and thoughtful programs and procedures which honor their learning abilities. Develop knowledge of special education laws and procedures, understand areas of student need as described state and national policy, develop the ability to assess and plan instruction for individual students as well as the ability to communicate and collaborate with professional peers, students and families.

Program Design:

M.A. Special Education – Comprehensive Special Education PK-12 follows a cohort model. You will meet one night a week from 4:45 – 8:45 p.m. You will complete two 5 week student teaching placements in consecutive summers (2013, 2014). You will finish your coursework in approximately 2 years and then complete your comprehensive examination and final student teaching experience.

Career Outcome:

Upon completion of this program, candidates will have earned a Master of Arts in Special Education degree. With successful passing of Praxis II exam, they will have the appropriate coursework and may submit an application to CSDE for a cross-endorsement in Comprehensive Special Education PK-12 teacher licensure. Saint Joseph College School of Education has developed this program with input from the Connecticut State Department of Education, however, only the State of Connecticut has the authority to issue the cross-certification license.

Prerequisites:

Students in the M.A. Special Education – Comprehensive Special Education PK-12 program will hold at least a bachelor's degree and a current teaching certificate, with three years 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 535	Laws & Special Education	3
SPEC 517	Students with Mild Disabilities	3
EDUC 535	English Language Learners	3
SPEC 526	Educational Assessment	3
SPEC 560	Autism: Nature & Characteristics	3
SPEC 536	Student Teaching Part I	4
SPEC 540	Reading Interventions for Inclusive Schools	3
SPEC ST 590.01	Research in Special Education	3
SPEC 539	Curriculum and Instruction: Adaptive Strategies	3
SPEC 543	Instructional Planning and Interventions in Spec Ed	3
SPEC 561	Autism: Managing Behaviors	3
SPEC 537	Student Teaching Part II	4
Total Credit Hours:		38

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.