

Degrees Available at SIUE

- Bachelor of Science, Special Education

Special Education at SIUE

The special education program at SIUE is a nationally recognized program delivered through a collaborative partnership agreement between SIUE and public school districts. Classroom teachers and university professors work together to provide special education candidates a unique opportunity to regularly interact with children with disabilities from pre-K to age 21. In the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior, we combine classroom instruction and ample opportunities for practical experiences in a variety of settings.

In conjunction with the early childhood program, the special education program also provides courses required for early childhood special education approval. The special education program offers Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation-approved programs at the undergraduate level for teaching licensure as a learning behavior specialist (LBS I).

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the undergraduate special education program have a wide range of options for employment. Not only are our graduates licensed in ages pre-K through age 21, but also in a wide range of disabilities. There is a growing need for special educators nationwide, and that growth is anticipated to continue in the years to come. Special education teachers are currently considered a teacher shortage area in Illinois.

Diversity Statement

SIUE's teacher education programs foster teacher candidates' ability to understand and meet professional responsibilities by modeling respect and value for diversity. Candidates create and engage their students in practices that develop awareness, understanding, respect and a valuing of the forms of diversity that exist in society and their importance in learning and teaching. The School of Education, Health and Human Behavior teacher education programs are dedicated to supporting all teacher education candidates, regardless of their economic or social status, and advocates for the rights of students free from discrimination based on race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identification, ability or age.

Hands-On Learning

Teacher education programs at SIUE regularly involve students in experiential learning.

- In-class activities
- Simulations in the Virtual Professional Practice Lab
- Case studies
- School-based projects
- Undergraduate research
- Service-learning projects

Our programs also make extensive use of field-based partnerships through field trips, practica and student teaching. Teacher education students at SIUE are placed in a variety of diverse field experiences that allow them to interact with children and learn through real-world application.

Clinical Experiences

Candidates progress through a series of developmentally sequenced field experiences for the full range of ages, types and levels of abilities and collaborative opportunities that are appropriate to the learning behavior specialist. These experiences are supervised by qualified professionals. These experiences, which must be completed prior to student teaching, are arranged through the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior Student Services.

Admission Requirements

Admission to a major within the special education program requires satisfactory completion of the pre-special education program described in the section below. A student handbook and application forms for admission to the major are available in the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior student services, Founders Hall, room 1110. Applications should be completed by March 1 for the fall semester. Application to the program is a competitive process. Applying to the program does not guarantee admission.

In order to be admitted to a teacher education cohort in special education, students must achieve:

- Admission to SIUE

**Faculty**

Faculty in the special education program in the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior represent a diverse group of professional educators and exemplary teachers, holding doctoral degrees from universities throughout the country. Theory and practice are integrated to inform teaching, scholarship and service demonstrating that they are teacher scholars current in their respective fields. Service extends beyond internal SIUE committees to leadership and service in several professional organizations as well as international, national, state, regional and local committees.

Undergraduate Program Director

Wendy H. Weber, PhD

2008, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Anthony M. Denkyirah, PhD

2003, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Linda L. Forbringer, PhD

2003, St. Louis University

Susanne James, PhD

2011, University of Kansas

Stacie M. Kirk, PhD

2006, University of Kansas

Craig A. Miner, PhD

1994, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Mary K. Weishaar, PhD

1984, St. Louis University

Phillip M. Weishaar, PhD

1984, St. Louis University

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
HEALTH & HUMAN BEHAVIOR

Sample Curriculum for the Bachelor of Science in Special Education

Fall Semester

Spring Semester

Year 1	MATH 112A Mathematics for Elementary Teachers (BPS)	3	ENG 102 English Composition II	3
	ENG 101 English Composition I	3	HED 111 or any EH (EH)	3
	SPE 100 Disabilities in Society (EUSC)	3	MATH 112B Mathematics for Elementary Teacher (BPS)	3
	ACS 101 Public Speaking	3	QR 101, MATH 150 or Higher	3
	SCI 241A (BLS, EL)	3	SCI 241B Foundations of Science (BPS, EL)	3
FST 101 Succeeding & Engaging at SIUE	1	Total Credits	15	
Total Credits	16			
Year 2	MUS 111, ART 111 or any BFPA (BFPA)	3	Interdisciplinary Studies (IS)	3
	PSYC 111 (BSS)	3	GEOG 210 (BPS)	3
	HIST 200 or HIST 201 (BSS, EL, EUSC)	3	POLS 112 American National Government (BSS)	3
	RA 101 or PHIL 212	3	Any BICS (BICS) (IT 300)	3
	Breadth Humanities (BHUM)/Global Cultures (EGC)	3	CIED 310	3
	Total Credits	15	Total Credits	15
Year 3	SPE 401 Field Practicum I	1	SPE 402 Field Practicum II	1
	SPE 405 Foundations of Special Ed.	3	SPE 416 Functional Curriculum Methods	3
	SPE 290 Language Development	3	SPE 417B Advanced Reading & Language Arts Methods in Special Education	3
	SPE 417A Introductory Reading and Language Arts	3	SPE 430A Classroom Management	3
	SPE 441 Assessment of Preschool Children with Special Needs	3	SPE 470 Transition Planning	2
	SPE 442 Methods and Procedures for Teaching Early Childhood Students with Disabilities	3	SPE 471 School and Family Partnerships	3
	Total Credits	16	Total Credits	15
Summer Term				
	SPE 415 Instructional & Assistive Technology		3	
	Total Credits		3	
Year 4	SPE 412 Assessment for Instructional Decision Making in Special Education	3	SPE 481 Senior Seminar in Special Education	3
	SPE 418 Field Practicum III	3	SPE 499 Special Education Student Teaching	12
	SPE 421 Mathematics Methods in Special Education	3	Total Credits	15
	SPE 422 Adaptations and Accommodations in Content-Area Instruction	3		
	SPE 430B Behavior Management	3		
	Total Credits	15		
		Total Hours	125	

Transfer Students: To maximize your transfer experience, complete the **bold** course requirements pre-transfer and satisfy either the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) General Ed Core or receive an AA, AS or AAT (early childhood, special ed or math) degree from an IAI community college. If minor requirements are shown, discuss careful course selection with the academic advising contact listed. Visit siue.edu/transfer to find course equivalency guides.

Admission Requirements, Cont.

- A cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher from all secondary institutions attended
- 42 semester hours of coursework
- Grades of C or higher in each course included in the 15 hours of foundations coursework
- A grade of B or higher in SPE 100 or an equivalent professional-level course
- Good academic standing at SIUE (if applicable)
- Application for admission to the special education program and transcripts of all coursework completed. These should be submitted by March 1 for fall admission.
- Please submit to:
 - Undergraduate Advisor for Special Education
 - School of Education, Health and Human Behavior
 - Student Services
 - Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
 - Edwardsville, IL 62026-1062

The major application is not to be confused with the application for admission to SIUE. Apply online or visit the SIUE Office of Admissions.

Direct Entry

High school students with a strong academic record may apply for direct declaration to the special education program. Students must have earned at least a 27 ACT or 1210 SAT and at least a 3.75 high school GPA or rank in the top 10% of their high school

This information is concurrent with the 2019-2020 Academic Catalog. Courses are subject to change at any time.

graduating classes to be eligible for direct declaration to the program. Early declaration will guarantee a student admission to the program contingent upon meeting the state requirements for full admission to the program outlined above.

Graduation Requirements

- Complete all specific program requirements
- Complete all University requirements
- Pass all Illinois state licensure requirements for special education
- File an application for graduation by the first day of the term in which you plan to graduate

Please Note:

The State of Illinois is in the process of making significant changes in teacher education that may result in revised standards, programs, testing requirements and teaching licenses. It is very important that all prospective and current candidates work closely with their advisors to remain current about course and curriculum changes affecting progress through the programs.

It is expected that all teacher candidates demonstrate appropriate professional dispositions and maintain satisfactory academic progress in the program. Failure to do so, can lead to dismissal from the program.

Contact Information

School of Education, Health and Human Behavior
 Student Services Office
 Phone: 618-650-3940
 Email: SEHHB-Advising@siue.edu