

COMPREHENSIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION (PK-12) PROGRAM GUIDELINES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION (SP ED BS)

These guidelines summarize the requirements for a Bachelor of Science and partial completion of Connecticut requirements in Comprehensive Special Education (Grades PK-12) for students following the 2026-2027 requirements.

The undergraduate Comprehensive Special Education Program in the School of Education has as its objective the partial preparation of prospective teachers of students with disabilities. The emphasis is on the student and his or her individual learning problems rather than on any "category" of children. Upon successful completion of the undergraduate and graduate Comprehensive Special Education Program, students typically find employment in public elementary, middle, or high schools. For specific counsel, please contact a special education faculty advisor.

1. Complete the COMMON CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS listed in the Academic Regulations of the University of Connecticut Undergraduate Catalog 2025-2026, which include **Topic of Inquiry (TOI) Requirements**: At least one course (3 credits) in each of the 6 different TOIs; 6 different subject areas; one laboratory science (TOI-6L); minimum of 21 TOI credits; TOI Focus area (3 courses in 1 TOI) or Theme (3 pre-determined courses); and meet **Competency Requirements**: two W courses, two Q courses, and second language through elementary level 2. In addition to the Common Curriculum requirements, students must take a course in U.S. History (HIST 1501 or 1502) and PSYC 1100.

1. Complete a SUBJECT AREA MAJOR that includes a SINGLE SUBJECT plus a SECOND CONCENTRATION as listed below. Minimum of 39 credits of advanced level courses (2000's or above) in teaching areas encountered in schools. **Up to 9 credits may be taken at the 1000's level. 1000's level courses in Mathematics or Science may be included as the equivalent of 2000's level courses.** Required courses: **One course in Mathematics and one course in Science** in addition to the Common Curriculum Requirements.

SINGLE SUBJECT: At least 24 credits in one of the following three subject areas. (1) **English**; or (2) **Mathematics**; or (3) **Science** (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth Science, and/or General Science). Up to 6 credits may be at the 1000's level.

SECOND CONCENTRATION: At least 15 credits distributed among three of the RELATED SUBJECTS listed below which do not include the subject area selected above.

1. **HUMANITIES**: English, Fine Arts (Art, Drama, and/or Music); Modern and Classical Languages; Linguistics, Philosophy; and/or Communication Sciences
 2. **SOCIAL SCIENCES**: Anthropology; Economics; Geography; History; Political Science; Psychology; and/or Sociology
 3. **MATHEMATICS**: Computer Science; Mathematics; and/or Statistics
 4. **SCIENCE**: Biology; Chemistry; Earth Science; General Science; and/or Physics
- Two of these related subject areas must include at least two courses.

EXAMPLE: A student selecting English as a SINGLE SUBJECT would be required to take a SECOND CONCENTRATION of at least 15 credits in RELATED SUBJECTS 2, 3, 4. Two of those areas must include at least two courses. **Up to 9 credits may be taken at the 1000's level. 1000's level courses in Mathematics or Science may be included as the equivalent of 2000's level courses.**

2. Complete the following PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:

HDFS 1070	Individual and Family Development	
OR		
PSYC 2400	Developmental Psychology	3 credits
EDCI 3100/W	Multicultural Education, Equity and Social Justice	3 credits
EPSY 3010	Educational Psychology	3 credits
EPSY 3115	Collaborative Program Planning in Special Education	3 credits
EGEN 3100	Seminar/Clinic: The Student as Learner	3 credits
EPSY 3130	Methods for Teaching Students with Disabilities	4 credits
EPSY 4110	Advanced Foundations of Disability	3 credits
EPSY 3125	Classroom and Behavior Management	3 credits
EDCI 4110W	Teaching Reading and Writing in the Elementary School	3 credits
EDCI 4115	Teaching Mathematics in the Elementary School	3 credits
EPSY 4120W	Fundamentals of Assessment in Special Education	3 credits
EGEN 4100	Seminar/Clinic: Methods of Teaching	3 credits
EPSY 4115	Directed Student Teaching	9 credits
EPSY 5142	Individualized Positive Behavior Support	3 credits
EGEN 4110	Seminar/Clinic: Analysis of Teaching	3 credits

Students must earn at least 120 credits.

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

To earn the University of Connecticut's institutional recommendation for teacher certification, students must complete the requirements for the Master of Arts in Educational Psychology including a minimum of 30 credits (two full-time semesters) of graduate level course work. Requirements are anticipated to include at least:

Assessment: EPSY 5116 – Assessment in Special Education (3 credits)

Curriculum Elective (*Choose one, 3 credits*): Fall – EPSY 5121, 5145, 5114 (Adolescent literacy), 5113, 5405; Spring – EPSY 5119, 5140, 5142, 5115 (Writing)

Individualized Positive Behavior Support – EPSY 5142 (3 credits) - students typically take this course spring of senior year and may transfer it to the master's program.

Language and Cultural Diversity in Education (*Choose one, 3 credits*): EDCI 5006 – Comparative and International Education, EDCI 5715 – Bilingualism and Second Language Acquisition, EDCI 5740 – Latinos and U.S. Education, EDCI 5742 – Sheltered English Instruction for English Language Learners, EDCI 5750 – Language Diversity and Literacy, EDCI 5875 – Multicultural Education, EDCI 5885 – Introduction to Critical Pedagogy, EDCI 5890 – Educational Linguistics, GERM/ALDS/CLCS 5324 – Teaching for Intercultural Citizenship & Human Rights, GERM/ALDS/CLCS – Teaching for Intercultural Citizenship and Human Rights II

Literacy (*Choose one, 3 credits*): EPSY 5113 (Early Literacy, fall); EPSY 5114 (Adolescent Literacy, fall); EPSY 5115 (Writing, spring)

Practicum: EDCI 5092 (3 credits fall) and EDCI 5093 (4 credits spring)

Seminar: EDCI 5094 (3 credits fall) and EDCI 5095 (3 credits spring)

Research: EPSY 5195 (2 credits fall)

Technology: EPSY 5221 – Wise Integration of Technology into Teaching and Learning Environments (1 credit)

COMPREHENSIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION (PK-12) SAMPLE SEMESTER SEQUENCE

SEMESTER 1

*FOREIGN LANGUAGE	4
ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011	4
HIST 1501 or 1502 – US History (also fulfills TOI-5)	3
PSYC 1100 – Psychology (also fulfills TOI-6)	3
TOI-1 Creativity: Design, Expression, Innovation	3

SEMESTER 3

Q COURSE	3
TOI-6 Lab Course (BIOL/CHEM/ERTH/PHYS)	3 or 4
HDFS 1070 OR PSYC 2400	3
Subject Area Major	3
Subject Area Major	3

SEMESTER 5

EDCI 3100/W – Multicultural Education, Equity & SJ	3
EPSY 3115 – Collaborative Program Planning Special Ed.	3
EGEN 3100 – Seminar/Clinic	3
Subject Area Major	3
Subject Area Major	3

SEMESTER 7

EPSY 3125 – Classroom and Behavior Management	3
EPSY 4120W – Fundamentals of Assessment in Spec. Ed.	3
EDCI 4110W – Teaching Reading & Writing Elem. School	3
EDCI 4115 – Teaching Mathematics in Elementary School	3
EGEN 4100 – Seminar/Clinic	3

*If the student completed less than three years of a single foreign language in high school.

**Students should take EPSY 3010 prior to semester 5, if possible, but no later than semester 6. The course is available fall, spring, summer and online.

SEMESTER 9 (Master's)

EDCI 5092 - Practicum	3
EDCI 5094 – Seminar	3
EPSY 5195 – Research course	2
Diversity Course (either semester)	3
Literacy Course (either semester)	3
EPSY 5221 – Wise Technology (either semester)	1
Elective (either semester)	0-3
EPSY 5116	3

SEMESTER 2

*FOREIGN LANGUAGE	4
Q Course (STAT 1000Q or 1100Q – Statistics, suggested)	4
TOI-2 Cultural Dimen. Human Experience (ANTH 1000 or GEOG 1700 Suggested)	3
TOI-3 Diversity, Equity, and Social Justice	3
TOI-4 Environmental Literacy	3

SEMESTER 4

Subject Area Major	3
Subject Area Major	3
Math Q in addition to gen. ed.	3 or 4
Additional Science	3 or 4
**EPSY 3010 – Educational Psychology	3

SEMESTER 6

EPSY 3130 – Methods for Teaching Students w Disabilities	4
EPSY 4110 – Advanced Foundations of Disability	3
Subject Area Major	3
Subject Area Major	3
TOI Focus Area or Theme	3

SEMESTER 8

EPSY 4115 – Directed Student Teaching	9
EPSY 5142 – Individualized Positive Behavior Support	3
EGEN 4110 – Seminar/Clinic	3

SEMESTER 10 (Master's)

EDCI 5093 – Practicum	4
EDCI 5095 – Seminar	3
Diversity (either semester)	3
Literacy Course (either semester)	3
EPSY 5221 – Wise Technology (either semester)	1
EPSY 5142 – Individualized Positive Behavior Support***	3
Elective (either semester)	0-3

***Students typically take EPSY 5142 spring of senior year and may transfer it to the master's program