Special Education Credentials Offered at CSU Stanislaus

California State University, Stanislaus offers the Preliminary Level I and the Professional Level II Education Specialist credential in Mild/Moderate Disabilities and Moderate/Severe Disabilities. The Education Specialist Preliminary Level I Credential is a basic credential. Candidates may apply for admission to the Preliminary Level I Credential Program as an undergraduate or post-baccalaureate student. Undergraduates are encouraged to combine courses of study in order to have units count toward degree and credential objectives. The Level II program focus is on the induction and mentoring of beginning teachers.

Philosophy of the Program

The specific coursework and applied experiences in the undergraduate and credential programs are based upon research on the most effective ways to promote the academic, social, and emotional growth of students with exceptional learning needs. This literature, known as “teacher effectiveness” research, forms the keystone of our programs and much of the coursework centers around the variables that affect student performance. More specifically, the focus is on understanding and applying strategies and techniques for promoting student achievement. A critical characteristic of the credential program is its emphasis on applied experiences. Students work closely with University supervisors during practica and fieldwork courses to ensure mastery at all levels.

Advising

The faculty in the area of Special Education are Drs. Karen Sniezek, Cathy Watkins, Fan-Yu Lin and Granger Dinwiddie. Dr. Sniezek, Dr. Watkins, Dr. Lin and Dr. Dinwiddie can be reached at the Department of Advanced Studies in Education (209) 667-3364.

The University does not require students to meet with advisors prior to registration each semester. However, undergraduates in the concentration, Exceptional Children & Youth, and candidates in the Mild/Moderate and Moderate/Severe Disabilities Credential Programs are encouraged to do so. Frequent contact with your advisor will alert you to scheduling changes and ensure that the appropriate coursework is taken.
1. Meet the basic skills requirements. The requirements can be met through one of the following ways:
   - Pass CBEST
   - Pass all sections of CSET (Multiple Subject) and CSET writing
   - Pass CSU Early Assessment Program (English and Mathematics sections) or CSU Placement Examination (English and Mathematics)
   - Pass Basic Skills Examination from another state

2. Pass the Following Courses with a grade of “B” or better.
   - PSYC/CDEV 3140 or PSYC/CDEV 3240 Human Development I or Human Development II 3
   - EDSE 4310 Introduction to Special Education 3
   - Select one of the following:
     - EDSE 4550 Practicum w/Exceptional Children 3
     - EDSE 4560 Theory of Instructional Design 3

3. Submit a completed application to the Department of Advanced Studies in Education, DBH 348 and participate in the Admission Interview.

4. If an offer of full admission is made, complete the following courses with a grade “B” or better.
   - EDMS 4150 Methods of Multilingual Education 3
   - EDSE 4330 Communication & Social Skills 3
   - EDSE 4750 Applied Behavior Analysis in the Classroom 3
   - Select one of the courses not previously completed:
     - EDSE 4550 Practicum w/Exceptional Children 3
     - EDSE 4560 Theory of Instructional Design 3
   - EDSE 4110 Reading & Language Arts: General 2
   - EDSE 4210 Reading & Language Arts: Special Education 3
   - EDSE 4430 Assessment in Special Education 3

5. Demonstrate the following Subject Matter Competence:
   - Elementary Level: CSET Multiple Subject
   - Middle and Secondary Level: CSET single subject exam or verification of subject matter preparation program.

6. Apply for credential specific student teaching a semester prior.

7. Enroll in credential specific student teaching, only if all courses have been completed with grades of “B” or better.

8. Participate and pass in an exit interview or examination

9. Pass RICA (Reading Instruction Competence Assessment).

10. Apply for the Preliminary Level I Education Specialist Credential with the Credential Processing Center in (DBH 303).

(Coursework 32 units + Student Teaching)