

Master of Arts in Special Education

**Increase your educational
impact and inspire
breakthroughs with an
M.A. in Special Education.**

This program equips you with the skills and expertise to address diverse learning needs, empowering you with advanced methodologies to support and champion the success of students with special needs. Discover how to turn learning challenges into opportunities for growth and achievement as you celebrate every student's unique potential.



FRESNO PACIFIC
UNIVERSITY

A Master of Arts in Special Education offers a profound opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children with diverse needs.

This program provides you with the expertise to implement customized educational strategies and interventions, ensuring all students have access to quality education tailored to their specific requirements and needs. Here are a few reasons why this degree is essential for anyone committed to educational equity: ◆

- ▶ **Expertise in Diverse Needs:** Gain in-depth knowledge of various disabilities and the strategies to support students effectively.
- ▶ **Behavior Management Skills:** Learn to implement effective behavior management techniques that foster a safe and inclusive classroom environment.
- ▶ **Individualized Education Program (IEP):** Become proficient in developing and assessing IEPs that cater to individual student needs, up to age 22, for optimal learning outcomes.
- ▶ **Collaborative Skills:** Work alongside families, educators and other professionals to create comprehensive support systems for students.
- ▶ **Advocacy and Leadership:** Advocate for special education resources and policy reforms and lead programs that make a real difference.
- ▶ **Professional Development:** Stay at the forefront of special education trends and research, continually enhancing your skills and knowledge base.





M.A. in Special Education Program Highlights

Unit Count of Program: 31-37 units of credential program coursework
12 units post-credential coursework

- ▶ Prepares educators to address the unique learning needs of students with disabilities.
- ▶ Integrate theory with practical application, ensuring that you graduate with the skills to immediately **make an impact** in schools.
- ▶ Emphasis on teacher inquiry and action research into problems of practice, **connecting theory to practice, advocacy and service.**
- ▶ **Opportunity to engage** in rigorous scholarly and professional dialogue about issues critical to teachers.
- ▶ **Accredited by the California Commission on Teaching Credentialing (www.ctc.ca.gov)**
- ▶ The cohort model fosters a robust community of practice.
- ▶ Study under **experienced and highly rated** university faculty.
- ▶ **Program classes are offered fully online!**

The curriculum is designed to prepare you to be a transformative teacher and leader in the field.

Our program focuses on integrating cutting-edge educational research with practical strategies to meet the needs of all students.

Master of Arts in Special Education Required Courses

Special Education Credential (Must be obtained at FPU):

- ▶ Early Childhood Special Education Preliminary Credential OR
- ▶ Extensive Support Needs Education Specialist Preliminary Credential OR
- ▶ Mild/Moderate Support Needs Preliminary Credential

Capstone Courses (12 units)

Course Prefix	Required Courses	Units
SPEC 731	Issues in Teaching: Investigating Problems of Practice in Special Education	3
SPEC 733	Literature Review	3
SPEC 734	Research Methodology: Action Research	3
SPEC 735	Research Project	3

After completing the requirements for a preliminary credential, candidates have the option to extend and deepen their understanding of effective teaching strategies, curriculum analysis and other special education topics within the Master of Arts Degree in Special Education program. This program is comprised of all credential program coursework units and 12 units of post-credential coursework within five years of credential program completion.

These courses provide a sample program overview. Please meet with your academic advisor or visit fpu.edu/catalog to finalize your course registration and sequence.

Application and Admission Information

To be considered for admission to the M.A. in Special Education program, please submit the following:

- Completed Application for Admission** and \$45 non-refundable application fee.
fpu.edu/applygrad
- Official college/university transcript(s)** verifying receipt of a bachelor's degree.
 - Earned all As and Bs in credential coursework.
 - If you are currently finishing up your degree, please submit current transcript.
 - A final transcript will need to be submitted before you may enroll in classes.
 - Transcripts can be sent electronically by your institution to trans.evaluator@fresno.edu or via mail in an envelope sealed by your institution to:

Fresno Pacific University
Office of the Registrar
1717 S. Chestnut Ave.
Fresno, CA 93702
- Completed Employment Verification Form.**
- Earned FPU Education Specialist Credential** within the previous five academic years. The M.A. in Special Education program is only available to FPU credential graduates.
- Valid CA teaching credential** (for credential program only).

View our State Professional Licensing and Certificate Disclosure at fpu.edu/about/disclosure-documents.



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