MASTERS OF ARTS DEGREE
SPECIAL EDUCATION

AREA: EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION

Prerequisites:

1. Students must have Child Growth and Development and Educational Needs of Exceptional Persons (or an equivalent) as prerequisites at the undergraduate level or they must take the course(s) at the graduate level as part of their program of study.

2. All persons entering the master's degree programs in early childhood special education must be certified in elementary education, early childhood education, or K-12/K-6 special education. Students seeking certification in states other than South Dakota may be required to complete additional coursework relevant to that state's requirements.

Program Policies--All students in the M.A. Early Childhood Special Education Program will need to:

1. Complete a three semester hour (150 hours) internship which consists of birth through preschool special education experiences.
1. Pass the Praxis 0690 Special Education: Preschool/Early Childhood Education content knowledge exam **before** they are allowed to enroll in SPED 794 Internship,
2. Pass the Praxis 0021 Education of Young Children **before** they complete SPED 794 Internship.
3. Have their scores sent to USD and also send a copy of the scores to their advisor. Please see Student Services in Rm 113 for further information.
4. Complete written comprehensive exams at the end of the program.

Core Requirements:

EDER 761	Research Methods in Education (online)	3
*SPED 705	Advanced Family and Professional Collaboration	2
SPED 710	Survey of Mental Disabilities (online)	2
SPED 715	Behavior Management	3
*SPED 780	Assessment of Persons with Disabilities	3
	Or SPSY 893 Workshop in Preschool Assessment	
		13 credits

Specialized Coursework

SPED 519	Medical Issues in Special Education (online)	2
*SPED 770	Survey of Early Childhood Special Education (online)	3
*SPED 771	Strategies, Planning and Assessment in ECSE (online)	3
*SPED 772	Atypical Development: Birth to 5 (online)	3
*SPED 794	Internship in Early Childhood Special Education	3
		14 credits

Support Coursework

ELED 713	Advanced Curriculum & Practices in Early Childhood Education	3
	Or ELED 592 Early Language and Literacy (online)	
	An Approved Elective	3
	Hours required	6 hours
	TOTAL HOURS	**33 hours**