

**Department of Special Education and Child Development**  
**Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Special Education (General Curriculum): 120 required credit hours**  
**Licensure available in General Curriculum**  
**Cato College of Education**  
[spcd.uncc.edu](http://spcd.uncc.edu)

**Academic Plan of Study**

**Program Summary Information:**

- Declaring the Major: Minimum of 2.7 GPA requirement; Passing scores on all three parts of the Praxis Core or acceptable alternatives (SAT or ACT scores); Grades in SPED 2100 and either EDUC 1100 or EDUC 2100 of “C” or above. Students must also complete an “*Application for Admission to a Teacher Education Program*” in the Office of Teacher Education Advising and Licensure (TEAL) in the Cato College of Education. This should occur after a student has earned at least 30 credit hours of coursework.
- Advising (major): Required immediately on admission to the major and at each registration period by the undergraduate special education advisor in the Department of Special Education and Child Development. Course permits may be required, and these can only be obtained through the department.
- Advising (General Education): By advisors in the Office of TEAL in the Cato College of Education during the freshman and sophomore year.
- Minimum Grades/GPA: GPA of 2.5 or higher must be maintained; Grades in professional education and concentration coursework must be “C” or above and the overall GPA in these courses must be a 2.75.
- Teacher Licensure: YES, the Special Education program provides a K-12 license in both Special Education: Adapted Curriculum and/or Special Education: General Curriculum.
- Night Classes Available: NO. (Some courses may be taught in the evening; however, the major cannot be completed by taking evening classes only.)
- Weekend Classes Available: NO.
- Other information: A yearlong internship (YLI) is a requirement for completion of the major. This YLI must begin one semester prior to student teaching. An application is required for admission to the YLI and must be completed early in the semester prior to beginning the internship - see Office of Field Experiences’ website ([ofe.uncc.edu](http://ofe.uncc.edu)) for YLI application deadlines. Student teaching is required the last semester upon completing all other coursework required for the major. Student teaching requires an additional application, that students meet all GPA requirements, and includes the undergraduate advisor’s recommendation.
- Contact(s): Pre admission to major – contact undergraduate advisors in the Office of Teacher Education Advising and Licensure at 704-687-8725 or electronically at [teal@uncc.edu](mailto:teal@uncc.edu). The TEAL office is located in room 119 in the Cato College of Education. Post admission to major – contact Dr. Shawnee Wakeman (Special Education General Curriculum Undergraduate Program Director) at 704-687-8488 or electronically at [slwakema@uncc.edu](mailto:slwakema@uncc.edu). Dr. Wakeman’s office is located in room 334 in the Cato College of Education.

**Program Requirements:**

The Special Education (SPED) major has a *very structured* curriculum. Freshmen and sophomores who intend to major in Special Education are classified as Pre-Education majors in Special Education. During the pre-education phase students are advised by TEAL advisors regarding General Education.

Upon completion of the education prerequisite courses and 30 credit hours, students may be admitted to the SPED program as majors. Upon admission to full-standing in the program, students are to meet with their SPED advisor, where they plan the remainder of their program of studies (typically the second semester of the sophomore year, the junior year, and senior year).

Minimum criteria for admission to the SPED program:

- Completion of SPED 2100 and either EDUC 1100 or EDUC 2100, with a minimum grade of a “C,” by the end of the semester of application.
- 30 credit hours of coursework.
- An overall GPA (Grade Point Average) of 2.7.
- A passing score on the PRAXIS Core exam.
- Completion of the practice NC Foundations General Curriculum tests in Canvas.

Credit Hours (\*\*A MINIMUM OF 120 EARNED CREDIT HOURS IS REQUIRED TO GRADUATE FROM UNC CHARLOTTE\*\*)

Foundation Courses	6-7 credit hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SPED 2100 and either EDUC 1100 or EDUC 2100. Students must receive a “C” or above in order to be admitted to the program</li> </ul>
Major Courses	54 credit hours – General Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required courses in the major will satisfy university requirements for writing intensive and oral communications – SPED 4170 (W); SPED 3173 (W); SPED 4475 (O)</li> </ul>
General Education Courses	31-33 credit hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These course requirements vary with a student’s experiences. In some concentrations, courses may count for both Gen Ed and the requirements of the concentration.</li> <li>Does not include required writing intensive and oral communications courses which are included in the major.</li> </ul>
Related Work	N/A	N/A
Foreign Language	N/A	N/A
Unrestricted Elective Courses	26-29 credit hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In consultation with their advisor, SPED majors will complete the appropriate number of credit hours necessary to meet the 120 credit hours required for B.A. in Special Education.</li> </ul>

**Licensure Testing Information** (General Curriculum)

LICENSURE AREA	Prior to admission to Teacher Education	Prior to student teaching	For Licensure (Praxis and Foundations tests are taking the place of EE2 for all tested areas)	Praxis Test Codes and Passing Scores		Special Notes
				Test	Score	
General Curriculum	Pass Praxis Core or submit exempting SAT/ACT scores	Take the Praxis Subject Assessment (5543), the Pearson Foundations of Reading exam, and either the Pearson General Curriculum Mathematics subtest <u>or</u> the Praxis Elementary Mathematics CKT (7803) ( <i>not required, but very strongly recommended</i> )	Pass Praxis Subject Assessment (5543)	0543/5543	158	Paper delivered Praxis tests will be discontinued completely (9/1/14)  General curriculum candidates must pass Praxis II (5543) prior to being recommended for a license; they must also take during their first year of teaching and pass by the end of their second (1) the Pearson Foundations of Reading exam and (2) either the Pearson General Curriculum Mathematics subtest <u>or</u> the Praxis Elementary Mathematics CKT (7803)

**ADVISING RESOURCES:**

- [ucol.uncc.edu/general-education](http://ucol.uncc.edu/general-education) is the definitive source for General Education requirements for ALL students
- [advising.uncc.edu](http://advising.uncc.edu) is the central University source of information on advising
- [catalog.uncc.edu](http://catalog.uncc.edu) is the official Undergraduate Catalog
- [teal.uncc.edu](http://teal.uncc.edu) is the advising web page for the Cato College of Education
- [advisingcenter.uncc.edu](http://advisingcenter.uncc.edu) is the web page for the University Advising Center

CATO COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

**Graduation Planning Worksheet for Special Education: General Curriculum (K-12)**

“Developing Excellent Professionals”

Name \_\_\_\_\_ ID # \_\_\_\_\_ Advisor \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Semester \_\_\_\_\_

**I. General Education Courses** 31-33 credit hours (Course selections must be initially approved by the student’s Pre-Education advisor in the Office of Teacher Education Advising and Licensure (TEAL) and finally approved by the student’s major advisor after admission to the Teacher Education Program in Special Education.)

Development of Fundamental Skills of Inquiry	Course Options	Course Taken	Semester	Grade
Basic writing skills	UWRT 1103 or 1104 (3-4 credit hours)			
Mathematical and logical reasoning	MATH 1340 (recommended) (3 credit hours)			
Mathematical and logical reasoning	MATH 1341 (recommended) (3 credit hours)			
Inquiry in the Sciences	Course Options	Course Taken	Semester	Grade
Natural sciences	Two of the following, and one of them must be with a lab: ANTH 2141 BINF 1101 BIOL 1110, 1115 CHEM 1111, 1112, 1200, 1203, 1204, 1251, 1252 ESCI 1101 GEOG 1103 GEOL 1200, 1210 ITIS 1350, METR 1102 PHYS 1100, 1101, 1102, 1130, 1201, 1202, 1203, 2101, 2102 <b>PSYC 1101 (see below)</b>	(4 credit hours with lab)		
		(3-4 credit hours with or without lab)		
Social sciences	One of the following: (3 credit hours) ANTH 1101, ECON 1101, ECON 2101, ECON 2102, GEOG 1105, POLS 1110, SOCY 1101			
Themes of Liberal Education for Private and Public Life	Course Options	Course Taken	Semester	Grade
Arts and society	One of the following: (3 credit hours) LBST 1101, 1102, 1103, 1104, 1105			
Choose three LBST courses from the following four categories. <u>LBST 2301</u> must be taken by students who did not transfer a course with a CTC attribute.				
Western tradition	LBST 2101 (3 credit hours)			
Global understanding	LBST 2102 (3 credit hours)			
Ethical issues and cultural critique	One of the following: (3 credit hours) LBST 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215			
Critical thinking and communication (CTC)	LBST 2301 (3 credit hours)			
Communication Skills (See Professional Education Coursework)	Course Options	Course Taken		
Writing in the major (W)	SPED 4400 Integrated Instructional Applications in Special Education (3 credit hours)			
Writing in the discipline (W)	SPED 3173 Assessment in Special Education (3 credit hours)			
Oral communication (O)	SPED 4475 Student Teaching/Seminar: Special Education K-12: General Curriculum (15 credit hours)			

**Students in this major should plan on taking PSYC 1101 that meets general education requirements and also satisfies prerequisites for courses in the major.**

Notes:

1. UNC Charlotte requires 6 credit hours of WRITING INTENSIVE (Code W) courses. For Special Education: the writing in the major course is satisfied by SPED 4400 and the writing in the discipline course is satisfied by SPED 3173.
2. To be admitted to the Teacher Education Program and take any 3000/4000 level Professional Education courses, students must have completed an admission application through the TEAL office, attained a “C” or above in SPED 2100 and either EDUC 1100 or EDUC 2100, passed all three parts of the Praxis Core test, and attained an overall GPA of at least 2.7 in at least 30 credit hours of coursework.
3. In accordance with legislation enacted in 1992 by the North Carolina General Assembly, the State Board of Governors had directed that undergraduates should enroll in at least 15 credit hours per term, thereby enabling a full-time student to complete a baccalaureate degree program in four years or the equivalent.

**II. Foundation and Major Courses 60-61 credit hours**

a. Courses required prior to admission to the *Teacher Education Program*. (6-7 credit hours)

Course Taken	Semester	Grade
EDUC 2100 Foundations of Education and Diversity in Schools (3) * OR EDUC 1100 Foundations of Education and Diversity in Schools - Prospect Curriculum (4) *		
SPED 2100 Introduction to Students with Special Needs (3) *		

\* SPED 2100 and either EDUC 1100 or EDUC 2100 should be taken no later than a student's sophomore year. Both courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or above to qualify for admission to the Teacher Education Program in Special Education.

b. (3 credit hours)

Course Options	Course Taken	Semester	Grade
One of the following: (3 credit hours) SOCY 4135 Sociology of Education SOCY 4168 Sociology of Mental Health and Illness PSYC 2120 Child Psychology PSYC 2121 Adolescent Psychology			

c. Admitted to *Teacher Education* with no/few completed electives -- Admission to Teacher Education \_\_\_\_\_(date)

Admission to *Teacher Education* and advisor's approval are required in order to register for any of the following courses. (51 credit hours)  
(Courses may have required prerequisite courses, so courses should be taken in the sequence indicated below. Please refer to the Undergraduate Catalog for complete prerequisite requirements.)

Course Taken	Fall Semester Junior Year (12 credit hours)		
SPED 4270 Classroom Management (3) *			
SPED 4272 Teaching Mathematics to Learners with Special Needs (3) *			
SPED 3100 Introduction to General Curriculum for Students with Special Needs (3)			
SPED 4318 Collaboration and Transition-Focused Education (3)			
Course Taken	Spring Semester Junior Year (12 credit hours)		
TESL 4204 Inclusive Classrooms for Immigrant Students (3) *			
SPED 3173 Assessment in Special Education (3) (W)			
SPED 4275 Teaching Reading to Elementary Learners with Special Needs (3) *			
SPED 3175 Instructional Planning in Special Education (3)			
Course Taken	Fall Semester Senior Year (12 credit hours)		
SPED 4276 Teaching Reading to Middle and Secondary Learners with Special Needs (3) *			
SPED 4279 Content-Area Instruction for Students with Special Needs (3) *			
SPED 4277 Teaching Written Expression to Learners with Special Needs (3) *			
SPED 4400 Integrated Instructional Applications in Special Education (3) (W)			
Course Taken	Spring Semester Senior Year (15 credit hours)		
SPED 4475 Student Teaching/Seminar: Special Education K-12: General Curriculum (15) (O) *			
<i>Enrollment in SPED 4475 requires admission to student teaching through the College's Office of Field Experiences.</i>			

\* Asterisks (\*) indicate the existence of required clinical field experience hours.

Note: Some courses may be taught in the evening; however, the major cannot be completed by taking evening classes only.

**III. Unrestricted Elective Courses 26-29 credit hours**

Course Taken	Semester	Grade	Course Taken	Semester	Grade

(\*\*\*A MINIMUM OF 120 EARNED CREDIT HOURS IS REQUIRED TO GRADUATE FROM UNC CHARLOTTE\*\*\*)