

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION (ED.S.) - SPECIAL EDUCATION

Important: This degree plan is effective for those starting this degree program in fall 2025 through summer 2026. This degree plan will remain in effect for students who do not break enrollment or who do not change degree programs, concentrations, or cognates.

This is a non-licensure degree and is not a state-approved program. Completion of this degree will not lead to the eligibility of a VA state teaching license or a teaching license or certificate in any other state.

Code	Title	Hours
Education Theory Courses		
EDUC 701	Advanced Learning Theory and Research	3
Choose three credit hours of the following:		3
EDUC 703	Theories of Historical and Social Foundations of Education	
EDUC 741	Philosophy of Leadership in Diverse Educational Settings ¹	
Total Hours		6

Code	Title	Hours
Curriculum & Instruction Core		
Choose nine credit hours of the following:		9
EDUC 730	Issues & Trends in Learning Technologies ¹	
EDUC 735	Issues and Trends in Curriculum and Instruction	
EDUC 771	Curriculum Theory	
EDUC 871	Investigations in Curriculum Change	
EDUC 872	Research in Curriculum Design and Development	
Total Hours		9

¹ Intensive format optional

Code	Title	Hours
Special Education Cognate		
EDUC 721	Issues and Trends in Exceptionality	3
Choose six credit hours of the following:		6
EDGL 620	Curriculum and Methods for Teaching Gifted Learners	
EDUC 621	Educational Assessment for Special Needs	
EDUC 624	Instructional Methods for Behavior and Learning	
EDUC 629	Technology and Diversity	
Total Hours		9

Code	Title	Hours
Research & Evaluation Courses		
EDUC 750	Survey of Educational Research	3
EDUC 798	Advanced Research and Writing ¹	3
Total Hours		6

¹ Capstone course to be taken in the final semester

All applicable prerequisites must be met

Graduation Requirements

- Complete 30 hours
- A maximum of 50% of a post-graduate and doctoral degree may be transferred if approved and allowable, including credit from an earned degree from Liberty University on the same academic level
- 3.0 GPA
- No more than one grade of C may be applied to the degree (includes grades of C+ & C-)
- No grade of D or below may be applied to the degree (includes grades of D+ & D-)
- Degree must be completed within 5 years
- Submission of Degree Completion Application must be completed within the last semester of a student's anticipated graduation date

Program Offered in Online Format

Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
First Semester		
EDUC 701	Advanced Learning Theory and Research	3
Cognate Elective ¹		3
EDUC 703	Theories of Historical and Social Foundations of Education ²	3
or EDUC 741	or Philosophy of Leadership in Diverse Educational Settings	
Core Elective ³		3
Hours		12
Second Semester		
EDUC 721	Issues and Trends in Exceptionality	3
Core Elective ³		3
EDUC 750	Survey of Educational Research	3
Cognate Elective ¹		3
Hours		12
Second Year		
First Semester		
EDUC 798	Advanced Research and Writing ⁴	3
Core Elective ³		3
Hours		6
Total Hours		30

¹ Choose from the following courses: EDUC 620, 621, 624, or 629

² Intensive Format optional

³ Choose one course from the following: EDUC 730, 735, 771, 871, or 872

⁴ Course should be taken in final semester