

# MASTER OF ARTS AND SIXTH YEAR CERTIFICATE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION WITH INITIAL CERTIFICATION

## Requirements

### Initial Educator Certification Sequence of Courses

The following list of courses is designed to reflect the current plan of study required by Fairfield University for Connecticut certification as an initial educator in comprehensive special education (51 credits). To be considered for an initial certificate and/or to receive an institutional endorsement from the Connecticut Department of Education, a candidate must successfully complete all coursework in the planned program, pass all PRAXIS (Praxis Core and Praxis II) assessments and the Foundations of Reading Test and the edTPA portfolio assessment required by the state for the intended certification, and pass the program's Comprehensive Examination in Special Education. The program for those seeking an initial certificate in special education is designed so that candidates first earn a Master of Arts degree (30 credits).

During the final semester of the MA, students make application to be awarded the MA degree and complete an abbreviated application for admittance into the SYC program. Application for admittance to the SYC is reviewed by the Director of Programs in Special Education and the faculty. At this time, candidates whose personal/dispositional qualities are deemed not appropriate to the field may be denied recommendation for admission to the certification portion of this Initial Certification Program. Please note that the Disposition Statement presented in this catalog is applicable to the special education programs as it is to all programs offered by the School of Education and Human Development.

Once admitted to the SYC program, candidates complete the additional 21 credits required for certification.

### Master of Arts

Code	Title	Credits
SPED 5401	Augmentative Alternative Communications and Assistive Technologies	3
SPED 5403	Foundations in Research and Evaluation of Psychoeducational Issues in Special Education	3
SPED 5410	Autism Spectrum Disorders: Theories and Interventions	3
SPED 5411	Introduction to Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities	3
SPED 5413	Theories of and Introduction to Learning Disabilities	3
SPED 5417	Introduction to Children and Youth with Social and Emotional Disturbances	3
SPED 5419	Special Learners in the Bilingual/ESL Classroom	3

SPED 5432	Management Techniques in Special Education	3
SPED 5486	Developmental Literacy I: Fundamentals of Reading and Language Development	3
SPED 5487	Developmental Literacy II: Essentials of Vocabulary and Text Comprehension	3
SPED 6999	Comprehensive Examination in Special Education	0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>30</b>

### Sixth Year Certificate

The following 21 credits are required to complete the initial certification sequence:

Code	Title	Credits
SPED 6534	Skill Development for Individualized Educational Plans	3
SPED 6537	Curriculum and Methods for Students with Mild to Moderate Disabilities	3
SPED 6550	Collaboration and Consultation for the Special Educator	3
SPED 6561	Diagnostic Procedures in Special Education of Youth with Disabilities	3
SPED 6953	Student Teaching in Special Education	3
SPED 6954	Student Teaching/DSAP Seminar in Special Education	3
EDUC 6598	edTPA Portfolio <sup>1</sup>	0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>18</b>

<sup>1</sup> \$300 edTPA registration fee required

Note: Candidates are eligible to request an endorsement for initial certification after successfully completing the above courses.

### 9 CREDITS Self-Design

In collaboration with their academic advisor, candidates select 9 credits to complete the Sixth Year Certificate. Courses from EDTC, PSYG, EDUC, and/or programs that are related to the candidate's area of focus in special education may be used to fulfill these requirements.