



THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Andrews  University

MASTER OF SCIENCE: EDUCATION SPECIAL EDUCATION/LEARNING DISABILITIES

Welcome to the Graduate School at Andrews University (AU). The faculty, staff, and students of the Department of Teaching, Learning, & Curriculum (TLC) are pleased you want to connect with the MS program in Education. As the professional world continues to demand higher knowledge and advanced degrees, graduate study is a wise and often necessary step towards your career goal. The TLC Department is proud to offer comprehensive instruction—including attention to research, personal student-professor interaction, excellent advising, and an emphasis on the spiritual dimensions of education—that will provide you the understanding, practical application, and competitive edge you need to assume a leadership role in the profession.



OUR PROGRAM OFFERS

Exploratory Learning

Educator candidates are involved in an ongoing process exploring interrelationships among broad interdisciplinary perspectives, the Special Education profession, and their own knowledge, skills, and dispositions. Encouragement to promote improvement in the field of Special Education is developed through perspicacious study and the application of empirical research findings.

Course Delivery

Classes are offered over the Internet, on-campus during the academic year, and in summer sessions. These options allow educator candidates to minimize time away from their careers, homes, and families by reducing the length of time required on campus. Student teaching is listed as "Field Work"; this course must be taken concurrently with "Seminar: Current Trends in Learning Disabilities." This experience is competency-based according to state and national accreditation standards.

Small Class Sizes

In addition to a quality educational experience, classes are small enough to provide a personal learning experience. Classes are often conducted conference style, promoting direct involved discussion between students, professors, and invited guests.

WHO QUALIFIES FOR THIS DEGREE?

The Special Education/Learning Disabilities Program is designed for two types of educator candidates. The first includes individuals who are seeking a Special Education (SPED)/Learning Disabilities (LD) teaching endorsement. In the State of Michigan, this requires the candidate to currently hold, or earn prior to program completion, a state teaching certificate. Educator candidates who are seeking a Michigan SPED/LD teaching endorsement and do not hold a state teaching certificate can combine the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree and the MS degree. This would require additional course work. The second group of individuals who are not seeking Michigan State SPED/LD teaching endorsement but want to obtain an MS: Education: SPED in order to pursue a professional career path other than teaching.

CHOOSE ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

The TLC SPED/LD Program facilitates educator candidates to participate in opportunities which enable them to understand and value diversity within a universal community. Learning takes place in a highly international environment, allowing individuals the experience of multiculturalism. Diversity is also promoted in study, as students recognize and explore the interrelation of academic disciplines. An emphasis on Christian compassion empowers a commitment to the general welfare of individual students, society, and the world through openness, understanding, and accommodation.

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

The field of Special Education has vast shortages of educators. Most Special Education educator candidates are hired in teaching positions prior to their completion of the degree. The department believes in the quality of its graduates. We take an active role in helping you seek employment. You given personal guidance in the creation of your professional portfolio and resume. Opportunities are provided to participate in employment search simulations during our Professional Days. Finally, the department specifically markets the employment of our graduates via mailings, Internet postings, and professional networking.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Graduate assistantships, scholarships, and grants are available upon application through the School of Education Dean's Office.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Master of Science: Education, Special Education/Learning Disabilities emphasis

The Andrews University, School of Education, TLC Department, SPED/LD program seeks to prepare professionals who can work effectively within complex work and cultural systems marked by diversity, interdependence, and accelerating change. It is the philosophy of the program to equip highly trained individuals in the practices of self-reflection and self-evaluation, leading to an openness of growth and change within self, others, the profession, and society built upon a personal faith structure.

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

Applicants to the program must first submit an Andrews University Graduate Application. See the AU Bulletin for details on Grade Point Average (GPA) requirements, submission of Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores, or provisional acceptance without first completing the GRE. You may request an AU Bulletin by contacting Graduate Admissions at 1.800.253.2874 or view it online at www.andrews.edu. The GRE Internet URL is www.gre.org. Additionally, the State of Michigan requires individuals seeking Special Education/Learning Disabilities endorsement to previously hold a general teaching certification. Upon admission to the program, individuals will be required to provide appropriate documentation of teaching credentials if they are seeking Michigan State Special Education/Learning Disabilities endorsement. Teachers from outside the State of Michigan should inquire about their state Special Education licensure prior to admission. Application may be made to complete the MS Program without obtaining state teaching endorsement, in which case the student would receive the MS degree only.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Transfer credits

Educator candidates are allowed to transfer courses into the Program. All prerequisite courses (not counting towards the 31 credit degree) may be transferred from another university. Only six credits of core or specialty courses may be transferred. Courses transferred into the MS degree Program (31 credits) cannot be more than six years old at the time of degree completion.

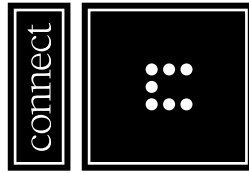
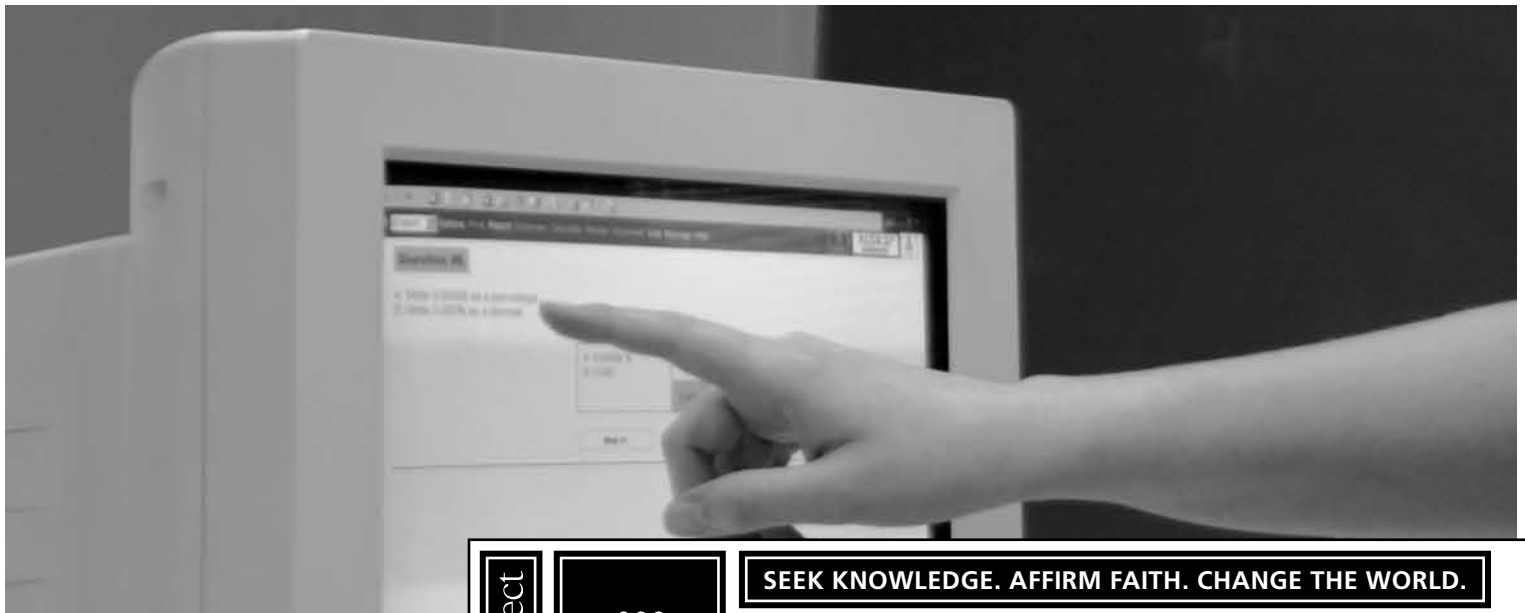
Michigan Tests for Teacher Certification (MTTC) / Endorsement

Section 1531 of Public Act (PA) 451 (1976), as amended by PA 267 (1986), PA 282 (1992), and PA 289 (1995), mandates state teacher testing as one aspect of Michigan's teacher certification/endorsement requirements. The purpose of the state testing is to help ensure that individuals seeking certification/endorsement have the basic skills and content knowledge to perform effectively in Michigan schools. For more information regarding mandated Michigan State assessments, contact the TLC Department.

OUTSTANDING FACULTY

The program is built upon and supported by a foundation of dedicated and specialized faculty. Course work crosses School of Education (SED) department boundaries to incorporate the strengths from a variety of professionals. The SED, and in particular the TLC Department, have a reputation for academic excellence; our educator candidates experience a high rate of professional and personal success around the world. Professors trained in specific areas of expertise instruct all classes.





SEEK KNOWLEDGE. AFFIRM FAITH. CHANGE THE WORLD.

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SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

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