

SPECIAL EDUCATION, B.S.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education, a minimum of 122 credits is required (See also Teacher Education Programs (<https://ed.psu.edu/academics/teacher-testing-certification>)):

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	3
Requirements for the Major	92

18 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 6 credits of GH courses; 6 credits of GQ courses; 6 credits of GS courses.

Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better per course is required for all Special Education prerequisites and teacher certification.

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better for all Special Education prerequisites and teacher certification</i>		
CI 280	Introduction to Teaching Multilingual Learners	3
EDPSY 14	Learning and Instruction	3
EDPSY 101	Analysis and Interpretation of Statistical Data in Education	3
EDTHP 115	Education in American Society	3
MATH 200	Problem Solving in Mathematics	3
PSYCH 100	Introductory Psychology	3
PSYCH 212	Introduction to Developmental Psychology	3
SPLED 395W	Observing Special Education Settings Spanning Across School Transitions	3
SPLED 401	Motivating Exceptional Learners	4
SPLED 404	Working with Families and Professionals in Special Education	3
SPLED 409A	Fundamental Literacy Skills for Students with Special Needs	3
SPLED 409B	Writing and Content Literacy for Students with Special Needs	3
SPLED 409C	Mathematics Instruction for Students with Special Needs	3
SPLED 410	Culturally Responsive Pedagogy in Special Education	3
SPLED 411	Intervention for Students with Severe Disabilities	3
SPLED 412	Instruction for Students with Mild Disabilities	3
SPLED 415	Early Special Education	3
SPLED 418	Technologies for Persons with Disabilities	3

SPLED 425	Foundations of Special Education, Etiologies, Law, and Implications for Practice	3
SPLED 454	Assessment for Instruction	3
SPLED 495D	Professional Development for Special Education Teacher Candidates	3
SPLED 495E	Experience with Exceptional Children	3
SPLED 495F	Practicum in Special Education	12
SPLED 495G	Experience with an Integrated Inclusion Classroom	4

Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better for all Special Education prerequisites and teacher certification

EDPSY 10	Individual Differences and Education	3
or EDPSY 11	Educational Implications of Individual Differences in Childhood	
Select 3 credits from the following:		3

CSD 218	American Sign Language I
RHS 402	Children and Families in Rehabilitation Settings and Human Services
RHS 403	Medical Aspects of Disability
RHS 404	Rehabilitation Services for Transition Age Youth with Disabilities: Theory and Practice
RHS/LHR 410	Employment Strategies for People with Disabilities
RHS 433	Trauma-informed care for school & human service professionals
SPLED 461	Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders: Issues and Concerns
SPLED 462	Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better

Select 3 credits in Literature:		3
AFAM 147	The Life and Thought of Malcolm X	
CAMS 1	Greek and Roman Literature	
CAMS 45	Classical Mythology	
CMLIT 1	Introduction to Western Literatures Through the Renaissance	
CMLIT 3	Introduction to African Literatures	
CMLIT 4	Introduction to Asian Literatures	
CMLIT 5	Introduction to Literatures of the Americas	
CMLIT 6	Literature and Philosophy	
CMLIT 10	World Literatures	
CMLIT 100	Reading Across Cultures	
CMLIT 101	Race, Gender, and Identity in World Literature	
CMLIT 105	The Development of Literary Humor	
CMLIT 106	The Arthurian Legend	
CMLIT 107	Exploration, Travel, Migration, and Exile	
CMLIT 108	Myths and Mythologies	
CMLIT 109	Native American Myths, Legends, and Literatures	
CMLIT 110		
CMLIT 112N	Introduction to Global Drama, Theatre, and Performance	
CMLIT 120	Literature of the Occult	
CMLIT 122	Global Science Fictions	
CMLIT 130	Banned Books: International and Comparative Perspectives	

CMLIT 131	Crime and Detection in World Literature
CMLIT 132	Nobel Prize Literature
CMLIT 143	Human Rights and World Literature
CMLIT 153	International Cultures: Film and Literature
CMLIT 184	The Short Story
ENGL 2	The Great Traditions in English Literature
ENGL 101	Introduction to Literature
ENGL 103	The Great Traditions in American Literature
ENGL 104	The Bible as Literature
ENGL 129	Shakespeare
ENGL 130	Reading Popular Texts
ENGL 133	Modern American Literature to World War II
ENGL 134	American Comedy
ENGL 135	Alternative Voices in American Literature
ENGL 136	The Graphic Novel
ENGL 140	Contemporary Literature
ENGL 145	Modern Irish Literature
ENGL 170N	Introduction to American Folklore
ENGL 180	Literature and the Natural World
ENGL 181C	The Beach: Exploring the Literature of the Atlantic Shore
ENGL 182	Literature and Empire
ENGL 184	The Short Story
ENGL 191	Science Fiction
ENGL 192	The Literature of Fantasy
ENGL 194	Women Writers
ENGL 200	Introduction to Critical Reading
ENGL 201	What is Literature
ENGL 205	Children's Literature
ENGL 221	British Literature to 1798
ENGL 222	British Literature from 1798
ENGL 224N	Authors and Artists
ENGL 226	Latina and Latino Border Theories
ENGL 228	Introduction to Disability Studies in the Humanities
ENGL 231	American Literature to 1865
ENGL 232	American Literature from 1865
ENGL 233N	Chemistry and Literature
ENGL 240	Exploring Literary Traditions
ENGL 262	Reading Fiction
ENGL 265	Reading Nonfiction
ENGL 268	Reading Drama
LLED 215N	Children's Picture Books as Multimodal Texts
WMNST 106N	Representing Women and Gender in Literature, Art and Popular Cultures

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education

Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- **Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain):** 6 credits

Exploration

- **GN**, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses.** This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- **United States Cultures:** 3 credits
- **International Cultures:** 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.