MASTER OF EDUCATION IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

Program Requirements

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Student’s Advisory Committee

Upon admission to graduate studies and enrollment, the student will be appointed a chair for his or her advisory committee. For the M.Ed. in Special Education, the chair may function as the sole member of a student's advisory committee. The chair must be a member of the graduate faculty, from the student’s department, and located on a Texas A&M University campus. Other Texas A&M University graduate faculty members located off-campus may serve as member or co-chair (but not chair) of student advisory committees.

If the chair voluntarily leaves the University near completion of a student's degree, the student may select another chair or has the option of working through the Department Head to secure permission from the Graduate and Professional School for the chair to continue in that role for up to one year. Extensions beyond the one year period can be granted pending additional approval from the Dean.

A chair's signature on the degree plan indicates his or her willingness to accept the responsibility for guiding and directing the student's entire academic program and for initiating all academic actions concerning the student. The chair typically provides immediate supervision of the student's research and is responsible for counseling the student on academic matters, and, in the case of academic deficiency, initiating recommendations to the Graduate and Professional School.

Degree Plan

The student's chair, in consultation with the student, will develop the proposed degree plan. The degree plan must be completed and filed with the Graduate and Professional School prior to the deadline imposed by the student's college, and no later than 90 days prior to the date of the final oral examination. This proposed degree plan should be submitted through the online Document Processing Submission System located on the website https://ogsdpss.tamu.edu. Additional coursework may be added to the approved degree plan by petition if it is deemed necessary by the advisory committee to correct deficiencies in the student's academic preparation. No changes can be made to the degree plan once the student's Request for Exemption from the Final Examination is approved by the Graduate and Professional School.

Credit Requirement

A minimum of 36 semester credit hours of approved courses is required for the Master of Education degree.
4. Any combination of 684, 685 or 690 may not exceed 25 percent of the total credit hour requirement shown on the individual degree plan:
   • A maximum of 8 hours of 684 (Professional Internship) and/or
   • A maximum of 8 hours of 685 (Directed Studies), and
   • Up to 3 hours of 690 (Theory of Research).
5. A maximum of 2 hours of Seminar (681).
6. A maximum of 9 hours of advanced undergraduate courses (300- or 400-level).
7. For graduate courses of three weeks’ duration or less, taken at other institutions, up to 1 hour of credit may be obtained for each five-day week of coursework. Each week of coursework must include at least 15 contact hours.
8. No credit hours of 691 (Research) may be used.
9. Continuing education courses may not be used for graduate credit.
10. Extension courses are not acceptable for credit.
11. For non-distance degree programs, no more than 50 percent of the credit hours required for the program may be completed through distance education courses.
12. To receive a graduate degree from Texas A&M University, students must earn one-third or more of the credits through the institution’s own direct instruction. This limitation also applies to joint degree programs.

Exceptions will be permitted only in unusual cases and when petitioned by the student's advisory committee and approved by the Graduate and Professional School.

**Final Examination**

**MEd SPED Final Examination section:**

The Final Examination is not required for the Master of Education degree in Special Education.