

Plan of Study: Master of Arts in Special Education (No Endorsement)

Name					
Address		Street	City	State	Zip Code
Primary Phone		E-mail Address			

Goals and Focus of the Program:

Designed for passionate educators who want to make a greater impact in inclusive classrooms, the Master of Arts in Special Education at the University of Saint Joseph offers in-depth preparation to meet the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs of children and adolescents with disabilities. Graduates are prepared to lead in general or special education settings, applying research-based strategies that foster equity, inclusion, and meaningful access to learning. It is ideal for educators seeking to strengthen their professional knowledge and instructional practices without pursuing cross-endorsement.

Program Design:

Built for working educators, this fully online program combines live, interactive weekly class sessions with the convenience of asynchronous time for reading, reflection, and project development. The program follows a cohort model for real-time collaboration and peer support. Courses are offered in eight-week blocks, one at a time, and class sessions meet online the same evening each week from 4:45-8:45. The 30-credit program can be completed in approximately two years.

Prerequisites:

To apply, students must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution (minimum GPA of 2.5) and have access to a classroom and students throughout the program to support field study and application of course content.

Degree Requirements and Career Outcome:

To earn the Master of Arts in Special Education, students must successfully complete all required coursework and a course-embedded capstone project.

Please note: This program does not lead to initial teacher certification, licensure, or endorsement.

Course	Course Title	Start Week	End Week	Credits
SPEC 539	Universal Design for Learning: Proactive Inclusion for All Students	Mar. 2, 2026	Apr. 27, 2026	3
SPEC 561	Behavioral Interventions	May 4, 2026	Jun. 22, 2026	3
SPEC 518	Designing Learning Experiences for Students with Low-Incidence Disabilities	Aug. 24, 2026	Oct. 12, 2026	3
SPEC 554	Research-Based Math Interventions	Oct. 19, 2026	Dec. 7, 2026	3
SPEC 542	Science of Early Reading Development	Jan. 4, 2027	Feb. 22, 2027	3
SPEC 540	Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary Interventions	Mar. 1, 2027	Apr. 26, 2027	3
SPEC 535	Special Education Law	May 3, 2027	Jun. 21, 2027	3
SPEC 526	Educational Assessment	Aug. 30, 2027	Oct. 18, 2027	3
SPEC 505	Assistive Technology for Access to the Curriculum Special Education	Oct. 25, 2027	Dec. 13, 2027	3
SPEC 530	Research in Special Education*	Jan. 10, 2028	Feb. 28, 2028	3
*MASTER'S CAPSTONE PROJECT INCLUDED				
Total Credit Hours				30

PLAN OF STUDY AGREEMENT: (Initial each line, then sign and date)

- ☐ I have read and understand all information in the Student Information Packet, including important information regarding admissions, transferring credits, refunds, enrollment, and tuition and fees.
- ☐ I understand that this program will be delivered in a fully online format through a combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning activities.
- ☐ I understand the Online Masters for Teachers cohort requires all students to complete their coursework with grades of C or better.
- ☐ I understand that I can only re-take two courses, one time each.
- ☐ I understand that I am expected to submit a course evaluation at the conclusion of each course.
- ☐ I have read and understand this Plan of Study and agree to this Plan of Study Agreement.

Student Signature **Date**

Program Director Signature **Date**

The courses for this program may be offered in a different order. This list should not be considered the finalized course sequence.