Teaching and Learning, MA

Special Education

The Master of Arts in teaching and learning with a special education subprogram requires a minimum of 32 s.h. of graduate credit. Students must maintain a program grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.00.

The program prepares individuals to deliver appropriate levels of service to students with disabilities at the elementary and secondary levels, in either public or private settings. Applicants with a master's degree and special education certification may request admission in order to obtain an additional area of special education licensure/certification (i.e., professional improvement). Students typically receive licensure/certification in at least one area upon completing the program. Contact the Department of Teaching and Learning for specific program requirements.

Special education programs are offered in K–8 and 5–12 Instructional Strategist I: Mild/Moderate, and K–12 Instructional Strategist II: BD/LD. These programs are designed to prepare graduates for positions in public schools, local and state education agencies, clinical settings, and institutions of higher education. All teacher licensure/certification programs are approved by the Iowa Department of Education. Students may need to complete additional courses or other requirements to meet state standards for teacher preparation, licensure, or endorsements.

Admission

Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College. They must have an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.00 and/or at least 3.00 on a minimum of 12 s.h. of graduate coursework.

Applicants seeking initial teacher licensure must have at least 10 hours of documented experience in K–12 schools. Applicants whose first language is not English must score at least 100 (internet-based) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

Application materials must include a completed Graduate College application form; copies of official transcripts for all college coursework; three current letters of recommendation; and evidence of experience and/or teacher licensure/certification. An interview may be requested.

Final admission decisions are made by the special education graduate admissions committee.