

Yearly Leveled Advising Guide for Special Education

(transformed curriculum)

Freshman Year

- Visit the advising center on the School of Education website and become familiar with the services that are available to you.
- You have been assigned a faculty advisor who is available to serve as a mentor. Become acquainted with your advisor (If you don't know who your advisor is, look on TESS under personal information). Meet with your advisor to review accomplishments and discuss future plans and career goals.
- Enroll in SPE 103 (Historic, Social, and Legal Foundations of Special Education).
- Begin to develop a teaching portfolio that includes related papers, projects, experience, etc.

Sophomore Year

- Enroll in course series for sophomore professional experience. These include: SLP 102 (Language, Speech, and Communication Development); SPE 203 (The Psychological Development of Children and Adolescents); RAL 220 (Literacy Strategies, Assessment and Instruction – Special Ed.); SPE 214 (Exploring Classroom Communities); and RAL 225 (Children's Literature).
- Continue development of teaching portfolio by adding journals, learning centers, lesson plans, etc.
- Check with your department to see if application for admission into the junior professional experience (JPE) is required.

****A cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 must be attained to enter the junior professional experience (JPE).**

Junior Year

- Enroll in MST 202 (Methods of Teaching Science, Health, and Technology), which must be taken with MTT 202 (Methods of Teaching Mathematics); RAL 320 (Literacy Learning Across the Curriculum – Special Education); and SPE 329 (Multicultural Social Studies Curricula for all Students).
- Continue development of teaching portfolio with assessments, thematic units, etc.

****A cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 must be attained in order to enroll in a graduate level course during the senior year.**

Senior Year

- Enroll in the following graduate courses: SPE 522 (Remedial Instruction) and (Curriculum Design for Individuals with Severe Disabilities).
- Continue development of teaching portfolio with assessments, thematic units, etc.
- Attend department meeting to plan student teaching for the next academic year. During this meeting, applications, expectations, and policies are discussed.
- Complete the application for student teaching and submit it to the STEP Office for placement processing.
- Apply for formal admittance to graduate program through Office of Graduate Studies.
- Apply to graduate through the Office of Records and Registration at the start of (if not before) the final semester.
- Graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts and Special Education *without* certification.

****A cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 must be attained to partake in the graduate year.**

Summer Prior to Fifth Year

- Enroll in graduate courses (Collaboration and Transition in the Schools) and SPE 521 (Assistive Technology).

Fifth Year

- Complete the student teaching experience, which incorporates a full semester of writing daily lesson plans and teaching at an off campus site. A cooperating teacher and supervisor will serve as mentors for this experience. Generally, students are placed in professional development school sites located a short distance from The College of New Jersey.
- Complete development of teaching portfolio.
- Apply to graduate through the Office of Graduate Studies at the start of (if not before) the final semester.
- Complete courses required for master's degree.
- Attend The Culminating Conference for Prospective Educators. The STEP Office will notify you with further information.
- Contact the Office of Career Services for information about your credentials file, job search, and on-campus interviews.
- Apply for NJ teacher certification through the STEP Office. **In order to receive NJ certification, it is required to have a final cumulative GPA of at least 2.75.**