

Special Education - Multicategorical

- √ Major
- √ Grades PreK-12

Description of the major:

Students who complete the Bachelor of Arts in special education earn a teaching license in multicategorical special education. This license responds to the critical need to educate students with a broad array of disabilities, including specific learning disabilities, emotional disabilities and intellectual disabilities, from kindergarten through high school. The program includes critical coursework related to characteristics of disabilities; assessment of student performance; collaboration with families and other school professionals; instructional planning and development of individualized education programs; evidence-based instruction methods; functional behavior analysis and behavior intervention plans; and academic and individualized instructional content. The special education undergraduate program is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). The Spadoni College of Education is nationally accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), which includes national recognition by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and the South Carolina Board of Education.

The student experience:

- The program includes three field experiences in public schools designed to prepare students with knowledge of professional and ethical special education practice.
- To support the successful transition from teacher candidate to professional special educator, students spend their final semester using their knowledge and skills in a local public school internship.
- Students who earn a degree from CCU and South Carolina licensure are eligible for reciprocal licensure in every other state.

- The program includes extensive clinical experiences in area schools, beginning in the first semester of study in education and continuing through the internship experience at the end of the program. Clinical field work begins with a focus on guided observation experiences, followed by expectations for individual, small group and whole-class instruction.
- CCU offers three student organizations for special education majors: the South Carolina Education Association Club (SCEA); the national education honor society, Kappa Delta Pi (KDP); and the campus chapter of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC Club).

Admission to the program:

All students enter the program as pre-majors. Candidates may complete a formal application for admission to the professional program in teacher education (PPTe) when they have met the following requirements:

- Earn 60 hours of college-level coursework.
- Earn at least a 2.75 cumulative GPA.
- Earn a C or better in ENGL 101, ENGL 102 or ENGL 211; EDUC 111, EDUC 200, EDUC 204, EDUC 335, EDUC 336; MATH 201 and MATH 202; and a foreign language.
- Earn passing scores on all three areas of Praxis I or meet the exemption policy.
- Successfully clear a criminal background check.
- Complete a professional behavior and dispositions evaluation (submitted in LiveText).
- Be approved by the Portal I Faculty Committee review process.

For more information:

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