PATHWAYS | Special Education

Bachelor of Science in Special Education

**COURSE SELECTION**

**FRESHMAN**
- Take EDUC 1010 the second semester of your freshman year
- Concentrate on taking University Core coursework
- Complete University Core coursework
- Complete Admission to Teacher Education requirements, including passing scores on the Basic Skills Assessments, a background check, the pre-teaching experience, and a professional interview
- Submit an application for Admission to Teacher Education after your first semester of special education classes
- Progress through Professional Studies and Teaching Field courses, including practicum
- Focus on completing requirements for Admission to Clinical Residency including required Praxis exams for your program
- Submit application for Admission to Clinical Residency
- Complete any remaining requirements for Admission to Clinical Residency
- Continue taking Professional Studies and Teaching Field courses, including Clinical Residency your final semester
- Submit your teacher certification application

**SOPHOMORE**
- Take EDUC 1010 the second semester of your freshman year
- Concentrate on taking University Core coursework
- Complete University Core coursework
- Complete Admission to Teacher Education requirements, including passing scores on the Basic Skills Assessments, a background check, the pre-teaching experience, and a professional interview
- Submit an application for Admission to Teacher Education after your first semester of special education classes
- Progress through Professional Studies and Teaching Field courses, including practicum
- Focus on completing requirements for Admission to Clinical Residency including required Praxis exams for your program
- Submit application for Admission to Clinical Residency
- Complete any remaining requirements for Admission to Clinical Residency
- Continue taking Professional Studies and Teaching Field courses, including Clinical Residency your final semester
- Submit your teacher certification application

**JUNIOR**
- Take EDUC 1010 the second semester of your freshman year
- Concentrate on taking University Core coursework
- Complete University Core coursework
- Complete Admission to Teacher Education requirements, including passing scores on the Basic Skills Assessments, a background check, the pre-teaching experience, and a professional interview
- Submit an application for Admission to Teacher Education after your first semester of special education classes
- Progress through Professional Studies and Teaching Field courses, including practicum
- Focus on completing requirements for Admission to Clinical Residency including required Praxis exams for your program
- Submit application for Admission to Clinical Residency
- Complete any remaining requirements for Admission to Clinical Residency
- Continue taking Professional Studies and Teaching Field courses, including Clinical Residency your final semester
- Submit your teacher certification application

**SENIOR**
- Take EDUC 1010 the second semester of your freshman year
- Concentrate on taking University Core coursework
- Complete University Core coursework
- Complete Admission to Teacher Education requirements, including passing scores on the Basic Skills Assessments, a background check, the pre-teaching experience, and a professional interview
- Submit an application for Admission to Teacher Education after your first semester of special education classes
- Progress through Professional Studies and Teaching Field courses, including practicum
- Focus on completing requirements for Admission to Clinical Residency including required Praxis exams for your program
- Submit application for Admission to Clinical Residency
- Complete any remaining requirements for Admission to Clinical Residency
- Continue taking Professional Studies and Teaching Field courses, including Clinical Residency your final semester
- Submit your teacher certification application

**ASK FOR ASSISTANCE**
- Check in each term with your academic advisor in Professional Education Services (3464 Haley) to discuss your progress and available support services
- Continue to meet regularly with your academic advisor
- Continue to check in regularly with your academic advisor
- Meet with your faculty advisor as needed to discuss individual progress and program expectations
- Meet with your academic advisor and faculty advisor as needed to ensure all graduation requirements are met
- Ask the Career Center for help in updating your résumé and preparing for job interviews
- Schedule a mock interview through the Career Center

**GAIN EXPERIENCE**
- Expand your experiences working with K-12 students through campus and community volunteer work (e.g., Best Buddies)
- Complete your required pre-teaching experience in a school setting
- Take advantage of opportunities to observe or shadow professionals in your field
- Use LinkedIn (linkedin.com/alumni) to identify past graduates in your major
- Contact them to set up informational interviews and shadowing opportunities to gain further understanding of your major in the world of work
- Investigate our clinical residency abroad program (Consortium for Overseas Student Teaching, COST)
- Explore graduate or professional school opportunities
- Attend Education Interview Day
- Participate in other career fairs sponsored by the Career Center
- Complete your required pre-teaching experience in a school setting
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- Explore graduate or professional school opportunities
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- Participate in other career fairs sponsored by the Career Center

**GET INVOLVED**
- Join the College of Education Student Council
- Utilize AUInvolve to identify organizations of interest
- Explore how to become involved in professional organizations such as the Council for Exceptional Children
- Apply to become a College of Education Student Ambassador
- Pursue leadership roles in an organization
- Develop professional relationships during field experiences
- Connect with AU alumni and stakeholders to enhance professional opportunities

**Career Planning**

**Auburn University Career Center**
303 Mary Martin Hall | auburn.edu/career

Special education programs are designed to ensure that graduates have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to help all students learn. The program is clinically based and in compliance with the Alabama State Board of Education’s rules for educator preparation. Graduates are eligible to apply for professional educator certification upon program completion.

**Classroom Teacher**
Minimum Education: B.S.
Entry Level Salary Range: $30K - $49K

**School Counselor**
Minimum Education: M.S./M.A./M.Ed.
Enter Level Salary Range: $31.1K - $52.3K

**Education Administrator**
Minimum Education: M.S./M.A./M.Ed./Ph.D.
Enter Level Salary Range: $57.9K - $79.8K

These are just three options out of many that special education majors pursue. For more career options be sure to check out “What Can I Do With a Major In...” on auburn.edu/career.