REASONS TO EARN A MASTER’S DEGREE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

• Become leaders in the field of special education.
• Provide excellent mentoring and support to new teachers.
• Improve your competitiveness for leadership positions such as curriculum specialists, behavior specialist, placement specialist, lead teacher, and so forth.
• Get pay raises in most states.
• Well-prepared teachers produce higher student achievement and are more likely to stay in the profession.
• Students with teachers with master’s degree may outperform other students. For example, national data for fourth and eighth grades indicate that students whose teachers have a master’s degree score higher on reading assessments than those with teachers holding a bachelor’s degree.
• Graduate school provides connection and camaraderie with others in the profession.
• Graduate programs provide great support and resources for teachers pursuing national board certification.
• Graduate programs keep professional educators connected with research and new developments in the field.
• A master’s degree is a stepping-stone to a doctoral program in special education.
• Scholarships are available


OUR PROGRAMS:

Masters of Education (M.A.Ed)
For those who already have a degree or licensure in elementary, birth through kindergarten, special education or a related content area.

• Gifted, Creative and Innovative Education
• Mild to Moderate Disabilities
• Severe Disabilities

Masters of Teaching (M.A.T.)
For those who do not have a degree in special education or a teaching license in a relevant area.

• General Curriculum (Mild to Moderate Disabilities)
• Adapted Curriculum (Severe Disabilities)

Professional Development Credential (PDC)
An online opportunity to address real issues in today’s classroom. Choose from one of these 3-course critical focus areas:

• Creativity and Differentiation
• Response to Intervention for Social and Emotional Behavior
• Collaboration with Families and Professionals.

PDC Courses apply to a master’s degree.

Why WCU?
• Each program leads to an advanced license in special education
• WCU’s College of Education and Allied Professions is accredited through the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
• Rolling admission
• Graduate programs are online

FOR MORE INFORMATION — SPEDGRAD.WCU.EDU
Lisa Bloom, Ph.D., program director / 828.227.3288 / bloom@wcu.edu
Rachel Wike, advisor / 828.227.7027 / rwike@wcu.edu

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