Teach where you make a difference

Early Adolescence – Adolescence (EAA)
Special Education Certification and Master’s Degree

Why this UWM program is right for you:
- Experienced Faculty: recognized leaders in the field of special education with expertise in urban teaching, inclusive education, language and literacy, curriculum, and assistive technology
- Urban Focus: culturally responsive teaching methods to reach students from diverse backgrounds
- UWM/MPS Internship Program: opportunity to learn while on-the-job teaching
- Evening Classes: scheduling options which meet the needs of working professionals and adult learners
- Master’s Degree Option: certification can be combined with a Master’s Degree in Exceptional Education

To apply to this program, you will need:
- Bachelor’s Degree from an accredited institution of higher education
- Undergraduate Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.50 or above

Program Structure: (See the back of this page for the typical sequence of courses in the two year program)
- Cohort Model: student groups move through the program together
- Field-based Teaching Experiences: extensive and supervised work in schools and classrooms
- Cross-categorical Certification: program content prepares individuals to teach students with cognitive disabilities, emotional-behavioral disabilities, and learning disabilities in grades 6 through 12

Teacher Certification: This program leads to certification in Cross-categorical Special Education (DPI license subject 801) at the Early Adolescence to Adolescence level (grades 6-12)

Master’s Degree Option: Individuals can earn certification and a Master’s Degree through UWM’s program. Once accepted, if interested in the Master’s Degree Option apply to the Graduate School during your third semester
Typical Sequence of Courses for the TWO YEAR Certification Program in Early Adolescence to Adolescence (EAA) for Individuals with No Previous Education Certification

Note: Students may only enter the professional courses after formal admission to the program; To advance in the sequence, the teacher candidate must successfully complete each requirement listed for the semester, including a "C" or better in coursework/field experiences and at least a 2.75 GPA for the semester. If this does not occur, a meeting must be scheduled with the faculty at the end of the semester and a determination will be made about continuation in the program.

**Two Year Program is typically 48 credits**

Master's Degree Option:

Once accepted to the certification program, students interested in this option will apply to the Graduate School in Spring I. Students begin taking courses for Graduate credit in Summer II or Fall II. Three additional core graduate courses are part of the 30 credit Master's Degree: EXCEDUC 715 Issues and Trends; EXCEDUC 770 Research in Special Education; and EXCEDUC 890 Thesis/Project.

**DPI CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

- **GPA Requirement:** must earn a "C" or better in all courses with a 2.75 cumulative GPA required upon completion of program
- **Portfolio/Performance Review:** conducted at mid-point and completion of program. A favorable performance review is required to continue in the certification program.
- **DPI Content Knowledge Requirement:** one of 3 must be completed: a) transcript analysis; b) content-area portfolio; or c) Praxis II – Middle School Content Knowledge (#05146)
- **Wisconsin Reading Foundations Test:** Passing score = 240
- **ACT 31:** study of Wisconsin's American Indian history, culture, and tribal sovereignty satisfies Human Relations Requirement
- **edTPA:** Passing score = 38

**Note:** 1-3 credits of EXCEDUC 588 - Teaching Experience may be required in Spring II for students who require additional supervision in their field placements

**7 Certification Credits**

Application Process: The Post-Baccalaureate Application Packet can be found online at: [http://uwm.edu/education/academics/post-bacc-special-edu-teacher-cert-admissions/](http://uwm.edu/education/academics/post-bacc-special-edu-teacher-cert-admissions/). Submit a complete application by the deadlines specified in the application packet. Complete applications include:

- Department Application
- Official Transcripts
- Personal Statement
- Resume
- Two Recommendation Forms
- University of Wisconsin System Electronic Application

EAA applicants with complete applications are interviewed within two weeks after an application deadline. Applicants are notified of acceptance within 14 days of interview completion. Contact us or visit our website for more information.

Visit the Department of Exceptional Education website: [http://uwm.edu/education/academics/exceptional-edu-department/](http://uwm.edu/education/academics/exceptional-edu-department/)