SPECIAL EDUCATION

The B.S. degree in special education prepares teacher-candidates to lead and serve students with disabilities in public and private K–12 settings. The program features extensive clinical and field-based experiences across educational settings and culminates in a student-teaching placement. Degree candidates learn about trends and issues in the field, characteristics and needs of students with disabilities, specialized teaching methods, strategies for collaboration with parents/families and colleagues, and technology applications that support student learning.

Degree Outcomes
• Graduates are eligible for licensure by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction in Special Education (K–12 general curriculum).
• Often pursue careers as special education teachers, inclusive education specialists, resource teachers, and case managers.
• Are professionals prepared for diverse roles in education and often grow into leadership roles.

The Student Experience
• Completion of four clinical field experiences, including a semester-long student-teaching placement.
• Experience working with individuals with and without disabilities across the lifespan in a variety of inclusive educational and community environments.
• Engaged scholarly inquiry through the conceptualization and implementation of a research project.
• Study under experienced faculty recognized nationally in their fields.
• Study abroad and service learning experiences.
• Access a state-of-the-art SELF (Student Educator Learning Factory) design studio that prepares pre-service teachers for the 21st-century classroom using a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) education lab.

Accreditations & Affiliations
• National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
• North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI)
• Council for Exceptional Children

Additional Requirements
This degree program follows the admission guidelines of the School of Education teacher programs; admission to the university does not guarantee admission to the major. Requirements include a minimum 3.0 overall GPA and a minimum passing score established by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction on the Professional Assessment for
Beginning Teachers (Praxis I).