Requirements for Program

The moderate and severe disabilities (MSD) program supports the UK educator preparation unit’s theme of Research and Reflection for Learning and Leading. Special education teachers are prepared to assess, plan, and teach based on what they learn from their students and to conduct continuous self-reflection in order to improve their teaching. The standards and competencies on which the MSD program is based are those prescribed by The Council for Exceptional Children and The Kentucky New Teacher Standards.

The B.S. in Education program in Moderate/Severe Disabilities (MSD) requires completion of: (1) the UK Core requirements; (2) specified course work in Related Studies and Professional Education; and (3) specified course work in the special education and MSD area of specialization. Students graduating from the certification program the program obtain a single Kentucky teacher certificate in MSD (grades P-12). Graduates are qualified to teach in classes for students with functional mental disabilities (grades P-12). It is possible to complete this certificate program in four years. In addition to the undergraduate program, an initial certificate in MSD (grades P-12) is offered at the graduate level (See the University of Kentucky Graduate School Bulletin).

Continuous Assessment

1. All students in the MSD program expected to meet the standards and rules for Admission, Retention and Completion from Teacher Education Programs as set forth in the section "Admission, Retention and Completion from Teacher Education Programs" in the College of Education section of the 2013-2014 UK Bulletin.

2. Assessment at the Point of Entry to the MSD Program. The admission process provides the first point for formal assessment of the competencies outlined in the Initial Certification Program Folio for the program. Students who apply for admission must: (a) meet the requirement for admission to the Teacher Education Program; (b) have successfully completed a special education survey course and practicum (EDS 375 and EDS 357 respectively); and (c) be able to articulate their philosophy of teaching and document their experiences with persons with disabilities in an initial portfolio and an entrance interview.

3. On-going Assessment. Once a student is admitted to the program, he/she meets with an advisor to plan the remainder of the program. Prior to the student teaching semester, the student must present a portfolio that documents his/her progress toward meeting program competencies in the courses completed.

4. Completion Assessment. At the completion assessment, students must document that they have met all program competencies through a final review of their portfolio and the successful completion of student teaching in a public school placement for students with MSD.

Statement on Student Teaching

Student teaching in the MSD program is 16-18 weeks and consists of eight to nine weeks in an elementary placement and eight to nine weeks in a middle or secondary placement for students with MSD.

UK Core Requirements

See the UK Core section of the 2013-2014 Undergraduate Bulletin for the complete UK Core requirements. The courses listed below are (a) recommended by the college, or (b) required courses that also fulfill UK Core areas. Students should work closely with their advisor to complete the UK Core requirements.

I. Intellectual Inquiry in Arts and Creativity
   Choose one course from approved list ........................................... 3

II. Intellectual Inquiry in the Humanities
    Choose one course from approved list ........................................... 3

III. Intellectual Inquiry in the Social Sciences
     Choose one course from approved list ........................................... 3

IV. Intellectual Inquiry in the Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences
     Choose one course from approved list ........................................... 3

V. Composition and Communication I
   CIS/WRD 110 Composition and Communication I ............................ 3

VI. Composition and Communication II
    CIS/WRD 111 Composition and Communication II .......................... 3

VII. Quantitative Foundations
     Any approved MA course ......................................................... 3

VIII. Statistical Inferential Reasoning
      Choose one course from approved list ........................................ 3

IX. Community, Culture and Citizenship in the USA
    Choose one course from approved list ........................................ 3

X. Global Dynamics
    Choose one course from approved list ........................................ 3

UK Core hours ............................................................................. 30

Program Related Studies (22 hours)

PSY 100 Introduction to Psychology ............................................... 4
MA 201 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers .............................. 3
MA 202 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers .............................. 3
* Biological science course ......................................................... 3
* Physical science course ............................................................. 3
WRD 204 Technical Writing ......................................................... 3
LIS 510 Children’s Literature and Related Materials or
IEC 512 Language and Literacy for Young Children ..................... 3

*Choose the biological and physical science courses with the aid of your advisor.
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Professional Education Courses (13-14 hours)
MUS 266 Teaching Music in Elementary Grades ........................................ 3
or
A-E 200 Workshop in Design Education for Elementary Teachers ...... 3
or
KHP 390 Dance Activities for Schools ................................................... 2
All of the following courses require admission to the Teacher Education Program.
EDC 329 Teaching Reading and Language Arts ........................................ 3
EDC 339 Designing a Reading and Language Arts Program for the Elementary School ................................................... 3
SEM 337 Teaching Mathematics in the Elementary Schools ................. 3
KHP 382 Physical Education for Elementary School Teachers ............... 2

Area of Specialization: Special Education Requirements (47 hours)

Special Education Core Requirements
EDS 357 Initial Practicum in Special Education ....................................... 1
EDS 375 Introduction to Education of Exceptional Children ................... 3
EDS 513 Legal Issues in Special Education ........................................... 3
EDS 514 Instructional Technology in Special Education ........................ 3
EDS 516 Principles of Behavior Management and Instruction ............... 3
EDS 517 Assistive Technology in Special Education .......................... 3
EDS 522 Children and Families ......................................................... 3

Moderate/Severe Disabilities Areas Requirements
All of the following courses require admission to the Teacher Education Program.
EDS 530 Moderate and Severe Disabilities ............................................. 3
EDS 547 Collaboration and Inclusion in School and Community Settings ................................................... 3
EDS 548 Curriculum Design for Students with Moderate and Severe Disabilities ................................................... 3
EDS 549 Methods for Students with Moderate and Severe Disabilities ................................................... 4
EDS 550 Student Teaching: Moderate and Severe Disabilities ............ 12

Electives
Electives for 120 total credit hours chosen with the help of an advisor.
TOTAL HOURS ................................................................................... 120