ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The program offers a number of unique educational and clinical opportunities for those interested in working with children and youth with disabilities. The program prepares teachers to work with students who have autism, emotional impairments, or learning disabilities, as well as young children with disabilities. Graduate-level scholars gain hands-on experience working with school districts to serve as special education teachers, teacher consultants, or higher education faculty.

The program gave me the experiences and knowledge to problem solve and excel in my various roles in the field. I would not be where I am now without the support of the faculty.

Kourtney Bakalyar, alumna
MASTER OF ARTS

Students may focus their studies on one of the following program concentrations:

- Clinical teacher: Program for individuals seeking their first special education endorsement or initial teaching certification in either autism, learning disabilities, or emotional impairments.

- Master teacher, additional special education endorsement: Program for current special education teachers to earn an additional endorsement in autism, emotional impairments, or learning disabilities.

- Master teacher, behavior intervention specialist: Program for general, special education teachers, or other school professionals to pursue advanced preparation in positive behavior intervention supports and coaching behavior management.

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Prepares individuals to assume leadership roles in special education, serving as faculty in institutions of higher education, consultants to educational agencies, and leaders in preK-12 schools.

100% of WMU special education graduate students were employed or continuing education within three months of graduation.

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