

### **M.S. in Special Education, inservice concentration.**

The In-service concentration has an area of expertise in Gifted and Talented (G/T). It is designed for educators who want to focus study on students who are gifted and talented. This course of study requires 18 credits in G/T courses which can also be applied to the State for the Gifted and Talented endorsement. The remaining 9 credits are open for electives, of which 6 credits can be filled with additional Gifted and Talented courses offered through USM's Professional Development Center or the student may branch out and support other areas of interest. All courses must be graduate level. They can be taken from any graduate department at USM or through the Professional Development Center at USM with prior approval by the advisor. The Master's completion courses are a 3 credit capstone and a 3 credit research methods prerequisite. The master's is a total of 33 credits.

### **MS in Special Education - In-Service (certified educators)**

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The Master of Science in Special Education is designed for people teaching exceptional children, whether new to the profession or already having experience. The Special Education Master's provides:

- courses and internships for initial teacher certification in teaching students with mild to moderate disabilities,
- coursework in various specialty areas such as teaching students who are gifted and talented and students on the autism spectrum, and
- preparation to collaborate effectively in school-wide, multi-tiered systems of support, e.g., Response to Intervention (RTI).

Current general education teachers, specialty area professionals such as occupational therapists, special education teachers, education technicians (Ed Techs), and people with a bachelor's degree seeking a new teaching career in special education who also hold a professional teaching certificate are among those for whom the program is intended. This is not intended for those seeking initial 282 certification.

## Certificate of Graduate Study in Gifted and Talented Education

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### What are my choices of certificates of graduate studies, in Special Education, if I do not want to complete a full master's program?

Students have the following two options:

A. **Gifted and Talented**: This 12-credit certificate has one required courses of three credits and nine credits of electives, chosen with a faculty member in Special Education. The certificate program is designed to meet the requirements of 690 Gifted and Talented Teacher Endorsement, and education for those who would like more knowledge and understanding in working with youth who are gifted and talented.

B. **Teaching ALL Students**: This 12-credit certificate has students take a course from each of the specialty areas: students with disabilities, who are gifted and talented, and who are English language learners. The fourth course focuses on differentiated instruction.

## Certificate of Graduate Study in Gifted and Talented Education

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This certificate is a subset of courses from the Special Education program, especially designed for educators who are interested in working with students who have gifts and talents, either in general education classrooms or in special resource programs. After completing the Gifted and Talented certificate, educators can apply through the state for an endorsement in Gifted and Talented Education. All gifted and talented courses are taught on a two-year rotation cycle, which can be found on the **Special Education** website.

**Course Sequence**  
**Certificate of Graduate Study Gifted and Talented**

**12 total credits \***

**Course Sequence**  
**Certificate of Graduate Study Gifted and Talented**

(3 credits) Required: ***SED 550 Teaching Gifted Students in the Regular Classroom*** (9 credits) Choose 3 of the following:

SED 659 Education of the Gifted and Talented

SED 660 Curriculum and Methods for Teaching the Gifted

SED 662 Productive Thinking and the Gifted Learner

SED 666 Models in Gifted Education

SED 667 Social/Emotional Needs of Students who are Gifted/Talented

Or other courses approved by the DOE and your academic advisor. \*75% of course work must be completed at USM.

Summer Even Session	Fall Even Semesters	Spring Even Semesters
SED 667 Social/Emotional Needs of Students who are Gifted/Talented	SED 659 Education of the Gifted and Talented	SED 660 Curriculum and Methods for Teaching the Gifted Taken:
Summer Odd Session	Fall Odd Semesters	Spring Odd Semesters
SED 662 Productive Thinking and the Gifted Learner	<b><i>SED 550 Teaching Gifted Students in the Regular Classroom</i></b>	SED 666 Models in Gifted Education