The Master of Arts degree in Special Education provides administrators, teachers, and therapists with advanced preparation for work with exceptional learners. MA candidates must incorporate the credential requirements in their area of specialization as a part of their program. (This requirement may be waived for personnel in related fields, such as nurses, occupational or physical therapists, or speech language pathologists.) The MA programs include a choice among a variety of options.

Candidates are encouraged to apply for the MA program during the second or third semester of the credential program, as only 13 pre-approved units may be applied towards the MA degree.

**PREREQUISITE (3 units)**
EDSP 4000 Foundations of Special Education 3

**A. MA CORE COURSES (6 units)**
EDSP 5800 Research Methods in Special Education 3
EDSP 5801 Problems and Practices in Special Education 3

**B. REQUIRED COURSES (21 units)**
EDSP 4690 Psychological, Sociological, and Vocational Implications of Visual Impairment and Blindness 2
EDSP 5640 Academic Skills for Individuals with Visual Impairment & Blindness 3
EDSP 5650 Advanced Seminar in Low Vision 2
EDSP 5660 Advanced Braille Codes for Individuals with Visual Impairments 3
EDSP 5670 Low Incidence Early Childhood Special Education 2
EDSP 5690 Specialized Technology for Individuals with Visual Impairments 3
EDSP 5671 Specialized Instructional Strategies for Struggling Readers and English Language Learners Who are Visually Impaired 3
EDSP 5672 Advanced Issues in Education of Students with Visual Impairment and Blindness 3

**C. ELECTIVES (3 units)**
3

Students will take 3 units of advisor approved electives. Students are encouraged to develop an emphasis in consultation with their advisor.

**D. CULMINATING EXPERIENCE (0, 4 units)**
EDSP 5960 Comprehensive Examination or 0
EDSP 5990A Thesis Planning or EDSP 5995B Project Planning and 2
EDSP 5990B Thesis or EDSP 5995B Project 2

**TOTAL UNITS 30-34**

**Admission Requirements**
In addition to university requirements for admission to graduate study, applicants must

- Have a minimum of a 2.75 grade point average in their last 60 semester units attempted,
- Have completed (or complete concurrently) requirements for a California credential in special education or equivalent (this requirement may be waived for personnel in related fields, such as nurses, occupational or physical therapists, or speech language pathologists),
- Complete all division application procedures, and
- Obtain approval from the division.

**Advisement**
Students should seek advisement for all special education credential and graduate programs in the Division of Special Education and Counseling. Candidates are encouraged to apply for the MA program during the second or third semester of the credential program, as only 13 pre-approved units may be applied towards the MA degree.