Bachelor of Arts in Special Education

Prepare for a rewarding career in special education.

THE RIVIER UNIVERSITY ADVANTAGE
The B.A. in Special Education equips students to work with K-12 students with special needs—those students with learning, physical, and mental impairments and disabilities. This strong, hands-on education program delivers:

• a 95% pass rate on national certification examinations;*
• extensive field experience and teaching starting your freshman year;
• eligibility for certification in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Education Activity, the U.S. Territories, Alberta, British Columbia, and Ontario per the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement.

At Rivier, academic excellence is offered and great achievement is expected. You will transform yourself through engaging classroom interaction, powerful study abroad experiences, challenging internships and life-changing community service. Our mission—‘transforming hearts and minds to serve the world’—ensures that you will find a rich global experience in our vibrant campus community. Faculty members bring real-world experience to their classrooms and are dedicated to the success of every student.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM
The program includes a combination of core curriculum, special education, and disciplinary content courses. In addition to the special education major, students earn a minor in another discipline.

The program culminates with a 14-week student teaching assignment at a local school. Graduates are confident in front of a classroom. Through observations and student teaching, they connect theory with practice for classroom success.

ACCESS THE WORLD
Internships, study abroad, and co-curricular opportunities
All Education students participate in an internship, a semester-long student teaching assignment, for which they earn academic credit.

Several related, on-campus clubs and organizations offer leadership, service, and co-curricular opportunities including: America Reads, the Habitat for Humanity Club, Psychology Club, Multicultural Student Organization, and more.

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in various study abroad opportunities ranging from faculty-led weeklong study tours to entire semesters spent at a university abroad.

CAREERS
The Bachelor of Arts in Special Education degree offers students a range of career options.

Special education program graduates can pursue careers as:
• Special education teachers
• Elementary school teachers
• Middle and Secondary school teachers
• Tutors & learning center directors

Note: Some careers may require additional graduate study.

Rivier University’s Career Development Center (CDC) is committed to helping students on their path to become leaders in a global society.

*Source: 2014 Title II Report
JOURNEYS OF TRANSFORMATION
Rivier University’s core curriculum called “Journeys of Transformation” offers opportunities for service learning, servant leadership, civic engagement, or community service supporting the intellectual growth of students and enhancing student leadership. The core is aligned with the American Association of College & Universities (AAC&U’s) essential learning outcomes, which provide Rivier graduates with the strong intellectual and practical skills that are in demand in the workplace.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
All degrees include a combination of General Education, Education and Teacher Certification, Discipline Core, and Elective course requirements. Note: Students who wish to pursue an education degree program should consult with the department chair early in their first year.

EDUCATION CORE COURSES
ED 108 - Human Development and Learning
ED 110 - Teaching, Technology, Learning Environment
ED 285 - Fundamentals of Math I (K-3)
ED 290 - Fostering Literacy I: Emergent through Early (Pre-K-3)
ED 325 - Assessment Informed Instruction
ED 360 - Integrated Methods I: Social Studies, Science, Math & Technology (K-3)
ED 370 - Instruction and Accountability I
ED 406 - Family and Community Leadership
ED 420 - Student Teaching and Seminar

SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSES
ED 102 - Issues and Influences in Education
ED 286 - Fundamentals of Math II (4-8)
ED 291 - Fostering Literacy II: Critical Readers & Writers
ED 361 - Integrated Methods II: Social Studies, Science, Math & Technology (4-8)
ED 371 - Instruction and Accountability II
ED 400 - Advanced Assessment
ED 410 - Advocacy, Collaboration and the Law

DISCIPLINE CORE COURSES
Students in elementary education or early childhood education must complete their major by selecting one of the following disciplinary content areas.

ENGLISH
ENG 205 - Introduction to Creative Writing
ENG 210 - Advanced Composition
ENG 223 - Shakespeare
ENG 355 - American Literature and its Roots
ENG 356 - Romantics and Transcendentalists

MATHEMATICS
MA 110 - Introductory Statistics or
MA 330 - Mathematical Statistics
MA 127 - Intuitive Geometry or
MA 320 - Classical Geometries
Choose two courses:
MA 130 - Functions
MA 165 - Calculus I with Lab
MA 166 - Calculus II with Lab
Choose one course:
MA 205 - History of Mathematics
MA 210 - Linear Algebra
MA 310 - Discrete Mathematics

SCIENCE
BIO 103 - General Biology I
BIO 104 - General Biology II
CHE 104 - General Chemistry I
CHE 105 - General Chemistry II
BIO - 200 level elective

SOCIAL STUDIES
HIS 101 - United States History I
HIS 102 - United States History II
HIS 203 - Interactions: the West in the World I
HIS 204 - Interactions: the West in the World II
GEO 210 - Global Geography and World Cultures
POL - One Political Science elective

Note: Either HIS 203 or HIS 204 will be taken to fulfill the Core Requirement.

COURSES NEEDED FOR CERTIFICATION
HIS 101 - United States History I or
HIS 102 - United States History II
Physical Science: Select one course from Chemistry or Physics.

ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION
New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)
New Hampshire State Department of Education for Teacher Certification

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE GLOBAL STAGE
FACULTY

John Gleason, Ed.D.
Dean, Division of Education
Professor of Education
Ed.D., Harvard University
M.A., University of Michigan
B.A., Boston College

J. Diane Connell, Ed.D.
Professor of Education
Post-doctorate Certification, School Psychology
Ed.D., Boston University
M.A., Educational Psychology, Columbia University
B.A., Elementary Education plus certification in Learning Disabilities and Behavior Disorders, Avila College

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Ph.D., M.A., Boston College
B.S., Union College

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C.A.G.S., Anna Maria College
M.Ed., Northeastern University
B.A., University of New Hampshire

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M.A.T., Salem College
B.A., Emory & Henry College

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Ph.D., Capella University
M.A./M.A.T., B.A., Rivier College

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C.A.G.S., M.Ed., Northeastern University
B.Ed., Plymouth State College

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Ph.D., Arizona State University
M.A., University of Arizona
B.A., Queens College, CUNY

Joseph Spadano, Ed.D.
Associate Professor of Education and Mathematics
Ed.D., M.Ed., University of Massachusetts, Lowell
B.S., Fitchburg State College

Lisa Strout, C.A.G.S.
Instructor of Education
C.A.G.S., Capella University
M.S., Wheelock College
B.S., Keene State College

Robert Walrath, Psy.D.
Director, Doctoral Program in Counseling and School Psychology
Associate Professor of Education
Psy.D., Nova Southeastern University
M.S., California State University
B.A., Alfred University

The University reserves the right to make changes when appropriate and necessary as needed without notification.

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