

Watson College of Education

Special Education Program Goals and Objectives

Adapted Curriculum (AC)

The Special Education Adapted Curriculum track prepares teachers to provide instruction to assist students with moderate to severe disabilities who are not enrolled in the general education curriculum. Students supported have moderate to severe physical and/or intellectual disabilities, including such diagnoses as: Down syndrome, moderate to severe autism, Fragile X syndrome, multiple disabilities, and medically fragile students. Training includes instructional practices to teach functional skills, as well as functional academics, in a small controlled setting (self-contained classroom). These classrooms provide highly individualized instruction for students whose needs cannot be met in the general education classroom and are typically comprised of students in the same categorical grouping. Assistive technologies and sign language are also taught in the program. This program leads to a B.A. degree and licensure in Adapted Special Education (K-12).

Upon completion of the undergraduate Special Education Adapted Curriculum Program, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate leadership
 - lead in their classrooms
 - demonstrate leadership in the school
 - lead the teaching profession
 - advocate for schools and students
 - demonstrate high ethical standards
- Establish a respectful environment for a diverse population of students
 - Provide an environment in which each child has a positive, nurturing relations with caring adults
 - Embrace diversity in the school community and in the world
 - Treat students as individuals
 - Adapt their teaching for the benefit of students with special needs
 - Work collaboratively with the families and significant adults in the lives of their students
- Know the content they teach
 - Align their instruction with the NC Standard Course of Study
 - Know the content appropriate to their teaching specialty
 - Recognize the interconnectedness of content areas/ disciplines
 - Make instruction relevant to students
- Facilitate learning for their students
 - Know the ways in which learning takes place, and know the appropriate levels of intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development in their students.
 - Plan instruction appropriate for their students
 - Use a variety of instructional methods
 - Integrate and utilize technology in their instruction
 - Help students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills
 - Help students work in teams and develop leadership qualities
 - Communicate effectively
 - Use a variety of methods to address what each students has learned
- Reflect on their practice
 - Analyze student learning
 - Link professional growth to their professional goals
 - Function effectively in a complex, dynamic environment