

Special Education School of Education

MAJORS

Elementary Special Education (Kindergarten – 9th grade),
Secondary Special Education (7th -12th grade)

Program Definition

The Special Education Endorsement has three options for students. The Elementary Special Education option will endorse an individual to teach elementary special education (Mild/Moderate Disabilities) in grades kindergarten through nine in the state of Nebraska. The Secondary Special Education option will endorse an individual to teach special education (Mild/Moderate Disabilities) in grades seven through twelve in the state of Nebraska. The Preschool Disabilities option will endorse an individual to teach young children from birth through kindergarten in the state of Nebraska.

This program will prepare students for working with exceptional students in inclusive settings. The outcomes of this program are for prospective teachers to understand and serve students with disabilities, plan appropriate education in highly diverse environments, and work collaboratively with other educators and support personnel. These individual programs can be completed in 4 years.

PSC Points of Distinction

- Teacher education programs at Peru State College are National Council for Accreditation (NCATE) accredited.
- Special Education majors actively learn the Nebraska Student Record System (SRS) in order to create web-based Individualized Education Program (IEP) and/or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) documents. SRS training is unique in teacher education institutions and prepares future teachers in a crucial area.
- Special Education majors interact with Pre-K to age 21 students in Educational Service Unit #4 (ESU #4) programs in Auburn and Nebraska City. Special projects include holiday celebrations, a pen pal literacy project, social skills workshops, and meetings. Special education faculty also serve on ESU #4 committees and task forces.
- The international professional organization Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is an active organization on campus and is dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, students with disabilities, and/or the gifted. Each spring participants have the opportunity to travel to CEC's national conference with minimal cost.
- Only 6 classes and a 2 hour practicum are needed to add an early childhood education endorsement to the preschool disabilities option, making students even more marketable.
- Peru State College has had a chapter of Kappa Delta Pi (The National Honor Society for Undergraduate Education Majors) for over seventy-five years. Each year the chapter inducts between 35-45 new members. Members have opportunities to attend area and national conventions and to participate in a variety of activities involving public school students. Kappa Delta Pi also offers scholarships to its members.
- Each program at Peru State College is reviewed on a continual basis and coursework is updated to meet evolving standards.
- Students completing a degree at Peru State College are prepared to attend the nation's top graduate schools in all program areas. Many graduates return to Peru State for their masters degree, which can be completed online and in our accelerated format.
- Minor in a subject area outside of the major is simple at Peru State and can broaden the scope of knowledge and can improve employment prospects for any student.

Facilities

Curriculum level of library—Our award-winning library houses an entire level just for education majors! This features a variety of multimedia and other state-of-the-art materials for students preparing to teach at the secondary and K-12 levels. This floor also lends itself to working with young children in a small classroom environment and, with a sink, counter and storage spaces, allows wet area activities.

Methods Classroom—This classroom is filled with hands-on materials and state of the art technology to assist in instructional application methods and is the perfect learning environment for education majors.

Program Expectations

1. Free from disciplinary probation.
2. Overall grade point average of at least 2.5
3. Minimum scores on the Pre Professional Skills Test (PPST) as follows: Reading 170, Math 171, Writing 172
4. Evidence of proficiency in English Composition and Mathematics as indicated by a grade of C or above in college level courses.
5. Reflect appropriate professional dispositions in an initial interview and throughout the program.
6. Background check.

Faculty

Dr. Greg Zost, Ed.D.— Assistant Professor of Special Education
Dr. Loretta Zost, Ed.D.— Assistant Professor of Special Education

Required Coursework

Program information available online at:

<http://www.peru.edu/education/programs/>

Outcomes

With a professional degree in special education, you can teach special education at the elementary or secondary level in a private or public school setting.

With a professional degree in Preschool Disabilities Education, careers are possible in Preschools, Head Start Programs and Child Care Centers that focus on meeting the needs of children with disabling conditions.

Contact Information

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