



SPECIAL EDUCATION

UW-EAU CLAIRE UNDERGRADUATE FACT SHEET

For several decades, national efforts have been under way to help people with disabilities reach their full potential. Educators have realized that students with disabilities require specialized instruction, which complements the curricula in general education.

Even though the profession is noble and personally rewarding, it is not always an easy one. A career in special education requires understanding, extensive knowledge, specialized skills and a willingness to serve others. UW-Eau Claire offers outstanding teacher preparation and continuing education paths in special education.

WHY STUDY SPECIAL EDUCATION?

- If you enjoy assisting individuals with special needs and seeing them progress toward their goals, the field of special education may be for you.
- Prepare for specialized jobs in a variety of settings including schools, mental health facilities, social service agencies, rehabilitation agencies and hospitals.

THE EAU CLAIRE ADVANTAGE

- Early and continuous fieldwork is an integral part of the program. Opportunities for hands-on learning with children, students and adults who have disabilities are provided in community-based, living, recreational and educational settings.
- Affiliated with the department of special education is the Student Council for Exceptional Children, an active student organization that provides fellowship and

professional development through activities, social functions and services to individuals with disabilities. Other student organizations such as the Student Wisconsin Education Association and Kappa Delta Pi offer social activities and learning opportunities to interested students. Best Buddies is an organization that matches college students with adults with developmental disabilities in the community to share leisure activities.

- Through our faculty/student collaborative research program, students participate in fascinating research projects while working one-on-one with a professor in their field and gaining in-depth knowledge for their careers or graduate school.

UW-EAU CLAIRE FACTS AT A GLANCE

- Location: Eau Claire, Wis.; city pop. 64,000, metro. pop. 151,000
- Average enrollment: 10,500
- Undergraduates: 10,063
- Graduate students: 503
- International students: 124
- Multicultural students: 485
- Average men-women ratio: 2-to-3
- Students who spend at least a semester studying abroad: 24%
- Students doing undergraduate research with faculty/staff: 710+
- ACT composite average: 24+
- Average high school rank: 77%
- Average class size: 28
- Faculty-student ratio: 1-to-20
- Computers-student ratio: 1-to-9
- Student organizations: 224
- Walk across campus: About 10 minutes
- Nickname: Blugolds
- Colors: Navy and old gold

- Students have access to modern facilities, located in the Human Sciences and Services building, including the department's Resource Center and the University Human Development Center.
- Students are matched with personable advisers who provide support throughout the college years.
- Unlike many other public universities, classes are not taught by teaching assistants. Students work alongside interesting professors who inspire learning.
- Summer course offerings are available.
- Excellent placement rate for graduates.
- Graduate programs offer advanced degrees and/or certifications in special education.

CAREER OPTIONS

- Teach in a public or private school.
- Work as a houseparent or home support staff.
- Administer special education programs or services for children and youth with disabilities.
- Conduct research.
- Develop curriculum and supervise teachers.
- Develop instructional materials.
- Prepare teachers or conduct in-service training activities.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

The UW-Eau Claire department of special education offers degree programs in the areas of cognitive disabilities, early childhood special education, emotional/behavioral disabilities and learning disabilities, which lead to the following teacher licensure areas:

Majors

- Early Childhood Special Education (birth to 9 years)

Combination programs

- Learning Disabilities, Middle Childhood through Adolescence and Regular Education, Middle Childhood through Early Adolescence
- Cognitive Disabilities, Middle Childhood through Adolescence, and Learning Disabilities, Middle Childhood through Adolescence
- Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities, Middle Childhood through Adolescence and Regular Education, Middle Childhood through Early Adolescence

Minor

- Learning Disabilities (Middle Childhood through Early Adolescence or Early Adolescence through Adolescence)

HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

- Volunteer, paid or service-learning experiences with individuals with disabilities are essential.
- Sign language and first aid also are beneficial.
- Students planning to major in special education are strongly encouraged to take additional courses in writing/composition and a course in general psychology and anatomy/physiology.
- All students who enroll at UW-Eau Claire are required to have a minimum of 17 college preparatory units including:
 - 4 years of English (at least 3 composition and literature)
 - 2 years of a single foreign language
 - 3 years of math (algebra, geometry, 1 advanced college preparatory math)
 - 3 years of natural science
 - 3 years of social science (1 must be world or American history)

– 2 additional units in the areas already mentioned or other academic areas

FRESHMAN COURSE WORK

Sample First Year

FALL SEMESTER

COURSE#	TITLE	CREDITS
Engl 110	Introduction to College Writing	5
Math 203	Mathematics for Elementary/Middle Teachers I	3
Sped 200	Introduction to Special Education	3
Biol 100	General Biology	4
Edmt 285	Computers in Education	1

SPRING SEMESTER

COURSE#	TITLE	CREDITS
CJ 202	Fundamentals of Speech	3
Sped 205	School and Community Experience in Special Education	3
Art 106	Introduction to the Visual Arts (Studio)	2
Humanities	general education course	3
Social sciences	general education course	3
Physical education	course	1

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about UW-Eau Claire's programs in special education, contact:

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Human Sciences and Services 249
UW-Eau Claire
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
715-836-5511
www.uwec.edu/sped

For more information about campus including costs, housing, admission requirements and tours:

ADMISSIONS

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Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
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www.uwec.edu/admissions



Experience the Eau Claire Advantage.