Special Education Pathways at UVM
Undergraduate Minors and Dual Certification

Want to learn more or find out how to apply?
PHONE: 802-656-2936
EMAIL: spedminor@uvm.edu
WEB SITE and Application
www.uvm.edu/cess/doe/special_education_minor_dual_certification
Are you interested in making a positive difference in the lives of persons with disabilities? We offer multiple options and pathways to match your interests and goals.

University Special Education Minor (for all UVM students)

Our Special Education minor (18 credits) is for UVM students who want to learn more about supporting persons with disabilities in inclusive classroom and community settings. Core coursework focuses on foundations of special education, assessment practices, communication sciences, disability studies, and evidence-based practices that promote academic achievement and positive behavior for individuals with disabilities. Completion of the minor will prepare you for careers and further graduate study in special education and a variety of other professions.

SPECIALTY PATHWAYS

Choose the one of the following pathways, or a combination of pathways, that include 3 core courses in special education, and 3 elective courses in the specialty area.

Behavioral and Mental Health
This pathway includes approved electives in human development, public health, psychology, and social work. Elective courses may include content related to bullying and youth violence prevention, behavioral interventions and supports, prevention science, substance use, and promoting mental health in schools and the community.

Communication Sciences
In this pathway you can choose approved electives that may include content related to American Sign Language (ASL), spoken language development, assessment of language disorders, augmentative communication, and autism spectrum disorders.

Early Childhood Special Education
Would you like learn more about working with young children (birth through age 5) with developmental delays and disabilities? This pathway includes approved electives addressing content such as the culture of disability, family-centered practices, early diagnosis of disability, and recommended practices in early childhood intervention and family supports.

Psychology
This pathway includes approved electives within the discipline of psychology. Elective courses may include content related to child and adolescent emotional development, social cognition and development, and behavioral disorders of childhood.

Dual Certification (Teacher Education Licensure students only)

Our 21 credit-hour dual certification option allows future teachers to complete licensure in their chosen area of teacher education along with certification as a special educator (K-Grade 8 or Grades 7-12). Students complete courses in the foundations of special education, assessment, applied behavior analysis, early or adolescent literacy and numeracy, and instructional practices for inclusive classrooms. Students also complete a full year student teaching internship in a school working with special education and general education mentors.

What do our Students Say?

“No matter what you do with your future, there is always a chance that you will work with people with disabilities. The special education minor helps you to think differently about how to support all people in a changing world.”

“I have been teaching for 3 years and not a day goes by that I don’t utilize something I learned from the hands-on, research-based and practical experiences I gained from the dual certification program.”