



Pittsburg State University Program Guide

Department: Interdisciplinary and Pre-Professional

Certificate

As of Fall 2014

Certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorders

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The Department of Teaching and Leadership offers a 15 credit hour certificate to those who complete a graduate program of study in Autism Spectrum Disorders. The program of study is a joint effort by Pittsburg State University, Fort Hays State University, and the Kansas State Department of Education. Course objectives in the certificate program align with the Council for Exceptional Children Standards for Teachers of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities/Autism.

Students must select one of the two strands in the program: "classic" autism or higher functioning autism/Asperger syndrome. Those who select the "classic" strand will take nine of the required core hours from Pittsburg State University and the final three from Fort Hays State University. Those who select the higher functioning autism/Asperger syndrome strand will take the 12 required core hours from Pittsburg State University. Both strands are completed with a three hour elective.

The class in communication for the "classic" strand is offered through Fort Hays State University, and students transfer the credit to Pittsburg State University. Elective courses are offered through Pittsburg State University or they may be taken through Kansas State Department of Education or professional associations for credit at the discretion of Pittsburg State University.

Students who wish to complete both strands of the certificate program will be required to take the additional three hour course, completing the certificate program with 18 hours.

Program completion

Two classes are offered each semester so that the certificate can be earned in one calendar year.

Once students have completed the required coursework and demonstrated that they have met the skill competency requirements, their advisor will recommend them for the certificate.

Required Coursework (12 hours)

SPED 750: Assessment in Special Education	3
SPED 812: Characteristics of Learners with Autism Spectrum Disorder	3
SPED 814: Teaching Students with ASD: Strategies for School and Community	3

Specialization Area (Choose one or more)

Classic Autism Strand

SLP 869 CC Topics in SLP/AUD: Autism Spectrum Disorders: Social-Communication Issues (from Fort Hays State)	3
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Higher Functioning Autism Strand

SPED 821: Teaching Students with ASD: Strategies for Building Social Relationships	3
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Early Childhood Strand

SPED 830: Teaching Students with ASD: Early Childhood	3
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Electives chosen from the following (3 hours)

SPED 747: KISN Training Series	1-3
SPED 822: Seminar in Special Education Law	3
SPED 823: Teaching Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders in the Inclusive Classroom	2
SPED 827: Teaching Students with ASD: Understanding Sensory Processing Characteristics	1
SPED 829: Teaching Students with ASD: Issues in Transition	3
SPED 831: Teaching Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders: Family Engagement (Required for Early Childhood Strand)	3

Other electives may be used with prior approval by the program advisor.

NOTE: The information contained herein is intended to be used for the planning of a student's academic program and does not constitute a contract. While this guide was prepared with the latest information, courses, graduation requirements, and curricula are subject to change.

When a student attains 85 semester hours of credit (including current enrollment) the student must apply for a degree check in the Office of the Registrar (Degree Checking Section), Room 102 Russ Hall.

MINIMUM GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: The minimum requirements for graduation include 124 semester hours of which 60 hours must be from a four year university. In addition, 45 semester hours must be upper division and 30 hours in residence at PSU (including 24 of the last 30). Minimum GPA for non-education degree is 2.0 overall [2.0 in major], secondary education degree is 2.5 overall [2.75 in major], and early/late childhood/unified degree is 2.80 overall [3.0 in major]. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in any minor and in residence coursework is required. General Education and all degree requirements are provided in the online catalog. Refer to individual departments for specific requirements.