



Department of Special Education

Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with an Emphasis in Special Education and a Cognate in Educational Administration

Doctoral Program Information

The Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with an Emphasis in Special Education is granted on evidence of respect for diversity, scholarship, effective teaching in the teacher education program, skills in systems collaboration, and the ability to do research culminating in a dissertation.

The program focuses on urban special education and university-school partnerships in preparing researchers and teacher educators.

More information is available at:

<http://www.coedu.usf.edu/main/departments/sped/Doctoral/doctoralprogram.html>

SEA Scholarship Program

The Department of Special Education is pleased to announce a new opportunity for doctoral study and the availability of funds to support scholars who participate in the program. The *Special Education Administrator* (SEA) program is a collaborative effort between the Department of Special Education and the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, scholarships of \$10,000 per year for 4 years are available to support 10 doctoral students.

The purpose of the SEA program is to address the national need for personnel who are prepared for leadership roles as administrators of special education services. Scholars who participate in the program will be prepared to provide leadership in:

- Establishing high expectations and accountability for results consistent with IDA and NCLB
- Implementing research-based practices that are responsive to the diverse cultural and linguistic needs of students with disabilities
- Providing enhanced support of special education teachers through high-quality professional development.
- Advocating for practices that facilitate family-school-community partnerships to support student learning

Doctoral Program Coursework

The following is an example of coursework students typically take within the Special Education Doctoral Program:

EDF 6407 Statistical Analysis for Education Research I

EDF 7408 Statistical Analysis for Education Research II

EDF 7410 Design of Systematic Studies in Education

EDG 7939 Selected Topics/ Teaching in Higher Education

EEX 7341 Research Studies and their Implications in the Education of Exceptional Children

EEX 7743 Philosophies of Inquiry

EEX 7744 Curriculum and Instructional Issues in Urban Special Education

EEX 7745 Historical, Ethical, and Disciplinary Foundations in Special Education

EEX 7815 Research Seminar/ Field Study

EEX 7911 Language and Learning Variability

SYO 7930 Sociology of Disability in Urban Society

EEX 7980 Dissertation

Educational Administrator Cognate Coursework

All SEA participants will complete at least 5 of the following courses or their equivalents

[EDA 6061](#) - Principles of Educational Administration

[EDA 6192](#) - Educational Leadership

[EDS 6050](#) - Principles of Education Supervision

[EDA 6232](#) - School Law

[EDA 6242](#) - School Finance

[EDA 6106](#) - Administrative Analysis & Change

[EDA 6503](#) - The Principalship

[EDA 6945](#) - Administrative Practicum

Doctoral Program Admission Requirements

All students applying for admission to the doctoral program in the Department of Special Education must meet the USF admission requirements. In addition, the Department of Special Education has the following admission requirements. Students must:

- Have a master's or educational specialist's degree, or equivalent, from a regionally accredited college or university.
- Have earned a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in upper division baccalaureate work, or a minimum GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in graduate coursework.
- Have taken the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).
- Provide three letters of recommendation from professionals who are familiar with their scholarship and work history.
- Provide evidence of at least three years of successful work experience in relevant professional roles.
- Present self professionally in an oral interview with two or more faculty members.
- Demonstrate the ability to write professionally by submitting a spontaneous writing sample at the time of the interview.
- Provide a statement of professional goals (immediate, intermediate, and long term) and research interests. Professional goals and research interests should be compatible with the opportunities provided through a doctoral degree in special education.
- Receive endorsement by the majority of tenured and tenure-earning faculty members in the department.

SEA Scholarship Program Admission Requirements

- Scholars who participate in SEA will complete the Ph.D. in Special Education at USF. In addition, participants will complete a minimum of five courses offered through USF's Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.
- All scholars will participate in mentored research and policy leadership experiences including an internship. Internship experiences will be tailored to meet individual student needs and preferences, but will focus on contexts that influence or provide teacher preparation for special education.
- All participants in the program will be required to sign a Service Obligation agreement, as required by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education programs, which signifies the participant's commitment to work in special education leadership role for two years for each year of scholarship support or pay back the scholarship funds.

Admission Procedures for Doctoral Program

- Submit an application for admission to graduate study with the Office of Graduate Admissions (applications are available in the Office of Graduate Admissions or online at: <http://admissions.grad.usf.edu/> click on “Application Materials—Apply online?”) a \$30 nonrefundable application fee must accompany the application.
- Two official transcripts from every institution of higher learning attended must be forwarded directly from the issuing institution to the Office of Admissions.
- Official test scores for the GRE must be filed with the Office of Graduate Admissions. These test scores must be sent directly from the testing agency.
- Submit 3 letters of recommendation (one written by someone who has observed the applicant working with children).
- Submit a written document describing your philosophy of education, beliefs and values, and professional goals (not to exceed 5 pages).

Please send the letters of recommendation and your philosophy of education to:

Roseanne Vallice-Kalarickal
Department of Special Education
University of South Florida
4202 E. Fowler Avenue, EDU 162
Tampa, FL 33620
vallice@coedu.usf.edu

Admission Procedures for SEA Program

Those who wish to be considered for the SEA program should clearly indicate their interest in the SEA program.

In addition to all other application materials required by the Department of Special Education and the Graduate School, SEA applicants should send one copy of the application and an explanation of the following:

- Why you are interested in and committed to special education administration,
- How the SEA program fits with your career interests, and
- Your current research interests in special education or special education administration.

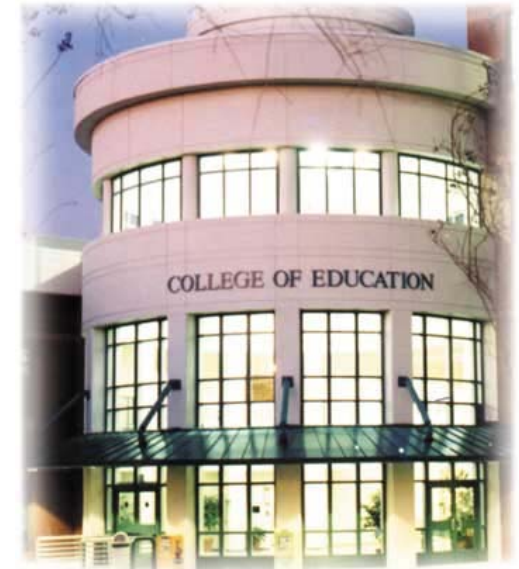
Please send your statement of interest in SEA and/or address all questions and inquires to:

Dr. James Tramill
Associate Research Professor
Principal Investigator—Project SEA
Department of Special Education
Phone: 813-974-1386
jltramil@coedu.usf.edu

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