About Special Education

Students in the B.S./B.A. in Special Education program will be prepared to work with children with emotional disturbances, learning disabilities, autism, and intellectual disabilities. They provide effective methods and strategies as well as individual support to students, families, and general education teachers.

A bachelor's degree in special education prepares students not only for teaching but also job opportunities in hospitals, mental health centers, recreation programs, and other state and community agencies.

Mission of the College of Education

The College of Education is committed to creating an intellectual environment that promotes quality instruction, significant research, and professional service. Particular attention is focused on preparing professionals for diverse educational settings and on contributing to educational and pedagogical knowledge through scholarly endeavors. The College provides leadership in both the art and science of educational practice. Furthermore, the College is committed to creating an inclusive learning environment that values and promotes diversity.

Visit this site for more information: 
http://education.unlv.edu/

Special Education Career Options

- Special Education Teacher
- Recreational Therapist
- School Counselor*
- Principal*
- Instructional Coordinator*
- Careers also offered in:
  - Hospitals
  - Daycare centers
  - Recreational centers
  - Churches

*Requires further education

Graduate Program

The following graduate programs are offered in the UNLV College of Education:

Department of Educational & Clinical Studies
702-895-3205, CEB 118
http://education.unlv.edu/ecs/
- Master of Education in Early Childhood Education
- Master of Education in Special Education
- Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Master of Education in School Counseling

Department of Educational Psychology & Higher Education
702-895-3253, CEB 320,
http://education.unlv.edu/ephe/
- Master of Science in Educational Psychology
- Master of Education in Higher Education

Department of Teaching & Learning
702-895-1986, CEB 359B
http://ti.unlv.edu/
- Master of Education/Master of Science in Education (Visit website for full list of concentration areas offered)

Clubs, Orgs & Professional Associations

UNLV offers a wide variety of clubs and organizations to meet the needs and interests of students. Visit the Involvement Center via your MyUNLV account to explore, access, and join hundreds of student organizations. Get involved today!

Student National Education Association:
http://www.nea.org/

UNLV Academic Advising for Special Education Majors:

Academic Advisors are eager to meet with students about their academic goals and to assist in constructing a plan for graduation. Advisors can also help students understand how their experiences at UNLV can lead to a career in their desired field. Go online to schedule an appointment with your advisor today!

College of Education Advising & Field Placement Center
Phone: 702-895-1537
Campus Location: CEB 221
http://education.unlv.edu/afp
Visit the Career Occupational Handbook to learn more about a specific occupation:

http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

The OCH covers hundreds of occupations and describes: What They Do, Work Environment, How to Become One, Pay, and more. Each profile also includes BLS employment projections for the 2010–20 decade.

Career Exploration/Planning

FOCUS 2: UNLV’s computerized assessment profiles your interests, abilities, and values and helps you find a career that’s right for you.

http://hire.unlv.edu/careerAssessment.html

Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI): Assessment designed to identify how you are energized, how you take in information, how you make decisions, and how you approach life.

http://hire.unlv.edu/careerAssessmentMBTI.html

Strong Interest Inventory: Generates an in-depth assessment of your interests among a broad range of occupations, work and leisure activities, and educational subjects.

http://hire.unlv.edu/careerAssessmentStrong.html

UNLV Career Services

Career Services encourages ALL UNLV students to take advantage of their services, which include:

- Assistance with developing a career plan and choosing a major
- Career counseling and guidance on building a RESUME
- Preparing for an interview, assistance with job searching and networking.

Phone: 702-895-3495
Campus Location: SSC-A 2nd Floor
http://hire.unlv.edu/

### MEDIAN SALARIES BY DISCIPLINE 2010-2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>Salary Range</th>
<th>Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Education Teacher</td>
<td>$35,580-$83,410</td>
<td>$53,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational Therapist</td>
<td>$26,640-$62,670</td>
<td>$39,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Counselor</td>
<td>$31,630-$86,250</td>
<td>$53,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>$58,300-$129,480</td>
<td>$86,970</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Field Experiences

Students’ last three semesters of field experience will consist of a Practicum in a resource room, Pre-Student Teaching, and Student Teaching:

- **P:** Enrolled in classes, placed in CCSD resource classrooms 60 hours
- **Pre-St:** Enrolled in classes, placed in CCSD classroom 150 hours
- **Student Teaching:** ONLY enrolled in EDSP 491and 492, placed in CCSD classrooms full-time for at least 350 hours.

http://education.unlv.edu/ofe/