

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER ENDORSEMENT

In response to the increasing demand for certified In response to the tremendous growth in the number of school-age children diagnosed with autism, Delaware Valley University has developed an autism spectrum disorder endorsement program. This 12-credit program is designed for Pennsylvania regular and special education-certified staff who are interested in gaining additional expertise in this area and a competitive advantage in the job market. Our endorsement prepares you to work with children and adults of all ages in this expanding job market.

Delaware Valley University's autism spectrum disorder endorsement program integrates national standards with the current research in evidence-based practices. Our intent is to provide you with the tools and techniques needed to work with students on the autism spectrum, as well as their families. Topics include historical background, diagnostic criteria, assessment, behavioral interventions, language interventions, social skill interventions, and the impact of executive functioning on daily school and home life.

Educators seeking a Delaware Valley University/PDE autism spectrum disorder endorsement are required to complete four courses (12 credits) that focus on the development and application of autism initiatives and pedagogy that is transdisciplinary and applicable to both elementary and secondary education. You will design, implement and reflect upon curriculum that has its roots in evidence-based practices. In each of the four courses, you will complete a 17-hour project-based field experience. Each project is developed in conjunction with the autism competencies included in the coursework.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education defines program endorsements as certifications in new or emerging areas of knowledge where formal certification does not exist. These endorsements are added to existing Level I or Level II teaching certificates. Applicants for the program must apply to Delaware Valley University and hold a valid teaching certificate.

TO APPLY: delval.edu/GradEdApply

- Apply by completing an application online
- An official copy of transcripts must be on file before your application will be reviewed. Candidates interested must possess a valid PA teaching certificate.

CONTACT INFORMATION**Leonard H. Schwartz**

Graduate Programs in Education, Special Projects Coordinator
e: leonard.schwartz@delval.edu | p: 215.489.4452

Victor D. Lesky Ed.D.

Graduate Programs in Education, Regional Coordinator
e: victor.lesky@delval.edu | p: 484.547.2068

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER ENDORSEMENT

GE-6180 INTRODUCTION TO AUTISM

This course will provide you with an overview of autism diagnosis, characteristics, etiology, family and community supports. Included in this course is a historical perspective, etiology, diagnosis criteria, an overview of evidence-based practices in the field, assessment in diagnosis, an overview of applied behavior analysis, PA core and alternative standards, an overview of core interventions, and working with families and agencies.

GE-6181 APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS SUPPORTS FOR STUDENTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

This course will provide you with a working knowledge of applied behavior analysis (ABA), including all the terminology associated with this science, key components of a functional behavior assessment (FBA), creating positive behavior support plans (PBSP), and behavior interventions used in working with students on the autism spectrum.

GE-6182 AUTISM METHODOLOGY AND INTERVENTIONS FOR CLASSROOM PRACTICE

This course will provide you with an overview of evidence-based practice in the classroom. Interventions including; classroom organization, academic interventions and accommodations, activities of daily living, inclusion supports and transition. Content will include early intervention, family supports and transitions from early intervention to school-age programming, elementary to secondary and secondary to post-21 transitions.



GE-6183 COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL COMPETENCE FOR STUDENTS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM

This course will provide you with etiology of communication and social skills as it manifests in students on the autism spectrum. It will review assessments and program planning for expressive, receptive and pragmatic language, and investigate tools for communication, including augmentative communication, PEC and reciprocal communication. Social competency will be explored as it relates to communication, reading nonverbal cues and the skill set required for school success.

