



EST. 1883

EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION (B.S.E.D.)



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Our ECE/SPED major program leads to state certification for teaching:

- » Birth through 3rd Grade
- » Special Education Birth through 3rd Grade

Our minors and endorsements in working with young children include:

- » Early Childhood Education Endorsement
- » Early Childhood Education Minor
- » ECE/SPED Endorsement
- » Kindergarten Endorsement
- » Major Content for Head Start Teachers (non-licensure program)

LEARN HOW TO TEACH. EVERYONE.

The need for teachers with training specific to the developmental needs of a wide range of learners continues to grow. A degree in EC/SPED will prepare you to provide an education grounded in research-based practices. At BHSU, we strive to create opportunities to broaden and deepen the knowledge, skills, practices, and dispositions of individuals who will work closely with young children.

- ◆ GAIN HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES in preschool through 3rd grade settings
- ◆ LEARN EARLY CHILDHOOD AND SPECIAL EDUCATION CONTENT from faculty experienced in the field
- ◆ MANY COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE for flexibility



THE ANNUAL TEACHERS FAIR

Open to all teaching majors each spring semester, BHSU holds its annual teachers fair welcoming over 60 employers to campus to meet with students seeking job opportunities.



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PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE

The ultimate goal of the Black Hills State University ECE/SPED (Early Childhood Special Education) program is to prepare you to provide for the developmental learning needs of young children. Our program emphasizes engaged, inclusive, and collaborative teacher training. This is achieved through coursework, internships, research opportunities, and hands-on participation.

Our ECE/SPED composite major and affiliated programs provide BHSU teacher education students to work with faculty who:

- » Are active in professional organizations
- » Are active in the community
- » Are closely involved with BHSU's lab setting, Little Jackets Learning Center
- » Are experienced ECE and/or SPED educators
- » Conduct research in the field
- » Hold doctorates (PhDs or EdDs) in ECE/SPED
- » Present at conferences and serve on committees

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FIELD EXPERIENCES

BHSU ECE/SPED students are given ample opportunities to work with young children. Our courses are designed to provide students real life experiences with children through practicum components. The ECE/SPED program works closely with BHSU Field Experiences office, area public schools, child-care centers, and local programs to provide BHSU students with quality practicum experiences.

LITTLE JACKETS LEARNING CENTER

Little Jackets Learning Center was founded in 1988. At one time, our center provided students with child care during class times. Today, our ECE/SPED program provides a lab setting that emphasizes quality care and experiential learning. Little Jackets Learning Center provides meaningful connections of research and practice through practicums, observation, lab, and active involvement with young children.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **ECE 328:** Guidance with Young Children (with lab)
- **ECE 371:** Infants and Toddlers: Developmentally Appropriate Practices
- **ELED 408:** Assessment of Early Childhood Special Education
- **ELED 408:** Plan, Manage, and Assess the Diverse K-8 Classroom
- **SPED 410:** Behavior Management of Exceptional Children
- **ECE 413:** Early Childhood Curriculum
- **SPED 431:** Identification and Assessment in Special Education
- **SPED 460:** Family Systems and Professional Collaboration
- **ECE 411:** Social Development in Early Childhood Education
- **ECE 417:** Methods of Early Childhood Education



GET INVOLVED

COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

You can join the group and expand your education with special and exceptional needs through activities and conventions. The group hosts several local activities, including holiday dances for the Northern Hills Training Center and the Black Hills Special Services groups.

READING COUNCIL

The International Reading Association is a professional organization concerned with the promotion of literacy, with specific emphasis on reading, language, and thinking. Its primary purposes are to promote quality reading and language arts instruction at all levels of reading and maturity consistent with each individual's unique capacity.

SOUTH DAKOTA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

The SDEA works to better education for both teachers and students. They work with elected officials to pass bills that help the education system. They also work with local leaders to increase education funding for local schools. The SDEA also provides development sessions and trainings for educators to help continue developing their craft through hands-on learning.

TALKING HANDS (SIGN LANGUAGE ORGANIZATION)

BHSU Talking Hands strives to educate others about sign language (American Sign Language, Signing Exact English, along with other forms of sign language). Its purpose is to help students, faculty, staff, and community members learn sign language while developing lasting relationships. BHSU Talking Hands aims to have both community and university involvement by volunteering and participating in university activities. In the community, members have participated in activities such as teaching sign language to children at area Boys and Girls Clubs as well as performing for community groups to introduce them to the power of sign language.

Where *Anything* is Possible