Making a Difference in Schools and Communities

Children with autism are included among all who learn in the regular classroom. Do you, as an educator, have the knowledge to adequately assist their development and help them with skills that best prepare them for an inclusive world? The satisfaction derived from helping children with autism is regarded as the biggest motivation for people who wish to pursue careers in this field.

With an UMSL Certificate in Autism Studies, you can celebrate your passion for learners on the Autism Spectrum while partnering with their families. This program will provide you with a comprehensive understanding of behavior strategies and related, best practice interventions when enjoying experiences with this special population of youngsters in schools, summer camps, and respite opportunities.

Increase Skills and Understanding

Specially-designed coursework and focused, experienced instruction are hallmarks of UMSL’s Autism Certificate Program. Program content and experiences increase your understanding and needed skills to provide comprehensive and holistic programming that addresses the unique characteristics of individuals with autistic disorder. Our highly qualified faculty provide contemporary, best practice-based preparation of professionals who will specialize in the treatment of individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Your preparation will qualify you to work collaboratively with school personnel to recognize and follow the ASD profile that best serves and educates each student.
What can you do with a Certificate in Autism Studies?

Careers working with children who have the autism diagnosis vary from teachers to social workers to therapists. Other options include working for non-profit or service organizations that assist individuals with autism and their families, like Community Services for Autistic Adults and Children (CSAAC), which provides children with autism appropriate educational and intervention services. Professionals working with individuals with autism can choose careers in different settings, including schools, social service offices, agencies and organizations.

Graduate Certificate Program

Graduate Certificate programs are specialized programs of study that are not degree programs but are shown on the academic transcript so that readers are aware of the concentrated program of study. Graduate Certificates are unrelated to teacher certificates. You must be admitted to the Graduate School before you can register for courses. The sooner you apply for admission to the Graduate School and have your transcripts sent to UMSL, the more likely you will be admitted in time to register for courses with the best selection of days, times, and locations. The deadlines for applying are:

- December 1st for the Spring Semester
- May 1st for the Summer Semester (April 1st for the early session)
- July 1st for the Fall Semester

Admission to the program is based on grade point averages (GPAs) in your undergraduate major, in undergraduate education courses (if any), and in all course work attempted. The minimum GPA for regular admission is 3.00 in graduate work. You must have a Bachelor’s degree in hand before starting a Graduate Certificate program. The GRE is not required.

Innovative Education... Engaged Educators

The College of Education at UMSL offers authentic, in-depth learning experiences to prepare current and future education professionals for transformative roles in their communities and careers. Our graduate students have access to 14 endowed professors in various aspects of education and educational leadership, and benefit from working with some of the most well-respected scholars in the country. Our faculty members are nationally known for their scholarship and expertise.

UMSL at a glance

The University of Missouri—St. Louis is a public, research university located in Missouri’s most populous and economically important region. Founded in 1963, UMSL attracts more students than any other university in the St. Louis region.

We offer you 54 undergraduate degree choices from our five colleges. And we partner with more than 400 companies and organizations for our internship program. You’ll get out of the classroom, gain practical experience, make connections and jump-start your career.

St. Louis: Something for everyone

UMSL is a vital part of St. Louis, and the city and surrounding areas make up the most culturally vibrant region in Missouri. That means we offer you more than a top-ranked learning environment.

There’s a night out with friends on Washington Avenue. An exhibit opening at the Saint Louis Art Museum. A Saturday afternoon at the Saint Louis Zoo. A home-run celebration at Busch Stadium.

St. Louis is a place where you can be you.