

## Higher Education Alternative Programs

(Updated 8/08/06)

	<b>Lewis &amp; Clark College</b>
<b>General Description</b>	Lewis & Clark College offers a Special Educator/Handicapped Learner I endorsement in Bend, Oregon. The program is similar to the on-campus program and is taught by central Oregon special educators and school psychologists. Participants work in a cohort of 10-15 students and have frequent access to both the on-site coordinator and the Lewis & Clark College faculty member who coordinates the program. All courses are face-to-face and are highly engaging and practical. Summer courses are offered in intensive week-long formats, and the fall and spring courses involve four weekends (Friday evening and all-day Saturday). Participants must have or be eligible for an Oregon teaching license.
<b>School District Partners</b>	A number of districts have been involved in student recruitment and program coordination. The primary partner has been the Bend LaPine School District.
<b>Contact Information</b>	Vern Jones <a href="mailto:jones@lclark.edu">jones@lclark.edu</a> (503) 768-6050
<b>Entrance Requirements</b>	Admissions requirements are identical to those for all Teacher Education programs at Lewis & Clark College. This material may be found on the Lewis & Clark College web site. All applicants must have at one time held a teaching license.
<b>Number of Participants</b>	Each cohort consists of between 10 and 15 students. One cohort is offered each year. If enough candidates are interested, students may continue for their masters degree. To date there have been three masters degree cohorts of 10 students each.
<b>Target Participants</b>	Individuals with a teaching license who have a strong interest in serving students with special needs

<b>Length of Program</b>	This program may be completed in 13 months (June through July).
<b>Hours earned (Differentiate between Quarters and Semesters)</b>	18 semester hours
<b>License earned</b>	Special Educator I or Handicapped Learner I endorsement. Completion of the program also includes all requirements for the Continuing Teaching License.
<b>Graduate/Master's Program</b>	This is entirely a graduate level program. An M.Ed. degree in special education is also offered.
<b>Undergraduate</b>	All courses are graduate level
<b>Continuing Teaching License</b>	The Continuing Teaching License is built into the program. Completion of the endorsement program also meets all requirements for the CTL.
<b>Courses (List All)</b>	<p>SPED 626: Educating Students with Special Needs</p> <p>SPED 627; Current Issues in Reading Instruction</p> <p>SPED 628: Interventions for Students with Severe Challenges</p> <p>SPED 629: Behavior Change Interventions</p> <p>SPED 632: Assessment and Diagnosis in Special Education</p> <p>SPED 633; Curriculum and Instruction in Special Education</p> <p>SPED 635: Contemporary Issues in Special Education</p> <p>SPED 644: Practicum</p>
<b>Program Content</b>	The program prepares candidates to work effectively in either self-contained, resource, or consultation-based special education roles serving a wide variety of students with special needs. The focus is on practical knowledge and skills, supported by a solid understanding of the research and theory supporting these methods. Participants and those who hire graduates of this program have indicated graduates are very well prepared to enter the special education field.
<b>Field Experiences (i.e. Student Teaching, Internships)</b>	Participants who are teaching may complete their practicum work while continuing to teach. Participants who are not currently teaching are placed in a special education practicum site.

<b>Delivery Models (i.e. Distance Education, Seminar, Face to Face Instruction)</b>	All coursework involves fact-to-face instruction. We believe that learning to be a skilled special educator requires a highly personalized, interactive learning environment where students actively engage the faculty and their colleagues.
<b>Retention/Mentoring Information</b>	Students work in a small cohort and with instructors from the local area who are highly accessible to students. In addition, a local, veteran special education director serves as the local program coordinator, and the Lewis & Clark College faculty coordinator meets with students between four and six times per year.
<b>Exit Requirements</b>	Program Completion Requirements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete all courses with satisfactory grades</li> <li>2. Receive satisfactory evaluation from the practicum work</li> <li>3. Complete a portfolio of evidence</li> <li>4. Pass the required PRAXIS test</li> </ol>
<b>Completed cohorts</b>	Eleven cohorts have completed the program, and three cohorts have completed their masters degree.
<b>Unique Characteristics of the Program</b>	The program is taught exclusively by practicing special educators and school psychologists from the region. Coursework is current, practical, and taught by a faculty who has taught a number of courses and received outstanding student evaluations. The program is highly personal and engaging. The masters degree is partially designed by the candidates so it meets the needs they outline.
<b>Costs</b>	\$8,100
<b>Address Disability Ranges &gt;&gt; Proportion of course work</b>	Mild - Moderate - Severe Coursework is evenly divided between work that prepared candidates to work with students of varying disabilities.