

Motion for Adding, Modifying, or Dropping a Program
Graduate and Academic Curriculum Committee
Fontbonne University

Title of Motion: Initiation of a new certificate: Studies in Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)

Submitted in partnership with the Department of Communication Disorders and Deaf Education

Date Submitted: February 29, 2012

Submitted By: Dr. William Freeman, Chair
Department of Education/Special Education

Dr. Gale Rice, Chair
Department of Communication Disorders and Deaf Education

Department/College: While the certificate will be housed in the Department of Education/Special Education, it will be delivered in partnership with the Department of Communication Disorders and Deaf Education.

Nature of Change: **Add New Program:** **Modify Program:** **Drop Program:**
 Major
 Minor
 Concentration
 Certificate

Motion: It is moved that the Department of Education/Special Education, in partnership with the Department of Communication Disorders and Deaf Education, be approved to offer a new certificate --Studies in Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD).

Rationale/Evidence of Need. Include how this new program aligns with Fontbonne’s mission and strategic plan.

While beneficial in itself, the certificate will provide opportunities for current graduate students (and dually-enrolled undergraduates) to enroll for elective credit in autism spectrum disorders. The certificate will also provide a coherent path for practicing teachers who wish to move to the “+15” increment on a district salary schedule.

This certificate is in keeping with the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph, sponsors of Fontbonne University. By seeking to serve a high needs population within the disabilities community, it speaks to “serving the dear neighbor without distinction.”

The proposal is in keeping with the 2011-2014 Strategic Plan in that it provides a new and viable enrollment stream (Goal 4a) which is in keeping with the increasing identification of individuals with autism and the need for trained professionals to serve them. Through the Department of

Communication Disorders and Deaf Education and the Department of Education/Special Education, Fontbonne is well-positioned in the community as a premier destination for those wishing to serve individuals with special needs. The concentration proposed will “increase public awareness of our contributions to the community” (Goal 3).

The certificate proposed is a non-degree alternative to the concentration recently approved: the Master of Arts in Education: Studies in Autism Spectrum Disorders. The fifteen credit certificate is comprised of the specialized Autism Spectrum Disordered courses listed below. No new courses are required.

Proposed Date of Implementation: Fall, 2012

Projected Enrollment: Opening enrollment of 10

Financial Impact (describe/list projected amounts): No additional financial impact. Costs will be absorbed by the initial MA Degree in Education: Studies in Autism Spectrum Disorders.

- Faculty:
- New Library Holdings
- Equipment:
- Audio-visual / software

Effect on currently enrolled students: NA

Does the proposed program replace an existing one? No

New Program Objectives/Outcomes:

To provide a focus of learning at the graduate level for acquisition of professional knowledge and understanding of autism spectrum disorders in areas to include:

- Evidence Based Practice for teaching and learning
- Methods of assessment and application to data-based interventions
- Productive behavior supports across environments
- Communication and social competencies
- Collaboration with families, colleagues and other professional
- Manifestations of the conditions from mild to severe
- Historical perspectives of the field of ASD

Course Listings for New Program (courses were previously approved through the Master of Arts in Education Degree: Studies in Autism Spectrum Disorders)

CTE 507	ASD: Studies in Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
CTE 508	ASD: Communication and Social Competence	3
CTE 509	ASD: Behavioral Supports	3
CTE 510	ASD: Assessment and Evaluation	3
CTE 511	ASD: Teaching and Learning Strategies	3

Does this new program affect another department/college? YES NO

If yes, has this department/college approved of this new program? NA

Additional information:

If approved, distribute to the following:

- Catalog
- Registrar
- Fontbonne Policy Manual Volume I
- Advisors' Manual
- Student Handbook
- Part-time Faculty Manual
- Staff Handbook
- Other: