

Special education

**SPECIAL EDUCATION – SPEDU**

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**Possible career opportunities**

Students who earn a special education paraeducator/instructional assistant certificate of achievement or degree are prepared for entry-level employment assisting students and individuals with disabilities in education and rehabilitation settings.

**Program-level student learning outcomes**

Program learning outcomes are subject to change. The most current list of program learning outcomes for each program is published on the DVC website at [www.dvc.edu/slo](http://www.dvc.edu/slo).

**Associate in arts degree**

**Special education paraeducator/  
 instructional assistant**

Students completing the program will be able to...

- A. analyze state and federal legislation pertaining to general and special education.
- B. use a variety of instruction strategies and materials that respect individual differences.
- C. understand how culture affects relationships among children, families, and schooling.

The associate in arts degree in special education paraeducator/instructional assistant is designed as a two-year curricular pathway that offers students a broad general education while integrating an in-depth study of the skills and knowledge required to work with people with various disabilities in a variety of educational and related rehabilitation settings. The courses are intended to introduce students to career opportunities in special education or other disability related fields, and can provide preparation for transfer to four-year institutions to continue their course of study in general education and special education. Classes are designed to serve working individuals wishing to improve their applied skills and professional growth.

To earn a degree, students must complete each course used to meet a major requirement with a "C" grade or higher. Required courses are available in the evening and during the day. Certain courses may satisfy both major and general education requirements; however, the units are only counted once. Students who intend to transfer to a four-year program in education/teacher preparation should consult with a counselor regarding specific requirements.

*major requirements:*

	<i>units</i>
ECE-124 Child Development and Psychology.....	3
PSYCH-122 Psychology in Modern Life.....	3
SPEDU-101 Introduction to Disabilities .....	3
SPEDU-102 Historical Perspectives of Disabilities and the Law .....	3
SPEDU-103 Classroom Strategies for the Special Education Paraeducator .....	3

*plus 2-4 units from:*

SPEDU-295 Occupational Work Experience Education in SPEDU.....	1-4
SPEDU-296 Internship in Occupational Work Experience Education in SPEDU .....	1-4

*plus at least 6 units from:*

COMM-128 Interpersonal Communication .....	3
ECE-123 Introduction to Curriculum in Early Childhood Education .....	3
ECE-125 Principles and Practices of Early Childhood Education .....	3
ECE-126 Health, Safety, and Nutrition for the Young Child .....	3
ECE-269 Children with Special Needs .....	3
EDUC-120 Introduction to Teaching in Elementary Schools.....	3
SIGN-280 American Sign Language (ASL) I.....	3
SIGN-281 American Sign Language (ASL) II .....	3
SIGN-282 American Sign Language (ASL) III .....	3
<b>total minimum required units</b>	<b>23</b>

**Certificate of achievement  
 Special education paraeducator/  
 instructional assistant**

Students completing the program will be able to...

- A. analyze state and federal legislation pertaining to general and special education.
- B. use a variety of instruction strategies and materials that respect individual differences.
- C. demonstrate and understanding of how culture affects relationships among children, families, and schooling.

This entry-level program prepares students with practical skills and knowledge to work with people with disabilities in a variety of educational and rehabilitation settings. Additionally, the courses are intended to introduce students to career opportunities in special education or other disability related fields, and can provide preparation for transfer to four-year institutions to continue a course of study in general education and special education. Classes are designed to serve working individuals wishing to improve their applied skills and professional growth.

To earn a certificate of achievement, students must complete each courses used to meet a certificate requirement with a "C" grade or higher. Required courses are available in the evening and during the day.

# DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE CATALOG 2017-2018

any updates to this document can be found in the addendum at [www.dvc.edu/communication/catalog](http://www.dvc.edu/communication/catalog)

## Special education

<i>required courses:</i>	<i>units</i>
ECE-124 Child Development and Psychology.....	3
PSYCH-122 Psychology in Modern Life.....	3
SPEDU-101 Introduction to Disabilities .....	3
SPEDU-102 Historical Perspectives of Disabilities and the Law .....	3
SPEDU-103 Classroom Strategies for the Special Education Paraeducator .....	3
 <i>plus 2-4 units from:</i>	
SPEDU-295 Occupational Work Experience Education in SPEDU.....	1-4
SPEDU-296 Internship in Occupational Work Experience Education in SPEDU .....	1-4
 <i>plus at least 6 units from:</i>	
COMM-128 Interpersonal Communication .....	3
ECE-123 Introduction to Curriculum in Early Childhood Education .....	3
ECE-125 Principles and Practices of Early Childhood Education .....	3
ECE-126 Health, Safety, and Nutrition for the Young Child .....	3
ECE-269 Children with Special Needs.....	3
EDUC-120 Introduction to Teaching in Elementary Schools.....	3
SIGN-280 American Sign Language (ASL) I .....	3
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<b>total minimum required units</b>	<b>23</b>

### SPEDU-101 Introduction to Disabilities

3 units SC

- 54 hours lecture per term
- Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL-122 or equivalent

This course examines the historical and cultural context of disability issues and integrates international perspectives on the changing roles of people with disabilities. The legal and functional definitions of physical, communicative, sensory, psychological, neurological, and developmental disabilities will be covered. Acquired versus congenital disabilities will be differentiated, and all forms of chronic/progressive illnesses will be explored. CSU

### SPEDU-102 Historical Perspectives of Disabilities and the Law

3 units SC

- 54 hours lecture per term
- Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL-122 or equivalent

This course will examine the legal rights of the disabled, beginning with historical roots of the disability movement in the United States. Essential understanding of the earliest to current legislation governing access to education in federal, state, and local legal mandates will be emphasized. CSU

### SPEDU-103 Classroom Strategies for the Special Education Paraeducator

3 units SC

- 54 hours lecture per term
- Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL-122 or equivalent

This course explores the basic principles of pragmatic professional social skills strategies used by the special education para-professional within the educational workplace. Students will learn effective communication techniques to facilitate and manage appropriate student behavior and learning. CSU

### SPEDU-295 Occupational Work Experience Education in SPEDU

1-4 units SC

- May be repeated three times
- Variable hours
- Note: In order to enroll in SPEDU-295, students must be employed, register for the course, complete an online Employment Form, and participate in an orientation. Employment Form can be accessed at [www.dvc.edu/wrwx](http://www.dvc.edu/wrwx). Incomplete grades are not awarded for this course.

SPEDU-295 is supervised employment that extends classroom learning to the job site and relates to the student's chosen field of study or area of career interest. Under the supervision of a college instructor, students will engage in on-the-job and other learning experiences that contribute to their employability skills and occupational or educational goals. Five hours work per week or seventy-five hours work per term is equal to one unit. Students may earn up to a maximum of sixteen units; repetition allowed per Title 5 Section 55253. CSU

### SPEDU-296 Internship in Occupational Work Experience Education in SPEDU

1-4 units SC

- May be repeated three times
- Variable hours
- Note: In order to enroll in the SPEDU-296 course, students must be interning or volunteering, register for the course, complete an online Employment Form, and participate in an orientation. The Employment Form can be accessed at [www.dvc.edu/wrwx](http://www.dvc.edu/wrwx). Incomplete grades are not awarded for this course.

SPEDU-296 is a supervised internship in a skilled or professional level assignment in the student's major field of study or area of career interest. Under the supervision of a college instructor, students will engage in on-the-job and other learning experiences that contribute to their employability skills and occupational or educational goals. Internships may be paid, non-paid, or some partial compensation provided. Five hours work per week or seventy-five hours work per term is equal to one unit (paid) or one unit for four hours work per week or sixty hours per term (unpaid work). Students may earn up to a maximum of sixteen units; repetition allowed per Title 5 Section 55253. CSU