Find out how a master’s degree in education with a major in special education can make a difference in your life and the lives of others.

I was a general education teacher taking classes at IPFW to become better prepared to work with students with exceptionalities. I enjoyed the professors and classes so much, I decided to work toward my special education license. The small classes here lead to invaluable discussions. The professors are knowledgeable, insightful, and approachable. I am definitely being equipped to meet the needs of the various learners I see every day.

– Dana Muehl, Graduate Student
Emmanuel Lutheran Elementary School
Resource Teacher

Our Vision: Do Public Good
Doing public good has a reach greater than you might expect. Since 1967, our students, faculty, and staff have facilitated the future. We prepare the next generation. We nurture the public. We make an impact.

Jane Leatherman, Ph.D.
Department of Professional Studies
Program Director / Associate Professor
Email: leatherj@ipfw.edu
Phone: 260-481-5742

Jeong-il Cho, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Email: choj@ipfw.edu
Phone: 260-481-6454

Rama Cousik, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Email: cousikr@ipfw.edu
Phone: 260-481-6003

IPFW is an Equal Opportunity, Equal Access University.
The Master of Science in Education with a major in special education will lead to a Mild Intervention Teaching Certification. The program requires a minimum of 36 graduate credit hours. This program includes graduate coursework in special education and research methods. You are eligible to complete the coursework if you hold a current general education teaching license.

The program, based on the scholar-practitioner model, is designed to produce teacher candidates who are able to read, interpret, and apply research in the special education classroom. You may choose a thesis or special project to complete your master’s degree. You should discuss with your academic advisor your preferred path and complete all program requirements within 6.5 years from when you start the program.

There is a 60-hour field experience requirement for the master’s program. If you are currently employed by a school system, arrangements can be made for the 60 hours to be incorporated into the duties of the classroom or school.

**Mild Intervention Licensure Option**

The Special Education Certification program in Mild Intervention at IPFW is for teachers who have already obtained a teaching license. Graduates of the program are eligible to apply for the Mild Intervention License through the State of Indiana, which includes Learning Disabilities, Mild and Moderate Intellectual Disabilities, and Emotional and Behavioral Disorders.

The IPFW Special Education program emphasizes proven research practices, field experience, small classes, and close interactions with faculty with K-12 experience. All classes are offered late afternoon, evening, or online.

**Earn a Special Education Certificate at IPFW in 18 credit hours**

**Intense Intervention Licensure Option**

The Intense Intervention Licensure Program is a collaborative initiative between the IPFW and IU South Bend Special Education Programs. When you successfully complete the course work you will meet the requirements for initial licensure in Intense Intervention in P-12 by the State of Indiana. You will be able to teach students in the moderate and severe special education categories.

You will take all of your courses on IPFW’s campus. Courses are jointly held with IU South Bend classes via two-way interactive distance learning. The program is a 12 credit hour program and you can complete it in one year (fall, spring, summer I semester). Depending on previous coursework you may need to take additional courses in special education.

**Complete this program in 12 credit hours – one year**