University of Oregon

PhD in Special Education

Virtual Information Session
October 23, 2023
Thanks for being here

Introductions
Goal: Help you learn about the Special Education PhD program

• SPED goals
• SPED structure
• Funding
• Hear from first-hand faculty and students
• Take your questions
SPED goals

• Strong focus on theoretically motivated research, service to the field, and applied teaching and supervision
• High-quality training in two rigorous research methods
• Unique program of study with three individualized focus areas
• Commitment to social justice, diversity, inclusion, and equity
• Prepare graduates to stand out in their careers and improve educational practices
SPED goals – Future careers

- Tenure-line positions in academic institutions
- Senior researchers in research and evaluation centers
- Leaders in federal and state departments of education and research
- Policy and think tank positions
SPED program features

• Cohort model → community and structure
• 4-year, place-based in Eugene, Oregon (classes begin late September 2024)
• Classes largely in person (a few hybrid/online)
• Opportunities to pursue specializations:
  • Data science and quantitative methods
SPED program structure

- Individualized program committee and plan
- Core shared and flexible coursework
- Competency portfolio in teaching and supervision, research and writing, and service
- Practical, hands-on experience
- Dissertation
Four full years of funding

• All admitted students receive funding via:
  • Graduate Employee (GE) position
  • Research unit position
  • US Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs Leadership Grant to train future faculty (e.g., Project LMAESTRO)
    • Requires service obligation post-graduation

• In return, we cover
  • Tuition
  • Fees
  • Health insurance and other benefits
  • Stipend
Project LMAESTRO will prepare future special education leaders in research, practitioner preparation, and community collaboration focused on:

- supporting young children with special needs including children with autism
- implementation science
- culturally and linguistically responsive practices

Accepted students will receive:

- Full tuition
- Competitive stipend
- Health insurance
- Mentorship and training opportunities with autism experts across our project network
- Community partnered research and practical training opportunities

**APPLY BY DECEMBER 1, 2023**

We strongly encourage applicants from persons who are members of groups that have been traditionally underrepresented based on race/ ethnicity, language, gender, sexuality, age, neurotype, or disability.
Lillian Durán, PhD
Professor Special Education

If you want your research experience to look like this then come and see me!

My research focuses on the development of language and literacy assessments primarily in Spanish for children ages 3 to 12.

I currently have three funded projects and lab meetings are open for participation. I work in Puerto Rico, Mexico, California, Utah, and Oregon. If you like to travel my lab is for you!

**Computer Adaptive Storybook Assessment** - This lab is focused on the development of an assessment in both English and Spanish for children with disabilities ages 3 to 5 - Meetings are Thursdays 1-2 on Zoom

**S-IGDI APEL** - This assessment is designed for Spanish-speaking children ages 3 to 5 and we are currently working on designing measures for three-year-olds and have recruited populations in CA, OR, UT, and Puerto Rico. Meetings are TH 2-3 on Zoom

**Multitudes** - I am currently developing Dyslexia Screening instruments for the state of California for grades K - 2 in both Spanish and English. Meetings times are Thursdays 10:30 - 12:00 on zoom.
Kent McIntosh

• Roles
  • Member, Special Education Doctoral Committee
  • Director, Educational and Community Supports
  • Co-Director, Center on PBIS
  • Co-facilitator, Center on PBIS Equity Workgroup

• Active Projects
  • Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports
  • ReACT: PD for racial equity in school discipline
  • FS: 9th grade intervention to increase school completion
  • CICO-HS: Tier 2 support adapted for high school students

• Student Research Meeting
  • Mondays at noon (Lokey 143)
Stephanie Shire

O1

Research focus: Intervention and Implementation science
- Develop, test, and deploy interventions for young children with autism in community settings

O2

Project 1: PRISM - RO1 NIH
- Preschoolers w/ ASD
- Adaptive Social Communication Intervention
  - Learn to: Assess, deliver intervention

O3

Project 2: LIFT - IES
- Community implementation
- Early intervention - remote
  - Learn to: process video outcome data, remote assessment
James Sinclair

Research
- Project SIMPLE: School-based mental health MTSS in Special Education
- Transition to Employment to for IDD
- PI: Seeley - CAMPUS project: Suicide prevention in college students
- National Technical Assistant Center on Transition: The collaborative – TA Provider

Teaching
- Transition Planning and Instruction 1 and 2

Service
- Co-chair of the COE Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee
- Member of the state of Oregon’s Guardianship advisory group

jamesin@uoregon.edu
Tenure-line faculty not present

Dr. Gina Biancarosa  Dr. Beth Harn  Dr. Wendy Machalicek  Dr. Rhonda Nese

Dr. Sara Schmitt  Dr. John Seeley  Dr. Sylvia Thompson  Dr. Cengiz Zopluoglu
Applications due December 1, 2023

• Elements:
  • Online application
  • Transcripts
  • Resume or Curriculum vitae
  • Professional goals statement
  • Writing sample
  • Statement about experiences with individuals with disabilities
  • Three letters of recommendation
  • GRE not required, not assessed

What we’re looking for:

• Strong interest in special education or early childhood special education/early intervention
• Alignment to one or more faculty member’s expertise and research
• Prior work/experience in special education, early childhood special education, early intervention, or related services
• Commitment to serving children, youth, and families from minoritized and historically underserved/excluded groups

We are here for you! Reach out if you have questions.
(email address is on the last slide)
Application fee waiver

• We are able to waive the $90 application fee for ONE international applicant
• To be eligible, you must have all your materials complete **but do NOT SUBMIT your application**
• Alert the faculty you have interacted with to your interest in being considered
• We will notify you as to our decision before January so that you can submit on time
Current Special Education Doctoral Students

Tony Daza
Yessenia Medina
Yitong Jiang
Questions?
We look forward to getting to know you and reading your applications!

Lillian Duran: lduran@uoregon.edu
Kent McIntosh: kentm@uoregon.edu
Stephanie Shire: sshire@uoregon.edu
James Sinclair: jamesin@uoregon.edu

LMAESTRO questions: sshire@uoregon.edu
Application questions: sped@uoregon.edu

Contact our faculty to learn more and find alignment