

## Brothers, Sheila C

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**From:** Hippisley, Andrew R  
**Sent:** Friday, February 15, 2013 10:31 AM  
**To:** Brothers, Sheila C  
**Subject:** Graduate Certificate Autism Spectrum Disorders

This is a recommendation that the University Senate approve the establishment of a new graduate certificate: Autism Spectrum Disorders, in the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling in the College of Education.

## Graduate Certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorders

### 1. Introduction

The College of Education proposes a graduate certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The certificate will be a collaborative effort between the Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Rehabilitation Counseling, and the Department of Educational, School, and Counseling Psychology in the College of Education and the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders in the College of Health Sciences. Students will complete a total of 15 graduate credit hours.

#### 1.1 Need

As the prevalence of ASD increases throughout the nation and state, the challenges of providing quality programming for students in general and special education are growing. Using a unique distance delivered model, the certificate has the potential to provide advanced credentials in this critical need area for special education teachers and related personnel professionals across Kentucky.

The primary purpose of the proposed certificate is to provide special education teachers and related personnel from across the state with advanced credentials that will allow them to implement evidence-based and research-based strategies. The certificate will accomplish the following: (a) efficiently and effectively equip professionals to meet federal and state demands for quality; (b) provide professionals with the knowledge and skills to identify, use, and recommend research-based practices for students who have ASD, including students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds; and (c) provide personnel with knowledge and skills to work collaboratively with district and school-level teams. The specialized five course ASD Graduate Certificate program will include competencies in the following areas: (a) implementing evidence-based and research-based instruction, (b) using data from formal and informal assessments to guide instruction, and (c) serving as specialists in district and school-wide programs to support students with ASD in improving areas of communication, socialization, behavior, and access to the general education curriculum. Biannual ASD Institutes will provide students with opportunities to practice and apply skills in simulated and real-world contexts.

#### 1.2 Content

The content of this graduate certificate in ASD will focus on serving individuals on the ASD spectrum, across the lifespan. An interdisciplinary approach will provide students with a foundation of characteristics, etiologies, assessment issues/strategies, communication, collaboration, and research-based interventions used with individuals with ASD. Students will learn to critically analyze current trends, issues, and therapies used with individuals with ASD, providing a comprehensive array of practical research-based instructional approaches to use. An emphasis on collaboration with families and other professionals, facilitating access to the general curriculum, and appropriate assessment will be included throughout coursework. The ASD certificate will culminate

in a face-to-face institute where students will connect content knowledge for courses taken with practical applications. Students will demonstrate skills in areas such as implementing research-based strategies and/ or behavior supports, collaborating for planning and delivery of instruction, working with diverse families and service providers, and evaluating appropriate technologies based on student needs. Students will demonstrate proficiency via role-play, case studies, video examples, and/or direct observation of individuals with ASD. Students will have an opportunity to learn from one another and experts in the field in a face-to-face format.

## 2. Details

### 2.1 Admission Requirements

A pre-requisite to admission to the ASD certificate program is admission to the University of Kentucky Graduate School. That requires evidence of an awarded baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher learning. In addition to full admission to any existing graduate program, Graduate School admission status may be post-baccalaureate or non-degree. Students will also need to have successfully passed EDS 601.

### 2.2 Faculty

The Overview of Characteristics and Instructional Strategies for Individuals with ASD course will be taught by Dr. Amy Spriggs. The Advanced Instructional Strategies for Individuals with ASD course will be taught by Dr. Victoria Knight. The Communication, AAC, and Technology for Individuals with ASD course will be co-taught by Dr. Melinda Ault and Dr. Jane Kleinert. The Collaboration and Consultation course will be taught by Dr. Lisa Ruble. Serving Individuals with ASD Institute course will be taught collaboratively by the aforementioned professors. All professors listed are members of the Graduate faculty.

### 2.3 Administration

The certificate will be administered by the Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Rehabilitation Counseling (EDSRC). The faculty of record will be EDSRC combined with an advisory board made up of at least one member from Communication Disorders in the College of Health Sciences and at least one member from the Department of Educational, School, and Counseling Psychology in the College of Education. Decisions related to the certificate will be made based on a majority vote made by the EDSRC faculty and the advisory board. Certificate check sheets will be approved by Dr. Victoria Knight.

### 2.4 Division of Labor

Courses will be taught by the respective faculty as part of the distribution of effort in teaching or during the summer

## 2.5 Resources

The certificate in ASD will not require additional resources.

## 2.6 Program Design

The program is designed for students to progress through coursework in a sequential order. Students will complete the program in approximately 2 years. All courses with the exception of the institute will be taught via distance learning. The institute will be taught on campus in an intensive three week block. The graduate credit hours for the certificate will be 15 (e.g. 5 courses worth 3 credit hours each).

## 2.7 Program Design

The certificate program in ASD will have five required courses. Prior to beginning the first course, students will need to have successfully completed EDS 601 (Applied Behavior Analysis)

### Required Courses

EDS 660	Overview of Characteristics and Instructional Strategies for Individuals with ASD (3 credit hours)
EDS 661	Advanced Instructional Strategies for Students with ASD (3 credit hours)
EDS 662/ CSD 649	Communication, AAC, and Technology for Individuals with ASD (3 credit hours)
EDP 671	Seminar in Psychoeducational Consultation in the Schools (3 credit hours)
EDS 663	Serving Individuals with ASD Institute (3 credit hours)

## 2.8 Assessment

The specialized five course ASD Graduate Certificate program will include learning outcomes in the following areas: (a) implementing evidence-based and research-based instruction, (b) using data from formal and informal assessments to guide instruction, and (c) serving as specialists in district and school-wide programs to support students with ASD in improving areas of communication, socialization, behavior, and access to the general education curriculum.

Students will be assessed throughout all of courses in both a formative and summative manner through written exams and projects demonstrating their competencies. In addition, students will rate themselves upon entering the ASD certificate on their skills and knowledge of individuals with ASD. Upon exiting the program, students will again

rate themselves on their growth in skills and knowledge of individuals with ASD. Students will also be assessed on the degree to which they can implement strategies learned with fidelity. That is, students will role-play the use of evidence-based practices taught during their initial coursework (EDS 660, EDS 661, EDS 662, EDP 671). They will be observed by certificate associates, who will check the accuracy of their implementation. Fidelity checks will be conducted at the culminating course, EDS 663 (Serving Individuals with ASD Institute).

### 3.0 Course Outline

See attached course syllabi:

- EDS 660
- EDS 661
- EDS 662/CSD 649
- EDP 671
- EDS 663

### 3.1 Certificate Associates

Autism Spectrum Disorders Certificate Associates:					
Faculty Member	Department	Offer Foundation Course?	Offer Other Courses?	Supervise Research or Service?	Director of Certificate?
Dr. Victoria Knight	EDSRC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dr. Amy Spriggs	EDSRC	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Dr. Melinda Ault	EDSRC	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Dr. Lisa Ruble	EDP	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Dr. Jane Kleinert	CSD	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

\*\* The certificate in ASD will not require additional resources.

The certificate associates are those faculty directly responsible for teaching courses in the ASD certificate. In the event, a faculty member is unable to teach a course and/or participate in the certificate, the chairperson of EDSRC will collaborate with the chairs of EDP and CSD to nominate a new associate to replace that person on the ASD Certificate. The faculty of record and advisory board will vote on potential candidates.

### 3.2 Potential Impact

Cost of Tuition	Possible Number of Students	Possible Career Opportunities	Possible Increase in Salary

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resident: 15 hours @ \$519/hr = \$7785</li> <li>• Non-Resident: 15 hours @ \$1100/hr = \$16500</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 – 30 students each summer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fayette County Public Schools (Awarded Rank 3.2 – AB +15 hours graduate work)</li> <li>• Fayette County Public Schools (Hours Toward Rank 2.1 – MA)</li> <li>• Fayette County Public Schools (Hours in addition to Masters.. Rank 2.2 MA + 15 hours graduate work)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$152 - \$843 per year increase (for teachers between 0 and 10 years experience)</li> <li>• \$2570 – 3537 per year increase (for teachers between 0 and 10 years experience)</li> <li>• \$942 - \$1005 per year increase (over Master’s increase for teachers between 0 and 10 years experience)</li> </ul>
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## Brothers, Sheila C

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**From:** Nikou, Roshan  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 01, 2012 11:09 AM  
**To:** Brothers, Sheila C; Ellis, Janie; Gebert, Frieda; Hanson, Roxie; Jackson, Brian A; Lindsay, Jim D.; Nikou, Roshan; Price, Cleo; Blonder, Lee; Timoney, David M  
**Subject:** GC Transmittals  
**Attachments:** GC Autism Spectral Disorders (ASD).pdf; NUR\_PHD\_Option.pdf; MA in Family Sciences.pdf; GC Renewal Applied Statistics.pdf; GC Renewal Music Theory Pedagogy.pdf; GC Renewal Anatomical Sciences Instruction.pdf; GC Renewal Social Work.pdf

TO: Lee Blonder, Chair and Sheila Brothers, Coordinator  
Senate Council

FROM: Brian Jackson, Chair and Roshan Nikou, Coordinator  
Graduate Council

The Graduate Council approved the following program and Certificate Renewal proposals and is now forwarding them to the Senate Council to approve.

Nursing PhD program change  
Autism Spectrum Disorders Graduate Certificate  
MA in Family Sciences  
Applied Statistics Graduate Certificate  
Music Theory Pedagogy Graduate Certificate  
Anatomical Sciences Instruction Graduate Certificate  
Social Work Graduate Certificate

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