

Certificate in Autism – Option C

Purpose & Points of Clarification

This **Certificate in Autism** was designed to enable individuals to:

- gain specific knowledge about autism in order to better meet the needs of those living with autism, and
- earn a credential that sets them apart from others in their field (attaining a “higher standard”), enhancing their marketability in a competitive job market.

What Option C is not:

- Option C is not a teaching credential or any kind of substitution for a teaching certificate in autism.
- Earning the Certificate in Autism - Option C will not qualify you to work as a teacher in a position where having earned a teaching certificate is a requirement of the job.

What Option C is:

- This Certificate in Autism is awarded by **Oakland University**. It is not awarded by the state.
- Option C is a way for professionals in fields other than teaching to advance their knowledge of autism, in order to use (and distinguish themselves) in their current profession(s).
- Since autism exists not only in the classroom, but everywhere people live, work and play, our hope is that this credential will help to ensure a better quality of life for those affected by autism, both in and out of the classroom.



Professional Development

School of Education and Human Services
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
oakland.edu/pd

Graduate Certificate: Special Education Autism Spectrum Disorder Option C: Multidisciplinary Perspectives

Designed for individuals who wish to increase their expertise in **Autism Spectrum Disorder**, but are not seeking the state-approved teaching endorsement. Must be eligible for graduate standing. **NOTE:** This program leads to a certificate awarded by Oakland University, not by the state.

Certificate Core:

SE 502*	4	Legal Issues in Special Education
SE 559*	4	Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder

Other Available Courses

SE 527	4	Educational Procedures for Students with ASD
SE 578	4	Communication and Language Issues in ASD
SE 579	4	Behavioral & Social Issues in Students with ASD
SE 596	4	Collaboration & Consultation Skills: ASD
SE 640	4	Lives of Adolescents and Adults with ASD
SE 641	4	Counseling Issues in Students w/Special Needs
SE 590**	2–4	Variety of Special Topics (see note and attachment)

Total Credits Required = 24

* **May be required at adviser's discretion**

** **Special Topics courses**

Examples of recent topics include: Co-Existing Conditions in Autism, Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis, Employment & Residential Living, and Quality of Life Issues. New topics are added frequently.

Option C ~ List of Topics

Already Developed:

- Introduction to Autism*
- Overview of Legal Issues in Special Education*
- Educational Interventions for Students with Autism*
- Language and Communication Issues for Students with ASD*
- Social and Behavioral Issues for Students with ASD*
- Consultation and Collaboration Skills*
- Counseling Issues in ASD*
- Lives of Adults and Adolescents with ASD*
- Co-Existing Conditions*

Under Development:

- Employment and Independent Living Options*
- Human/animal interactions*

Other Possible Topics:

- Early Identification and Intervention / Young child*
- Identification / Assessment of Students with Autism*
- Specialized Interventions (i.e., ABA)*
- Law Enforcement / Public Safety Issues for individuals with ASD*
- Specialized Ancillary Services for Students with Autism*
- Health/medical issues*
- Improving the Quality of Life for Families Living with ASD*
- Current and emerging research re: ASD population*
- ASD and the Family*
- Recreation and Leisure*
- Informal Assessment*
- Advocacy*
- Financial Planning*
- Therapies and Insurance Coverage*