The Master of Arts in Education, concentration in Special Interest Area allows graduate students to design and complete, under advisement, a program of specialized study that emphasizes a particular issue or problem in education. It is expected that students’ programs will be interdisciplinary in nature and that students will display considerable independence in identifying appropriate courses that will comprise their area of specialization. Applicants to the program must specify their area of interest and confer with a program advisor about objectives, study plans, and procedures prior to admission.

Admission to Program
Applicants to the program must specify an area of interest and confer with a program advisor about objectives, study plans, and procedures prior to admission. Entry into the master’s program is open to applicants with a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution and a 3.0 grade point average in the last 60 units of college course work. Prospective students must submit a CSU Graduate Application and a department application. In addition to the department application form, applicants must also submit two letters of recommendation, a statement of purpose and transcripts. A faculty committee reviews applications for admission. Students are admitted in both fall and spring semesters.

Written English Proficiency Requirement
Level One
During the first semester in a program and before filing an Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) form, each student must demonstrate graduate-level English writing ability. If remedial work is necessary, the student shall be expected to complete prescribed courses in English, or other corrective work, at a level acceptable to the department.

Level Two
The second assessment occurs within the Culminating Experience course (i.e., either ISED 895 or ISED 898) and by the time an ATC is approved and filed.

Students are required to take a minimum of 15 units of course work in the Department of Equity, Leadership Studies, and Instructional Technologies. Nine of these units correspond to required course work (ISED 747, ISED 797, and either ISED 895, or ISED 898). The remaining six units are elective course work selected in conjunction with the advisor. Students who have completed a teaching credential at SF State can apply up to 12 units of credential coursework towards their MA degree.

Continuous Enrollment Requirement
Students who were admitted to the master’s program before fall 2008 must enroll in the University during the semester of anticipated graduation. To meet this requirement, many students choose to enroll in a zero-unit designated College of Extended Learning course to complete the requirement. Those who need additional time beyond the two semesters to complete this requirement must enroll in a zero-unit designated College of Extended Learning course every subsequent semester until the requirement is completed.

Students admitted fall 2013 and beyond have the semester they enroll in the culminating experience course to complete their degree requirements. Those who need additional time beyond that semester must enroll in EDUC 499 each additional semester until the culminating experience requirement is completed. Contact the department for further information.

For more information, please contact the department at (415) 338–1653 or come to the department office in Burk Hall 239.

Education (M.A.): Concentration in Special Interest Area — Minimum 30 Units

Core Requirements (6 Units)
ISED 747 Culture, Language, and Society in Education 3
ISED 797 Seminar in Educational Research 3

Professional Education Courses
Units selected on advisement (6 units must be ISED, ITEC, or EDAD courses) Recommended ELSIT Elective Courses (6–9 Units)
ISED 706 Principles and Methods of Adult and Vocational Education 3
ISED 707 Planning and Funding Education and Community Programs 3
ISED 715 Equal Opportunity in Education 3
ISED 716 Literacy and Cross-cultural Issues in Education 3
ISED 717 Social Foundation for Multicultural Education 3
ISED 735 Seminar on the Adult Learner 3
ISED 736 Leadership and Policy for Community and Non-Formal Education 3
ISED 738 Critical and Postmodern Pedagogies 3
ISED 739 Education and Community Development: Equity and Diversity 3
ISED 740 Education & Globalization: Issues in Comparative and International Education 3
ISED 745 Practicum in a Multicultural Educational Setting 3
ISED 748 Culture, Cognition, and Power Issues in Education 3
ISED 749 Second Language Acquisition in the Elementary School 3
ISED 781 Educational Praxis: Curriculum Development and Pedagogies 3
ISED 782 Practicum in Adult Learning 3
ISED 899 Independent Study 3

Area of Specialization (12–15 Units)
Can include up to 12 units of SF State teaching credential coursework.

Units selected in an area of specialization.

Culminating Experience (3 Units)
(Prerequisite: ISED 797 and completion of 24 units of M.A. coursework)
ISED 895 Field Study 3
or ISED 898  Master's Thesis