OUR MISSION

The mission of the Exceptional Education Program is to offer premier undergraduate and graduate programs to prepare educators, researchers, and scholars as leaders and advocates for persons with disabilities and their families.

In the quest for social justice and educational excellence, we employ the principles of Universal Design for Learning to offer varied learning experiences focusing on pedagogical content knowledge, differentiated instruction, technology, and evidence-based practices. Our programs emphasize student research and advocacy to ensure equity and access through collaboration with local, state, national, and international partners in order to meet the diverse needs of all individuals and their families.

OUR HIGHLIGHTS

- External funding exceeds $25 million for research and personnel preparation.
- Technology-infused courses, supervision, and virtual environments to enhance educational experiences, including fully on-line Master’s program.
- Graduated 100 doctoral scholars in the past 10 years.
- National and international professional board leaders.
- Numerous service learning and community partnerships.

Check us Out
education.ucf.edu/exed

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**Dr. Lisa Dieker** is a Pegasus Professor and Lockheed Martin Eminent Scholar Chair in the Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences, with specializations in inclusion, co-teaching, STEM, Urban education, and virtual environments.

**Dr. Dan Ezell** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences, with a specialization in teaching instructional strategies for students with intellectual disabilities.

**Dr. Rebecca Hines** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences, with specializations in inclusion, instructional technology, service learning, and teaching students with emotional and behavioral disorders.

**Dr. Mary Little** is a Professor and Program Coordinator in the Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences, with specializations in evidence-based instructional practices and interventions, personal preparation, and program evaluations. She has more than $20 million in external funding.

**Dr. Matthew Marino** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences, with specializations in Universal Design for Learning (UDL), technology and gaming, and transition planning.

**Dr. Caroline Pratt Marrett** is a Lecturer and Exceptional Student Services Coordinator, Recruitment and Retention, in the Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences, with specializations in instructional strategies and mentoring of teacher candidates.

**Dr. Suzanne Martin** is a Professor in the Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences, with specializations in collaboration, grant writing, and doctoral preparation.

**Dr. Cynthia Pearl** is a Faculty Administrator in the Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences, with specializations in teacher preparation in Low Incidence Disabilities, including Autism Spectrum Disorders.

**Dr. Maria Reyes** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences, with specializations in evidence-based practices, family involvement, and teacher preparation, specifically for culturally and linguistically diverse students.

**Dr. Martha S. Lue Stewart** is a Professor in the Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences, with specializations in urban education, culturally responsive teaching pedagogy, and mentoring of teacher candidates.

**Dr. Eleazar Vasquez** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Child, Family, and Community Sciences, with specializations in applied behavior analyses, STEM education, and autism.