

# AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER CERTIFICATE - 16 CREDITS

## About this program

This certificate provides the learner with basic knowledge for understanding the characteristics associated with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Coursework centers on current research and applied theory relevant to the specific communication and developmental needs of individuals with ASD, as well as behavior and intervention strategies for serving this population. These opportunities are appropriate for entry-level workers and others caring for individuals with ASD, as well as students interested in learning about ASD. This certificate does not lead to teacher licensure.

## Program outcomes

1. Learners will gain a general understanding of the history, etiology, characteristics and assessment of autism spectrum disorder (ASD).
2. Learners will explore current research regarding neurodevelopmental issues in autism.
3. Learners will understand the diagnostic criteria used to identify children with ASD.
4. Learners will examine collaborative and interdisciplinary models of service delivery.
5. Learners will explore family-centered and culturally competent approaches to assessment and intervention.
6. Learners will demonstrate an understanding of evidence-based research that is focused on intervention strategies.
7. Learners will identify and describe collaborative approaches for working with individuals diagnosed with ASD.
8. Learners will identify evidence-based and research-focused intervention strategies commonly implemented when serving individuals with ASD.
9. Learners will explore the design, development and use of technology that benefits people with disabilities.
10. Learners will examine and apply the principles and procedures of applied behavior analysis.
11. Learners will complete an in-depth study of current issues surrounding ASD.

## Curriculum overview

<b>Crds</b>	<b>Requirement type</b>
12	Required courses
4	Restricted electives in courses
16	<b>Total</b>

**Developmental courses note:** A student may be required to enroll in developmental courses in reading, writing and math. A student's scores on the Accuplacer assessment will determine enrollment in developmental courses. The purpose of developmental courses is to prepare students for the demands of a college-level curriculum. *Credits may vary.*

**Accreditation:** Minnesota State Community and Technical College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. The Higher Learning Commission 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500 Chicago, IL 60604-1411 <http://www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org> Phone: 312.263.0456 / 800.621.7440

## Curriculum requirement details

### Required courses

Course	Crds
CPTR1103 - Introduction to Assistive Technology .....	3
PSYC1202 - Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders .....	3
PSYC2226 - Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis .....	3
PSYC2236 - Special Topics for Autism Spectrum Disorder .....	3

### Other requirements or restricted electives

**4 credits from one or more of these Courses:**

Course title	Credits
ED2233 - Strategies for Working With Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorder .....	4
PSYC2233 - Strategies for Working With Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorder .....	4

**Special Requirement: 0 credits**

- Students must earn a grade of 'C' or better in all program courses to graduate with the ASD certificate

## Course summaries

**CPTR1103 - Introduction to Assistive Technology** ..... (3 credits)

This course explores the design, development and use of technology that benefits people with disabilities. Students will gain a general understanding of the various assistive and adaptive technologies utilized to improve or develop functional communication and daily living skills for individuals with disabilities. Throughout this course, case studies will be used to illustrate application of principles and theories in assistive technology.

**PSYC1202 - Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Area 5. This is a comprehensive introductory course to autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Students will gain a general understanding of the history, etiology, characteristics and assessment of ASD. This course will highlight current research regarding neurodevelopmental issues in autism, the diagnostic criteria used to identify children with ASD, and collaborative and interdisciplinary models of service delivery that ensure family-centered and culturally-competent approaches to assessment and intervention.

**PSYC2226 - Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Areas 2, 5 and 10. This course is an exploration of the scientific study of human behavior and its interrelatedness with the environment. This course describes and explains the acquisition, maintenance and change of behavior with an emphasis on human application within a variety of environmental contexts. This course uses critical thinking on the principles and procedures used to understand and change the environment and human behavior.

**PSYC2236 - Special Topics for Autism Spectrum Disorder** ..... (3 credits)

This course provides in-depth study into current issues surrounding autism spectrum disorders (ASD). For example, this course may focus on the impact of mental health and medical issues on an individual's experience living with ASD. Content will vary depending upon current research-driven topics in the field at the time of course delivery.

**ED2233 - Strategies for Working With Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorder** ..... (4 credits)

This course will introduce students to evidence-based and research-focused intervention strategies commonly implemented when serving individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Team-based collaborative consultation for individuals diagnosed with ASD is also addressed. Topics include direct instruction, communication skills training, social and emotional skills training and general supportive strategies. This course is cross-listed with PSYC 2233.

**PSYC2233 - Strategies for Working With Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorder** ..... (4 credits)

This course will introduce students to evidence-based and research-focused intervention strategies commonly implemented when serving individuals with autism spectrum disorders. Team-based collaborative consultation for individuals diagnosed with ASD is also addressed. Topics include (but are not limited to) direct instruction, communication skills training, social and emotional skills training and general supportive strategies. This course is cross-listed with ED 2233.

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Program Plan — "Autism Spectrum Disorder"  
Locations: Online

## 1st Fall Term (10 credits)

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**Courses**

Course	Crds
PSYC1202 - Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders ..	3
PSYC2226 - Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis ...	3

**4 credits in one or more of the following:**

ED2233 - Strategies for Working With Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorder .....	4
PSYC2233 - Strategies for Working With Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorder .....	4

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## 1st Spring Term (6 credits)

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**Courses**

Course	Crds
CPTR1103 - Introduction to Assistive Technology .....	3
PSYC2236 - Special Topics for Autism Spectrum Disorder	3