Graduate Certificate in Assistive Technology

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Training graduate students and professionals in the consideration and application of assistive technology tools and strategies for persons with disabilities.
The Graduate Certificate in assistive technology combines a foundation in assistive technology practices with professional training in the assessment and application of assistive technology tools and strategies.

Graduates are prepared to consider and apply assistive technology for persons with disabilities across ages and environments.
Program Highlights

• 2-year part-time program designed for working professionals and students enrolled in graduate degree programs.

• Student learning is facilitated through interactive online coursework taught by faculty who are practitioners working in diverse fields of assistive technology practice.

• Students engage in hands-on learning through assistive technology labs conducted at the Northern Arizona University Flagstaff campus. Distance students can choose to participate via distance technology with hands-on opportunities.

• Students apply their learning in a final capstone project. Students designing a project to reflect learning and application of assistive technology assessment and intervention to impact change for persons with disabilities.
Our Students

- Excellent candidates for this program have a bachelor’s degree and backgrounds in or are enrolled in graduate programs for:
  - Education
  - Special Education
  - Speech-Language Pathology
  - Occupational Therapy
  - Physical Therapy
  - Rehabilitation Counseling

- Our students are often students with disabilities, family members, and caregivers who seek knowledge and skill in the field of assistive technology.

- Not sure if this program is a match to your background and individual needs? Contact us to discuss your educational goals.

- Northern Arizona University undergraduate students may take courses in this program during their senior year.

- If you are interested in completing the coursework in this program but do not have a bachelor’s degree please contact us for additional information on coordinating your coursework options.
Financing Your Education

• Our Office of Student Financial Aid can assist you in estimating the cost to attend graduate school.

• The Graduate Certificate in Assistive Technology is a member of the Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP) and provides resident tuition rates for students from qualifying resident states.

• Military, Veteran, and World Wide University tuition discounts are also available for qualified students.
Online Coursework

Courses are provided to students through BbLearn, an online course management system.

Students complete a weekly content learning module in a self-paced process.

Modules embed multiple interactive content pieces with a focus on universal design for learning to support diverse learners.

Course modules include:
- Online and textbook readings
- Interactive blogs and discussions
- Assistive technology simulations
- Video enhancements
- Live and recorded webinars
- Instructor office hours
Coursework

Assistive Technology Foundations

6 Credit Hours

- **DIS 505 Disabilities and technology in the lifespan**
  - 3 credit hours
  - This course develops a broad foundation in assistive technology practices and applications across a diverse set of assistive technology tools.

- **DIS 521 Assessment and effective practices in assistive technology**
  - 3 credit hours
  - This course develops focused skill specific in policy, practice, assessment and intervention.
Coursework

Assistive Technology Specialization

6-Credit Hours

Choose One:

• **DIS 526 Applications of assistive technology for school aged individuals: Low incidence severe disabilities**
  - 3 credit hours
  - Develop specialized skills in the application of assistive technology for young children, children in school settings, and students transitioning to community, workplace, and academic settings.

• **DIS 527 Applications of assistive technology for adults**
  - 3 credit hours
  - Develop specialized skills in the application of assistive technology for adults in the community, workplace, and academic settings.

Choose One:

• **DIS 524 Assistive technology application: literacy**
  - 3 credit hours
  - Develop specialized skills in the selection and application of assistive technology to enhance access to literacy opportunities including reading, writing, and technology across the lifespan.

• **DIS 525 Assistive technology application: Communication impairment**
  - 3 credit hours
  - Develop specialized skills in augmentative and alternative communication including assessment and intervention for successful communication outcomes across the lifespan.

• Students interested in other elective options should contact Janis.nicol@nau.edu for additional information. Independent study options can be arranged as appropriate for individual students.
Coursework

Application

2 Credits

- Students conclude their coursework in the Graduate Certificate in Assistive Technology with a Capstone Course.

- The Capstone Course provides students with the opportunity, in a supportive course format, to apply their learning. Students designing a project to reflect learning and application of assistive technology assessment and intervention to impact change for persons with disabilities.

- Students design this project to align with their current and future goals working in the field of assistive technology.

- This course can be completed in conjunction with current employment activities.

- **DIS 689—Capstone Course (2 credit hours)**
Current NAU Students

• If you are ready to apply for the Graduate Certificate in Assistive Technology visit the Northern Arizona University Graduate College to apply.

• If you would like to take one or more courses in the program and are not ready to commit to the full Certificate please register for courses. Contact Janis.nicol@nau.edu for assistance with registration.

Not Currently an NAU Student

• If you are ready to apply for the Graduate Certificate in Assistive Technology visit the Northern Arizona University Graduate College to apply.

• Students wanting to take one or more courses in the program should also apply for the program to allow access to this option.

Contact Janis.nicol@nau.edu for assistance in applying for the Graduate Certificate in Assistive Technology.