

Course Descriptions

Issues, Policy and Practice in Special Education SPED 601

This course aims at examining current trends and issues related to mild/ moderate disabilities. It covers philosophies, theories, legislation, and perspectives from other fields of knowledge that influence the practice in the field of special education. It emphasizes educational programs and behavioral management issues in mild/moderate disabilities.

Inclusive Education for Students with Disabilities SPED 602

This course is designed to prepare the educator to effectively teach a range of students found in the typical general education classroom. Various disabilities are addressed in terms of their characteristics, assessment procedures, and intervention techniques that are research proven. The course prepares candidates to serve in a pre-referral process as well as during the child's eligibility for special education. Practical strategies, accommodations and modifications for students with disabilities in the general education classroom are also explored. This course has a field-based component

Advanced Applied Behavior Analysis SPED 603

An overview of applied behavior analysis, which is based on the discipline devoted to the understanding and improvement of human behavior, is presented. Emphasis is placed on designing procedures to systematically change socially important behaviors using single-subject research designs. This course provides the student with procedures for selecting, defining, and measuring applied behavior. Behavioral and cognitive-behavioral intervention procedures are reviewed and discussed using graphic displays and detailed descriptions of experimental procedures from published articles and the textbook. Replicating and evaluating analyses of behavior using single-subject research designs are also addressed. This course has a field-based component.

Assessment of Students with Disabilities SPED 604

This course aims at providing the candidates with essential procedures of assessment of individuals with exceptional learning needs. It covers topics such as types of educational assessment, issues in assessing children with special needs, and skills needed to undertake assessment. Emphasis is placed on analysis of evaluation of learners work in order to prepare and apply individualized programs and activities.

Collaboration with Family of Children with Disabilities SPED 605

This course provides candidates with knowledge of legal, social and educational aspects and their effects on children with disabilities and their families. Among topics covered are historical and current roles of parents, family characteristics, communication and consultations skills, and resources in special education. The course emphasizes school visitation, family interview, and developing skills necessary to pinpoint problems facing special needs persons and families when interacting with schools and community resources.

Educational Research Methodologies EDUC 606

This course provides an overview of research methods, designs, and techniques. Course content will include applying public information and research-based knowledge of issues and trends and use appropriate assessment strategies and research methodologies to address authentic issues in education. Students will also explore the use of action research as a means to improve teaching and learning.

Characteristics of with Mild/ Moderate Disabilities SPED 607

This course focuses on the characteristics of learners with high-incident disabilities including learning disabilities, emotional behavioral disorders, mild and moderate intellectual disabilities. The purpose of this course is to study the nature of these learners including the traditional categorical perspective and then move to the perspective of alternative, non-categorical frameworks. Topics include definition/ eligibility, assessment, causal factors, characteristics of various disorders, and current issues facing the field. This course has a field-based component

Methods of Teaching Learners with Mild/Moderate Disabilities SPED 609

This course focuses on methods and materials for teaching learners with mild and moderate disabilities including behavior disorders, learning disabilities, and mild intellectual disabilities. Students will learn how to plan lessons, accommodate their academic needs, and make decisions based on assessment. Students will also learn how to choose service delivery models, use related services, and work effectively with families and other professionals.

Literacy Assessment & Remediation SPED 611

This course explores the nature and causes of reading disabilities, and investigates general and specific principles and approaches to diagnosis and correctional intervention. The student conducts assessment and intervention and submit actual case studies using both group and individual tests in diagnosis and correction. This course has a field-based component..

Characteristics of Severe/Profound Disabilities SPED 608

This course aims at helping prospective teachers in special education to understand definitions, identification, etiology, characteristics and impact of severe disabilities on developmental skills. It also covers legislations, rules, regulations and ethical responsibilities for teachers of those students. Major emphasis is placed on characteristics, education and medical complications as well as effective collaboration activities with other professionals and community resources. This course has a field-based component.

Methods of Teaching Learners with Severe/Profound Disabilities SPED 610

This course helps candidates to gain knowledge and skills related to teaching children with severe disabilities. It covers the use of assistive devices and technological equipment appropriate for individuals with severe disabilities among other topics. It stresses coordination efforts with professionals and parents to design and implement instructional as well as behavioral management strategies to improve developmental and social skills of these students.

Motor Development & Learning SPED 612

This course focuses on motoric, educational, and vocational supports during the lifespan of individuals with learning differences practiced in the field by professionals. Typical and atypical patterns of development influence the acquisition of skills and the mastery of necessary tasks throughout one's lifespan. Atypical patterns of motor development impact on the functional and independent skills necessary to achieve educational, vocational, and adaptive goals for students with disabilities. This course reviews fine and gross motor development of children with known or suspected disabilities and relates the differences to the acquisition and mastery of skills throughout the lifespan. Special emphasis is placed on children of school-going ages with known or suspected motor disabilities. This course has a field-based component.

Internship : Mild/Moderate Disabilities SPED 621

The Internship in Special Education is designed to provide the opportunity for graduate students to practice and demonstrate those planning, teaching, assessment, management, and collaboration skills that have been identified by the program as essential components of being an effective special educator. It is during this internship that candidates confirm that they have mastered those skills needed to work with learners who are in special education programs. This course requires a significant number of field hours.

Internship : Severe/Profound Disabilities SPED 622

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