

EDUC 131-INTRODUCTION TO SPECIAL EDUCATION 3 CREDITS

SYLLABUS

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Overview of special education for current teachers, educational assistants or others planning to work with exceptional students. Course covers categories of exceptionalities and related accommodations, and appropriate instructional methods. Special education laws, components of IEPs, and involving families, community agencies and other school support systems are also covered. Course requires field observations.

Prerequisites: None

Semester Offered: Fall, Spring

Common Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of San Juan College programs and degrees, the student will demonstrate competency in...

BROAD AND SPECIALIZED LEARNING

Students will actively and independently acquire, apply, and adapt skills and knowledge with an awareness of global contexts.

CRITICAL THINKING

Students will think analytically and creatively to explore ideas, make connections, draw conclusions and solve problems.

CULTURAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Students will act purposefully, reflectively, and ethically in diverse and complex environments.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Students will exchange ideas and information with clarity in multiple contexts.

INFORMATION LITERACY

Students will be able to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use it effectively.

INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGIES

Students will demonstrate fluency in the application and use of technologies in multiple contexts.

Student work from this class may be randomly selected and used anonymously for assessment of course, program, and/or institutional learning outcomes. For more information, please refer to the Dean of the appropriate School.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to...

1. Familiarity with categories of exceptionalities and related accommodations and instructional methods appropriate for various exceptionalities.

2. Major laws and responsibilities of schools related to special education.
3. Components of Individualized Educational Plans and related roles of teachers, school specialists, students and their families.
4. Family, school and community roles and resources for serving exceptional students.
5. Field experience with observations and interaction with special education students and school programs.

Specific Learning Outcomes

1. Familiarity with categories of exceptionalities and related accommodations and instructional methods appropriate for various exceptionalities.
 - a) Identify major categories of exceptionalities.
 - b) Describe accommodations commonly used in instructional practices.
 - c) Demonstrate ability to modify lesson plans to accommodate different exceptionalities.
2. Major laws and responsibilities of schools related to special education.
 - a) Explain the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and related state regulations.
 - b) Describe inclusion and least restrictive environment (LRE) in a variety of settings.
3. Components of an Individualized Educational Plan and related roles of teachers, school specialists, students and their families.
 - a) Describe how and why IEPs are used in schools.
 - b) Explain the roles and responsibilities of Special Education Coordinators, teachers, and parents in implementing IEPs.
 - c) Discuss how to evaluate the effectiveness of IEPs and when modifications are indicated.
4. Family, school and community roles and resources for serving exceptional students.
 - a) Recognize the perspectives of family, students, educators and community members in serving students with exceptionalities.
 - b) Show familiarity with agencies and community resources, which are utilized to support, and enrich special education programs.
 - c) Investigate transition services used to assist individuals as they move beyond public school special education programs.
5. Field experience with observations and interaction with special education students and school programs.
 - a) Perform observations in special education and inclusion classrooms.
 - b) Participate in volunteer, service or tutoring activities for direct experience with exceptional children.
 - c) Interact with special education professionals to explore available career paths.