Special Education Courses

Courses

Special Education: Historical and Legal Basis. This course emphasizes the historical and legal issues pertaining to special education with specific attention paid to the evolution of federal law, policy, and litigation and its influence on promoting social justice and educational equity for students with disabilities and their families. The course centers on the landmark Supreme Court cases across Section 504, ADA, and IDEA, alongside the civil and disability rights movements in U.S. history, that have shaped legal and institutional schemes of special education services.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

SPED 5321. Cont. Trends in Cult & Ling SE.
This course focuses on contemporary national, state, and regional trends related to educating students with disabilities who are culturally and linguistically diverse with emphasis on students who are English learners. Students will conduct a case-study in their community that explores the relationship between school and community.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours
Prerequisite(s): (SPED 5337 w/B or better) OR (SPED 5322 w/B or better)

SPED 5322. Applications in Bil Spec Ed.
Applications in Bilingual Special Education. This skills-based course will focus on providing instruction to bilingual and diverse students with disabilities. This course will address the foundations of bilingual and multicultural education, the development of culturally responsive individualized education programs, and teaching methods that promote equity and inclusion through school-family-community partnerships.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

SPED 5330. Early Childhood Bil Spec Ed.
Early Childhood Bilingual Special Education. This course focuses on evidence-based practices for young bilingual children with disabilities and their families. Developmental domains such as language, motor, social, cognitive development, and emergent literacy with an emphasis on implementation of instructional strategies, managing and understanding child behavior, within the context of bilingual family involvement will be addressed.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours
Prerequisite(s): (SPED 5320 w/B or better)

SPED 5331. Altern Classroom Based Assess.
This course focuses on alternative classroom assessments for students with low incidence disabilities. Six alternative assessment methods: naturalistic, focused, performance, portfolio, dynamic, and curriculum-based language will be discussed. Additionally, clear guidelines for linking assessment results with intervention and providing effective collaboration with others will be covered.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours
SPED 5332. Multi-Tiered SEL for SWD.
Focuses on the foundations of high quality social-emotional learning assessments (e.g., screening, diagnostic, progress monitoring) and evidence-based interventions within multi-tiered systems of support (e.g., Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3) for students with disabilities who have high intensity mental health needs. Keywords: special education, school counseling, well-being, behavior.

**Department:** Special Education

**3 Credit Hours**

**3 Total Contact Hours**
0 Lab Hours
0 Lecture Hours
3 Other Hours

**Major Restrictions:**
Restricted to majors of SCCN, SPED

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SPED 5333. Field-Experience: SEL for SWD.
Focuses on field-based applications of high quality social-emotional learning assessments (e.g., screening, diagnostic, progress monitoring) and evidence-based interventions within multi-tiered systems of support (e.g., Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3) for students with disabilities who have high intensity mental health needs. In addition to a weekly seminar, scholars will receive supervision and mentorship to successfully complete their field-experience in PK-12 public school settings. Keywords: special education, school counseling, well-being, behavior.

**Department:** Special Education

**3 Credit Hours**

**3 Total Contact Hours**
0 Lab Hours
0 Lecture Hours
3 Other Hours

**Major Restrictions:**
Restricted to majors of SCCN, SPED

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SPED 5336. Motor Dev/Adapted PE.
This course will provide a comprehensive overview of the developmental and functional aspects of motor development in low incidence disabilities. This course will also provide professionals with the essential knowledge for understanding intervention strategies, specialized motor equipment, motor therapy, and adapted physical education programs.

**Department:** Special Education

**3 Credit Hours**

**3 Total Contact Hours**
0 Lab Hours
0 Lecture Hours
3 Other Hours

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SPED 5337. Assessment: Disability.
Assessment: Disability and Cultural/Linguistic Factors. This course will focus on issues related to the assessment of culturally and linguistically diverse students who have disabilities or are referred for special education. Topics related to disproportionality, multi-tiered systems of support, and the selection and implementation of valid, reliable, non-biased, and culturally responsive assessments will be discussed.

**Department:** Special Education

**3 Credit Hours**

**3 Total Contact Hours**
0 Lab Hours
0 Lecture Hours
3 Other Hours

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SPED 5340. Learning Theories Across Life.
Learning Theories Across the Lifespan (3-0) Analysis and application of learning theories, including cognitive, behavioristic, social and emotional learning processes in human development, with special emphasis on children and adolescents. Restricted to majors: DIAG, EDAD, GUID, SPED. Prerequisite: SPED 5320 with a grade of "B" or better.

**Department:** Special Education

**3 Credit Hours**

**3 Total Contact Hours**
0 Lab Hours
0 Lecture Hours
3 Other Hours

**Prerequisite(s):** (SPED 5320 w/B or better)
SPED 5345. Interv Stud w/High Incid Disab.
Interventions for Students with High-Incidence Disabilities. This course focuses on the role of the special educator in providing services to students with high incidence disabilities (e.g., learning disabilities, emotional and behavioral disorders, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder). Incorporates strategies in evidence-based practices, collaborative planning and teaching, and implementation of curricular adaptations.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

SPED 5347. Collaboration in Bil Spec Ed.
Collaboration in Bilingual Special Education. This course overviews current research and practice on collaborating with diverse stakeholders (e.g., families, interpreters, related service providers, general educators, administrators, government agencies, community organizations) to support bilingual students with disabilities in early intervention, grade school, and transition settings. Topics related to family engagement, interdisciplinary collaboration, co-teaching, school/community asset mapping, and teacher/leadership models will be discussed.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

SPED 5348. Diff Diagnosis Handicap Condtn.
Differential Diagnosis of Handicapping Conditions (3-0) Diagnosis of and state eligibility criteria for all handicapping conditions with emphasis on the learning disabled, mentally retarded and emotionally disturbed student. Focuses on factors affecting diagnosis and eligibility including language, culture and lifestyle and educational background. Prerequisite: SPED 5320.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

SPED 5350. Special Topics-Special Educati.
Special Topics in Special Education (3-0). Selected topics for graduate students and teachers in special areas. May be repeated when topic varies. Restricted to majors of SPED and DIAG.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours
Prerequisite(s): (PREQ ERROR)

SPED 5351. CurTop in Early Interv (B-8).
Current topics in Early Intervention (B-8) for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Young Children and Families An in-depth exploration of current topics related to culturally and culturally and linguistically diverse young children birth through 8 who have or are at-risk for developmental delays or disabilities will be covered in this course. Specifically we will cover nationally recognized issues pertaining to leadership, teaming and collaboration, assessment, transition, culturally responsive practices, and instruction and how these issues are reflected in local settings that serve young children and their families.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
15 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
15 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours
SPED 5352. Behav Inter for Young Ch (B-8).
Behavior Intervention for Young Children (B-8) Promoting social emotional development in young children birth to age eight, and address challenging behaviors. The first teacher competency domain includes nurturing relationships and responsive caregiving as the foundation for children’s development. The second domain is creating high quality environments as the context of the development of those relationships. The third domain involves targeted strategies and supports for promoting social emotional development and growth. The fourth teacher competency domain includes individualized interventions that provide treatment to children with persistent challenges.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
15 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
15 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

SPED 5353. Earl Interv Strat Spe Pop B-8.
Early Invtrv. Strategies for Spec Pop (B-8) This course focuses on the intervention techniques and strategies for children from birth to eight years of age who have disabilities of who are at risk of having developmental delays. Evidence-based strategies, ecological and family approaches, cultural and linguistic practices are introduced , as well as disability definitions, assessment practices, and practical methods for providing interventions to support the development and learning of infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and primary age students in special education and inclusive settings.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
15 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
15 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

SPED 5354. Atypical Childh Develop (B-8).
Atypical Childhood Development (B-8) Specific curricular strategies in developmental domains such as language, motor, social concept development, and emergency literacy. Typical and atypical child development and information on specific types of disability including children with multiple disabilities. Recommended practices in the field, family concerns and experiences, individualized program planning for children, implementation of instructional strategies, managing and understanding child behavior, and the involvement of families in their children's programs.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
15 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
15 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

SPED 5355. Resrch & App Early Inter B-8.
Research and Application for Early Intervention: B-8 This course serves as the culminating experience for students pursuing the Early Intervention certificate. Students will produce a scholarly product in the form of an Early Intervention Professional Digital Portfolio that reflects the integrations of their knowledge, skills, and experiences in the field. Throughout the course, students will communicate regularly with faculty to track progress and discuss their project.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
15 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
15 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours
Prerequisite(s): (SPED 5351 w/B or better AND SPED 5352 w/B or better AND SPED 5353 w/B or better AND SPED 5354 w/B or better)

SPED 5361. Positive Behavior Interv & Sup.
Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports. This course focuses on the theory and application of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and provides an in-depth examination of functional behavioral assessment and behavioral intervention planning based on academic, social, cultural context. The course will emphasize applying PBIS principles and techniques for students with disabilities from bilingual and diverse backgrounds.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours
Current Trends and Issues in Addressing Challenging Behaviors (3-0) Focuses on the theories and methods for promoting behavioral change for students with challenging behaviors. This course will address current research and best practices in behavioral interventions and support.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

SPED 5367. Char Students Learning Disabil.
Characteristics of Students with Learning Disabilities (3-0) Focuses on the various theoretical, etiological, sociological and behavioral approaches to the understanding of children with language and learning disabilities. Emphasis is on the characteristics of this population and assessment strategies.
Prerequisite: SPED 5320.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

SPED 5369. Tch Rdng Wrt Mth/Lrns Hgh Inc.
Teaching Reading, Writing, and Mathematics to Learners with High Incidence Disabilities (3-0) This course provides information on assessment of learners with mild disabilities who have reading, math, and/or writing difficulties; includes information on strategies for all three academic areas.
Prerequisite: SPED 5320 with a grade of "B" or better. Restricted to majors of SPED and DIAG.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours
Prerequisite(s): (SPED 5320 w/B or better)

SPED 5370. Tch Sec Stdnts/Mild Disability.
Teaching Secondary Students with Mild Disabilities (3-0). Focuses on challenges of adolescents with learning problems, including transition to post-secondary settings. Prerequisite: Department approval.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

SPED 5371. Interv. Stud w/ Low Incid Dis.
Interventions for Students with Low Incidence Disabilities. This course focuses on interventions for students with low incidence disabilities (e.g., autism spectrum disorder, intellectual disabilities, sensory impairments, multiple disabilities), including assessment, program development, teaching methodology, and design of learning environments; focuses on increasing access to inclusive educational and community settings.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

This seminar course provides an opportunity to explore relevant research and best practice in critical issues in autism. Topics explored will include educational programming, transition, social skills, working with parents and the communication process related to working with families of children with autism. Restricted to majors of SPED and DIAG.
Department: Special Education
3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours
### SPED 5373. Teaching Students with Autism.
Teaching Students with Autism (3-0) Characteristics of young children, elementary and adolescent severely handicapped students with autism including assessment, program development, teaching methodology, and intervention techniques; including programming for self-help, motor and language skills, reading, mathematics, and functional academic skills. Prerequisite: Twelve graduate semester hours in special education (SPED). Restricted to majors of SPED and DIAG.

**Department:** Special Education  
**3 Credit Hours**  
**3 Total Contact Hours**  
- 0 Lab Hours  
- 3 Lecture Hours  
- 0 Other Hours

### SPED 5374. Lang Disorders & Augment Comm.
Language Disorders and Augmentative Communication This course provides an overview of the foundations of language acquisition for understanding language and communication problems in students with low incidence disabilities. Formal and informal assessment and intervention techniques and strategies for facilitating language and communication skills will be emphasized. Additionally, augmentative and alternative communication systems in fostering communication will be provided.

**Department:** Special Education  
**3 Credit Hours**  
**3 Total Contact Hours**  
- 0 Lab Hours  
- 3 Lecture Hours  
- 0 Other Hours

### SPED 5375. Tech Assist Tools/Issue/Access.
Technology, Assistive Tools and Issues of Access (2-1) Distance learning for K-12 students, both in and out of the traditional school setting. Assistive technology tools and techniques for the classroom teacher, legal issues regarding technology access and equity. Prerequisites: EDT 5373 with a grade of "B" or better and department approval. SPED 5375 is the same course as EDT 5373.

**Department:** Special Education  
**3 Credit Hours**  
**3 Total Contact Hours**  
- 1 Lab Hour  
- 2 Lecture Hours  
- 0 Other Hours

### SPED 5376. Developmtl Aspects of Autism.
This course will provide a comprehensive overview of the developmental aspects of autism, including cognitive, social, behavioral, and physiological perspectives. This course will also provide professionals with the essential knowledge to work effectively with community service providers. Issues related to diagnosis, etiologies, and characteristics of autism across the lifespan will be presented. Current "hot topics” in autism will also be discussed, including impact of diet and childhood immunizations. Restricted to majors of SPED and DIAG.

**Department:** Special Education  
**3 Credit Hours**  
**3 Total Contact Hours**  
- 0 Lab Hours  
- 3 Lecture Hours  
- 0 Other Hours

### SPED 5378. Capstone in Special Education.
Capstone in Special Education. This course is the culminating experience of the M.Ed. in Special Education. This course will require students to develop a philosophy of teacher-leadership and develop a project in their local community or school to directly impact students, educational professionals, families, and/or community stakeholders. Earning a grade of "pass" in the capstone course is a degree requirement for graduation.

**Department:** Special Education  
**3 Credit Hours**  
**3 Total Contact Hours**  
- 0 Lab Hours  
- 3 Lecture Hours  
- 0 Other Hours
**SPED 5379. Practicum in Special Education.**
Practicum in Special Education (3-0) Supervised experience in the direct teaching of students with disabilities. Prerequisite: Twelve graduate semester hours in special education (SPED) and department approval.

**Department:** Special Education

3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

**SPED 5380. Leadership for Sp. Populations.**
Leadership for Special Populations (3-0) An exploration of traditional, emerging, and alternative perspectives in the field of special education, including legal issues and best practices in serving special populations, including bilingual education, and the gifted and talented. Prerequisite: Department approval.

**Department:** Special Education

3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours