Spring 2023 SELECT Course Descriptions

**ESE 501 Exceptional Children in General Education Programs**

**Autism & Communication Skills**

* This course is designed to provide graduate level instruction in communication skills for providing services to students with Autism. Emphasis will be placed on pragmatics of language development and intervention ideas for students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Focus will be developing and enhancing social skills for students to use at home, in school, and within the community.

**Inclusive Teaching & Learning Practices**

* This course is designed to provide graduate level instruction in the use of effective differentiation to provide an inclusive teaching and learning environment that results in learning for students with special needs. Emphasis will be placed on the collaborative process of planning for and implementing successful programs that support effective teaching and learning practices in inclusive settings in schools. Course topics include: IEP development and interpretation, multi-disciplinary team communication, curricular and environmental adaptation, relevant technology, and school community awareness/support.

**ESE 502 Behavioral Management in Special Education**

**Differentiating Emotional Disabilities & Behavioral Disorders**

* Students with emotional disabilities (ED) and students with behavioral disorders (BD) are different populations. This course will examine, compare, and contrast students with emotional disabilities and students with behavioral disorders. Practical methodology and background information will be presented including definition, characteristics, and identification of individuals with these labels. This course will touch on aspects of mental health and behavioral health agencies and supports. Students will learn techniques to develop and design effective learning environments and activities through the review of case studies and discussions. The course will help students improve skills in identifying appropriate teaching strategies, as well as classroom and behavioral management systems. The course will also cover application to least restrictive environments (LRE). This course is designed to provide graduate level instruction in methods, management techniques, styles, materials, and related information to students with emotional disabilities.

**ESE 503 Diagnosis & Assessment of Exceptional Children**

**Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation Team**

* This course is designed to provide graduate level instruction in the use of effective differentiation to provide an inclusive teaching and learning environment that results in learning for early childhood students with special needs. Emphasis will be placed on the collaborative process of planning for and implementing successful programs that support effective teaching and learning practices in inclusive settings in schools. Course topics include: IEP development and interpretation, multi-disciplinary team communication, curricular and environmental adaptation, relevant technology, and school community awareness/support.

**Severe & Multiple Disabilities Part II**

* This course prepares special educators to view children from a holistic developmental framework, and to provide teachers with the knowledge and understanding to effectively assessing students with severe intellectual disabilities. Students with severe cognitive disabilities and multiple disabilities typically require a highly structured individual education program of special education services that includes specially designed instruction, related services, assistive technology, school health services, and/or other services required for the provision of a free appropriate public education. This class will provide an overview of educational practices that influence the identification, placement, and statewide assessment of students with severe intellectual disabilities.

**ESE 504 Methods & Materials in Special Education**

**Assistive Technology**

* This course is designed to provide graduate level instruction in methods, materials, and related subject matter as is relates to exceptional students with focus on assistive technology (see certification, age(s),and disability categories which you can find at the Arizona Department of Education website: http://ade.state.az.us/)The course will cover concepts in Universal Design for Learning (UDL) as well as assistive technology (AT). A board range of technology options across a multitude of disabilities, settings, and abilities will be covered. Practical Methodology and background information will be presented including: the AT Consideration process, AT in the IEP, and practical tips for implementation in the classroom.

**Co-Teaching Principles/Practices**

* This course is designed to provide graduate level instruction in methods and materials, as it relates to exceptional students with a focus on co-teaching strategies. Practical methodology and background information will be presented including the three essential elements of coteaching, coplanning, co-instructing, and co- assessment. In addition, instruction will include working with co- teachers, consultation and collaboration techniques, and best practices in differentiate and specially designed instruction for students with special education eligibility. This course results in a strong foundation for planning, implementing, and sustaining successful coteaching programs that improve and enhance the instructional experience for both students with disabilities and their typically developing peers.

**Teaching Struggling Readers-Language and Reading Comprehension**

**(Part 2)**

* This course is designed to provide graduate level instruction in methods, materials, and related subject matter as it relates to effective reading instruction for struggling readers. Practical methodology and background information on how to teach literacy skills will be presented. Major concepts addressed in this course include: the role fluency plays in foundational skills and reading comprehension, the history of the English language and how this knowledge supports vocabulary instruction, methods of vocabulary instruction, comprehension strategies for primary and intermediate students, and the importance of disciplinary literacy for reading in the content areas. The combined concepts learned in part 1 and 2 of this course will provide teachers with knowledge of how children learn to read, why children struggle, and the instructional skills and strategies to be an effective teacher of literacy. This course will meet the needs of special education teachers, reading interventionists, K-5 teachers and teachers of struggling readers. Related service providers and administrators will also benefit from the course by learning strategies to support teachers with reading instruction.

**ESE 506 Administration & Supervision of Special Education**

**Disability Law**

* This course is designed to provide graduate level instruction in the area of disability law as it relates to the role of teacher/administrator. Participants examine legal issues, recent court decisions and current law relating to special education. Special attention is given to compliance, student and parent rights, and local and state policies and procedures.

**Introduction to Special Education Administration**

* This is a graduate class designed to prepare students for their initial role in special education administration. The target audience will be those individuals who desire to become effective and visionary leaders in educational programs serving diverse learners. This course is designed for those who have been assigned oversight for special education programs in their role as an administrator. Students will be exposed to critical case studies, research, litigation, and law central to leadership in this area. The IEP process will be outlined from the stages of child find through service delivery. Administrative roles, communication, and organizational models will be discussed.

**Legal Aspects & Compliance**

* This course provides graduate level instruction in the legal practices for the administration and supervision of Special Education programs governing all categories of special education. Practicing special education teachers, specialists, coordinators and administrators of special education programs will benefit from the information provided. Students will be exposed to “real” case studies, litigation and law that governs the evaluation and the individual education plan for eligible students. Both state and federal legal issues will be addressed. Compliance as it deals with School Districts as well as Charters in Arizona will also be covered. Students will gain practical knowledge on applying legal guidelines to special education programs including communication and collaboration with parents and families. The IEP process will be outlined from the stages of childhood through service delivery.

**ESE 509 Foundations of Special Education**

**Introduction to Disproportionality Part I**

* The objective of this course is to provide teachers, administrators, and parents a graduate level overview of the topic of disproportionality as it applies to educational settings. Emphasis will be placed on the prescribed methods for identifying disproportionality, potential contributing factors, and potential methodologies to address it. This class is a prerequisite to Part II: Ways to Address Disproportionality.