

Virginia Western Community College

CHD 210

Introduction to Exceptional Children

Prerequisites

None

Course Description

Reviews the history of education for exceptional children. Studies the characteristics associated with exceptional children. Explores positive techniques for managing behavior and adapting materials for classroom.

Semester Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Required Materials

1. Textbook
2. Internet access
3. Blackboard

Textbook:

Allen, K. E. & Cowdery, G.E. (2009) *The Exceptional Child: Inclusion in Early Childhood Education 8th ed.* New York: Thomson Delmar Learning. ISBN# 9781285432373

Other Required Materials:

Course Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Historical contributions and legal bases that form the foundation of early childhood special education.
2. Legal requirements and the identification/IEP process and how to apply them to exceptional children in a classroom.
3. Major identifying characteristics of specific disabilities and health problems children exhibit in early childhood classrooms
4. Typical developmental characteristics of young children and identify situations or events that may be considered risk factors for developmental delays or atypical development.
5. Physical, cognitive, social, and emotional differences among young children when planning an appropriate individualized curriculum.
6. Age and stage appropriate materials and activities for young children with diverse needs and demonstrate strategies for adapting toys, materials, and learning environments.
7. Conditions that define appropriate environments and curriculum which meet the needs of all young children, including those with special needs.
8. Various agencies and support services providing early intervention for families with children having or at risk for special needs.
9. Competencies in using a variety of positive guidance strategies with young children with diverse needs.
10. Effective techniques for communicating and collaborating with families of children with special needs.
11. Observation and analysis of key elements of effective inclusive programming for young children.
12. Various professional pathways for careers in early childhood special education.
13. Explain the historical contributions and legal bases that form the foundation of early childhood special education and describe what inclusive sources in “natural environment” means for children with disabilities and their families.
14. Identify several forms of assistive technology and explain how assistive technology can be used with children with diverse needs.
15. Learning standards as they relate to exceptional children; the Virginia Foundation Blocks, the Child Development Milestones, the Virginia Standards of Learning and Core Competencies for Early Childhood Professionals.

Topical Description

1	History; Legislation; Services
2	Inclusion
3	Normal and Exceptional development
4	Teacher's role; Effective Teaching; IEP
5	Developmental Disabilities; Gifted
6	Hearing; Vision; Speech; Language
7	Medical and Health
8	AIDS; FAS; Drugs
9	LD; ADHD
10	Behavior disorders; Developmental behavior approach
11	Autism; Managing challenging behaviors
12	Facilitating social development
13	Facilitating Self-Care and Independence skills
14	Partnerships with families

Notes to Instructors (portfolio requirements)

1. Students must complete an article review focusing on inclusion.