

# Virginia Western Community College

## CHD 210

### Introduction to Exceptional Children

#### Prerequisites

None

#### Course Description

Reviews the history of and legal requirements for providing intervention and educational services for young children with special needs. Studies the characteristics of children with a diverse array of needs and developmental abilities. Explores concepts of early intervention, inclusion, guiding behavior and adapting environments to meet children's needs.

Lecture 3 hours per week.

3 credits

**Semester Credits: 3**

**Lecture Hours: 3**

#### Required Materials

1. Textbook
2. Internet access
3. Canvas

#### **Textbook:**

Allen, K. E. (2022) *The Exceptional Child: Inclusion in Early Childhood Education 9<sup>th</sup> ed.*  
New York: Cengage. ISBN: 9780357630693

#### **Other Required Materials:**

## **Course Outcomes**

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

- Explain the historical contributions and legal bases that form the foundation of early childhood special education.
- Describe typical developmental characteristics of young children and identify situations or events that may be considered risk factors for developmental delays or atypical development.
- Consider physical, cognitive, social, and emotional differences among young children when planning an appropriate individualized curriculum.
- Select age and stage appropriate materials, activities and environments for young children with diverse needs and demonstrate strategies for adapting toys, materials, and learning environments.
- Identify various agencies providing early intervention and support for families with children having or at risk for special needs.
- Explore the range of positive guidance strategies appropriate for use with young children with diverse needs.
- Utilize effective techniques for communicating and collaborating with families of children with special needs.
- Identify and apply 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	Legal requirements for serving the needs of children with special needs and their families
2	Options for placement and services within the community
3	Resources for adapting environments to meet special needs
4	Various professional pathways for careers in early childhood special education

## **Notes to Instructors**

1. For the Portfolio, students must submit a **Parent Letter Assignment/No Reflection**

[ADA Statement \(PDF\)](#)

[Title IX Statement \(PDF\)](#)