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Early Care, Education and Family Studies (ECEP) 1611 Children With Special Needs Birth to Adolescence (3 Units) (DS9) CSU
[formerly Early Childhood Education 1611; Early Childhood Education 16A; Early Childhood Education 16]

Advisory: Eligibility for English 1000 and Reading 1005 strongly recommended

Total Hours: 48 hours lecture

Catalog Description: This course is an overview of children with special needs or high risk factors with a focus on communication disorders, hearing or visual impairments, emotional and behavioral problems, abuse and neglect situations, physical or health implications, mental retardation strategies, services for gifted and talented children, and cultural influences on behaviors.

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit

Text: Allen, K. Eileen and G.E. Cowdery. The Exceptional Child: Inclusion in Early Childhood Education. 6th ed. Albany, NY: Thompson Delmar Publishers, 2009.

Additional Instructional Materials: Gould, Patti and Joyce Sullivan. The Inclusive Early Childhood Education Classroom. Beltsville, MD: Gryphon House, 1999.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, a successful student will be able to

1. identify children at high risk or with special needs,
2. understand major theoretical points of view affecting the learning capabilities of children with special needs,
3. plan curriculum to meet the needs of exceptional children,
4. understand quality caregiving for children of abuse and neglect,
5. refer families of special needs children to proper authorities in the field for help with specific problems, and
6. identify with cultural influences and their views of specific handicaps.

Course Scope and Content:

Unit I History of Learning Disabilities

- A. Retardation (mild to severe), Hyperactivity
- B. Speech, Visual, Hearing, and Physical Problems
- C. Schizophrenia, ADHD
- D. Gifted or Talented Information
- E. Down Syndrome Epilepsy

- F. Terminal Illnesses, Nutritional Deficits, Childhood Diseases and AIDS
- G. Recommendations for Staff

Unit II Emotional Handicaps

- A. History
- B. Depression and Autism
- C. Bonding/Attachment
- D. Environment
- E. Referral Information
- F. Recommendations for Staff

Unit III Abuse and Neglect

- A. History
- B. Sexual and Physical
- C. Verbal and Emotional
- D. Reporting and Referrals
- E. Recommendations for Staff

Unit IV Drug Affected

- A. History
- B. Pregnancy and Prenatal Information
- C. Drugs and Alcohol Influences
- D. Adolescence and Long Term Effects
- E. Recommendations for Staff

Unit V Cultural Influences

- A. History
- B. Variables for Consideration
- C. Recommendations for Staff

Unit VI Adolescence

- A. Divorce
- B. Adoption
- C. Drugs, Alcohol, and Peer Pressures
- D. Teenage Sexuality and Pregnant Minors
- E. Working with Teenage Parents

Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:

The students in this class will spend a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of the regular class doing the following:

1. Studying
2. Answering questions
3. Completing required reading
4. Completing written work

Methods of Instruction:

1. Critical thinking written and oral assignments
2. Textbook and outside readings
3. Lectures and group discussions
4. Student and instructor reviews
5. Films when available
6. Guest speakers

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Written Assignments
2. Project Presentations
3. Tests
4. Instructor/Student Reviews
5. Cultural Sharing