



**Instructor:**

Instructor: Michael Tucker  
Cell Phone: (972) 768 - 6157  
Email: [mtucker2@utep.edu](mailto:mtucker2@utep.edu)

Office Hours: (online) Tuesday 6:00 pm -7:00 PM via the 'Online Office Hours' link (Blackboard Collaborate)

- \* Please send all course related emails through to [mtucker@utep.edu](mailto:mtucker@utep.edu)
- \* If you call my cell phone, **please** leave a phone message. Include in your message your reason for the call, phone number, and best time to return your call.

**Course Title**

**Special Education Services for Students in General and Special Education Settings**

**UTEP Catalog Course Description**

Survey of the various exceptionalities, litigation and laws pertaining to the disabled, and definitions and characteristics of various disabilities. Emphasis on the way behavior, learning problems, and physical disorders impact learning.

**Prerequisite:** Admitted into Teacher Education.

**This course is fully online.**

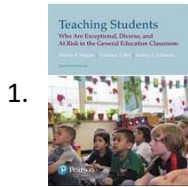
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## Required Course Materials

### Textbook:



1. Teaching Students Who are Exceptional, Diverse, and At Risk in the General Education Classroom, plus MyLab Education with Pearson eText -- Access Card Package, 7th Edition (ISBN: 9780134995724)

The textbook may be purchased at the UTEP Bookstore or online at such places as Amazon and Barnes and Noble, or as an e text purchased directly through Pearson.

Please consider delivery time if ordering online

2. Download the **State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) Approved Educator Standards/Texas Education Agency (TEA)** pertinent to your area of certification based on your degree plan **and** the Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (PPR). **You will be required to address the standards through all of your discussion responses.**  
[http://tea.texas.gov/Texas\\_Educators/Preparation\\_and\\_Continuing\\_Education/Approved\\_Educator\\_Standards/](http://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Educators/Preparation_and_Continuing_Education/Approved_Educator_Standards/)

## Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have the skills to:	To evaluate the students' ability in each of the learning outcomes, the students will:
<b>Understand Individuals with Disabilities and Evaluate their Needs</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct 15 hours of classroom observations in public school classrooms that serve students with disabilities</li> <li>2. Conduct 15 hours of service learning with children or adults with disabilities in either a school or community-based setting</li> </ol>
<b>Understand and apply knowledge of the characteristics and needs of individual with disabilities</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Actively participate as a group member in the development a Topic or Disability category project presentation</li> <li>2. Respond to the presentations on a week-by- week basis by following the guidelines for postings (see rubric)</li> <li>3. Pass course exams.</li> </ol>
<b>Promote Student Learning and Development</b>  The special education and general education teacher understands and applies knowledge of procedures for	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Respond to discussion questions in the learning module for <b>Promoting Social Acceptance and Managing Student Behavior.</b></li> </ol>

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<p>planning instruction and managing the teaching and learning environment.</p> <p>The special education and general education teacher understands assistive technology as defined by state and federal regulations.</p> <p>The special education and general education teacher promotes students' academic performance in all content areas by facilitating their achievement in a variety of settings and situations.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Visit the assistive technology lab at the El Paso del Norte Development Center or the Special Needs room in the UTEP Library and integrate AT in their presentations on the disability categories.</li> <li>3. Conduct classroom observations in <b>at least two</b> different schools and in different classroom settings that provide services to students with disabilities (elementary, middle and high school).</li> <li>4. Respond to discussion questions in the learning modules <b>Differentiating Instruction and Assessment and Fostering Strategies for Student Independence.</b></li> </ol>
<p><b>Foundations and Professional Roles and Responsibilities</b></p> <p>The special education and general education teacher understands and applies knowledge of the philosophical, historical, and legal foundations of special education.</p> <p>The special education and general education teacher applies knowledge of professional roles and responsibilities and adheres to legal and ethical requirements of the profession.</p> <p>The special education and general education teacher knows how to communicate and collaborate effectively in a variety of professional settings.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Respond to discussion questions in the learning module <b>Special Education and Inclusive Schooling</b></li> <li>2. Maintain confidentiality of students, schools, teachers, and parents in written observation reports and interviews through the use of pseudonyms.</li> <li>3. Explore state and national organizations that establish ethical requirements of the profession and acknowledge such by submitting the signed statement on Ethics included in learning module 1.</li> <li>4. Adhere to district policies when conducting observations and when working with students.</li> <li>5. Participate and responds to weekly discussion questions related to the learning module <b>Communicating and Collaborating with Other Professionals and Families</b></li> <li>6. Conduct an interview with a teacher, administrator, parent, student (with parental consent), or support service personnel.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Culturally Responsive Teachers</b></p> <p>The special education and general education teacher understands student diversity and how to plan learning experiences that are responsive to differences among students and their families.</p> <p>The special education and general education teacher designs instruction appropriate for all students that reflects an understanding of relevant content and is based on continuous and appropriate assessment.</p> <p>The special education and general education teacher creates a classroom environment of respect and rapport that fosters a positive climate for learning, equity, and excellence.</p> <p>The special education and general education teacher promotes student learning by providing responsive instruction that makes use of effective communication techniques, instructional strategies that actively engage</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participates and responds to weekly discussion questions related to the learning module <b>Response to Intervention: Developing Success for All Learners</b> and <b>Differentiating Instruction and Assessment for all learners.</b></li> <li>2. <b>Classroom observations in public school settings in the U.S. for a total of 15 hours and provide a total of 15 hours of service learning</b> in either a school or community setting that serve students and/or adults with disabilities.</li> <li>3. Participate and responds to weekly discussion questions related to the learning module <b>Teaching Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students.</b></li> <li>4. Participate and respond to weekly discussion questions related to the learning module <b>Promoting Excellence Through the Teaching and Learning Connection.</b></li> </ol>

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students in the learning process, and timely, high-quality feedback.	
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## COURSE GUIDELINES

1. As the course instructor, I reserve the right to adjust the course schedule due dates as required due to unforeseen technical difficulties related to Blackboard. I do make every effort to adhere to the current schedule however the course syllabus and class schedule are “living documents” and at times may be changed. It is your responsibility to keep up with announcements and course Emails. ALL assignments are expected to be completed.

2. All assignments are expected on due dates and times (**as per the Schedule**). All assignments **must be** submitted as directed, through the designated Bb (NOT Email) links. If there is a problem with Bb. I will determine an alternative, via an announcement or Email. I will not be responsible for any assignment file that is sent to my UTEP email or not uploaded through the designated assignment link – make sure you see the Bb dates and times in the schedule. Please ensure that you are able to attach and send files through Bb and that they are in either a **.doc, .docx** format. All assignment links have a specific due date.

After the deadline for posting has passed, late assignments **may be** considered for partial credit pending documentation of hardship – medical or death in immediate family. Note that the assignment links are made available to students before the due date for those who chose to submit early. When you submit on the due date you may get a “**Late**” submission date message, there is no need to contact me as all submissions are time stamped.

3. I strongly recommend that you check the **course daily** for any course updates and check for messages from your peers. Email messages and announcements will be sent through Bb. Don’t forget to post questions in the **HELP ME DB**, when in doubt of anything related to the course.

4. Incomplete grades **will only be offered** if the majority of work has been completed and there is medical documentation or a death in the immediate family during the last two weeks of the course.

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5. All assignments will be evaluated based on: organization of ideas, clarity of expression, grammar, spelling, and punctuation. The Writing Center in the Library can provide you with help with your written assignments prior to submitting for a grade. It is also suggested that you compose all your discussion responses in a word document, prior to posting. Save all of your discussion postings just-in-case there is a technical difficulty. Postings that resemble text messages (including inappropriate use of grammar such as using lower case "i", and u for you, LOL, etc...) will not receive credit. Professionalism is expected through **ALL** communication within this course. The following website offers some good tips regarding online communication: <http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/effective-e-mail-communication/>.

6. Students with disabilities: In Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, if a student needs an accommodation then the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) located at UTEP needs to be contacted. If you have a condition, which may affect your ability to perform successfully in this course, you are encouraged to discuss this in confidence with the instructor and/or the director of CASS. You may call (915) 747-5148 for general information about the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the rights that you have as a UTEP student with a disability. You also can visit the CASS web site at [www.utep.edu/dsso](http://www.utep.edu/dsso) or the CASS office in Room 108 East Union Building. Individuals with disabilities have the right to equal access and opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and CASS.

7. Online learning: If you do not have access to a computer and Internet services 24/7, it is strongly suggested that you transfer into a face-to-face section of this course. Excuses for not having access to a computer will not be considered for late postings or assignments. If you are using an iPad or Mac please go to the Help Desk in the UTEP Library (3<sup>rd</sup> floor) to ensure compatibility. Students from previous semesters have reported difficulties in sending documents through the Assignment link and opening files. Unless Bb is down, it is your responsibility to ensure you are able to open files, scan and upload files when necessary, and navigate the course. Consider the time required for this course to be the same for any other course (at least 8-12 hours a week!). If you are concerned about taking this course online, take the following quiz <http://www.ion.uillinois.edu/resources/tutorials/pedagogy/selfEval.asp> to help you identify what technical factors may hinder your progress in this course.

8. For any technical difficulties you must contact the Help Desk and also check the Online Learning – getting Started page in the **START Here: Course Information Module**. Take the quiz at the end of the page.

9. Academic integrity: The University of Texas at El Paso prides itself on its standards of academic excellence. In the classroom and in all other academic activities, students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Any form of scholastic dishonesty is an affront to the pursuit of knowledge and jeopardizes the quality of the degree awarded to all graduates of UTEP. It is imperative, therefore, that all faculty insist on adherence to these standards.

*"Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give an unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.*

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*Proven violations of the detailed regulations, as printed in the Handbook of Operating Procedures (HOP) and available in the Office of the Dean of Students, may result in sanctions ranging from disciplinary probation, to a failing grade on the work in question, to a failing grade in the course, to suspension or dismissal, among others.”*

**Therefore I require that you cite references using APA formatting in your discussions.**

11. All work must be cited in APA format. Here are some helpful links for APA tutorials:

1. Appropriate use of references in APA: <http://video.about.com/psychology/How-to-Cite-Journal-and-Periodicals-in-APA-Format.htm>

2. Appropriate citations within text APA: <http://video.about.com/psychology/How-to-Cite-in-APA-Format.htm>

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### Course Requirements and Grading

#### Daly Participation:

**UP to 300 points**



All students are expected to be prepared and to be active participants throughout the course. Attendance for this course is determined by daily participation in Discussion Boards (DB), daily assignments, Class meetings (50 points each), MyEducationLab assignments, and active participation in your group projects. Lack of active participation may result in an administrative drop from this course.

#### Virtual Classroom Observation

**Observation Report - 100 pts.**



Review a video of a class instruction and create a detailed written observation report.

Example Videos:

- \* <https://learn.teachingchannel.com/topics>
- \* <https://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/resources/iris-resource-locator/>
- \* YouTube

Be sure to use the appropriate naming convention for your file.

Files should adhere to the following naming convention, in order to reduce the risk of file overwriting.

Save the file as: LastName\_FirstInitial\_CourseCode\_Week#\_Assignment#\_AssignmentName.

For example, If Ann Johnson was submitting Week 1 Assignment 1 for her HUMN 3301 course.

FILE: Johnson\_A\_HUMN3301\_1\_1

Please avoid using special characters (E.g. %, \$, #, &, \*, etc.) as these characters will hinder the upload and submission of your file.

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**Observation Report:**

Observation report will be a detailed written observation report (see above to find a Sample). Remember that not all disabilities are visible, and teachers should not identify the specific disability a student has. Your reports should NEVER include the names of teachers, schools or students. Use pseudonyms (and make it obvious) at all times.

- **Please** make sure that all files submitted in the assignment link are in .doc, .docx format, as ONE document. NO PDF files or pictures as I can't provide feedback.
- Ensure that you are specifying the type of class you are observing - without any names of teachers, students, or schools; Indicate the time you went into and left the classroom and clarify the activities you observed.

**Confidentiality:** You may not know exactly who the student with disabilities is when observing, as not all disabilities are visible. A teacher who is following confidentiality policies will purposefully not reveal the child with the disability. In order to maintain confidentiality of the student, neither the teacher nor administrator should divulge the name of the student or type of disability. Your observations and interview reports **should never divulge the name of the teacher, school, or student**. Always indicate that the names you are using in your narratives are pseudonyms. See sample report in the **Course Resources link**.

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### Group Projects

100 points

Select a disability category or topic of interest by going to the **Group Presentations – Sign-up link**, on the Home Page. Once you select a group you will see a link **My Groups on the navigation tool bar**. As a team of 2-3 you will prepare a presentation for the rest of the class.

- \* Your group should plan for the equivalent of a 20-minute presentation (about 10-15 slides) that will be viewed by others.
- \* Your presentation must address relevant content, presentation of information in an innovative and engaging way.
- \* You must include information from the text and 2 other sources. (contact me if you need suggestions).
- \* Include 7 – 10 strategies for supporting students in the classroom that you have learned from your research.
- \* You must also develop an assessment for student learning for your topic. This should be in the form of a reflection question.

Please see the guidelines for presentations in the **Course Resources/Document Link**.

### Grading Policy

Final Grades will be based on the on the total points at the end of the semester 290 -310 points (there may be adjustments – with notification). At the end of the semester I will take the highest points earned in the class. The total number of points earned/(divided) by the total points possible will determine your final grade. This announcement will be made at the end of the semester in the Course Announcement Link

A (Outstanding) **91%** and above; B (Very Good) **81% – 90%**; C (Satisfactory) **70% – 80%**; D (Unsatisfactory) **60% – 71%**; F (Failure) **less than 60%**

### Being a Successful Online Learner (SOL)

Online learning is not a spectator sport. It is everyone's responsibility to participate as fully as they can so everyone can get the most from the experience.

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### Are you prepared to be a successful online learner?

•Ask questions: If you don't know the answer, someone else will. The **Help Me** discussion board is the area for asking questions related to content OR any problems (related to the class) you are having. Make sure that you have **clearly indicated the subject of your message**. This Discussion Board is to help clarify questions you may have about assignments, procedures, due dates, etc... any question you have that you think others may have post here – do not send a personal email to the professor for general questions. Chances are that other students will be able to respond to your question if we are not available.

- Reach out to others: Offer a fact, article, link, or other item that can help others learn something you can share.

- Be appropriate: The online classroom is not the place for insulting or insensitive comments, attacks, or venting. Inappropriate behavior can be subject to disciplinary action, as well.

- Be diplomatic: When sending messages on emotionally charged topics, I recommend that you write the message and then walk away for at least an hour before re-reading the message and consider if it is really necessary or there might have been some misunderstanding that can be easily clarified. Copy Mr. Tucker if you feel that a comment was made that was inappropriate or insensitive. Re-reading emotionally charged messages ensures that they are constructive instead of destructive. Think of the person at the other end.

- Stay focused: Stay on topic to increase the efficiency of your learning. Your responses must **reflect that you have read the weekly material** and have found outside sources to support your positions. Remember to always cite your sources within your discussion and provide a full reference at the end of your posting using APA **and** address the TEA Educator Standards (TEA SE). While you will most probably be using your textbook for most or your references, remember that there are many sources cited within the context of the chapters. Citing the textbook at the end of your discussion posting does not qualify as evidence of citing your resources. Pay close attention to whose ideas you are using (see sample discussion posting that received full credit that is found in the **Course Resources**)

- Online classes require that you **dedicate as much time and effort as Face-to-Face (F2F) classes**. This course should not be considered a filler course. You will be spending time in the field and other times you will need to spend on course content. Schedule time in your day (2-3 times per week) to focus specifically on the course. Pretend you are going to class and find a space where you will not be interrupted for 1-2-hour blocks of time. Make sure that you have access to the internet and a computer (which you have tested for compatibility) during these blocks of time. 10:00 pm). Just and FYI - You can usually **"find me"** online, other than my office hours, late at night or early in the morning. I will answer questions in Blackboard and make sure you download the Blackboard instant messaging link!

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### **Computer Requirements - Review**

First, let's make sure your computer has the necessary plug-ins you will need to access all the content in this course. You can click [here](#) to access UTEP's test page that will inform you if the computer you are using has the latest software available.

### **Software Requirements**

You will need the following software on your computers to efficiently work in this course. In some cases your computer may already have some of these programs installed.

- Adobe Acrobat Reader. You can get the program by going to <http://www.adobe.com> and then clicking on the icon on the center of the screen which says "Get Adobe Reader". Follow instructions to install the reader.
- Adobe Flash Player. You can get the player by going to <http://www.adobe.com> and then clicking on "Get Adobe Flash Player". Follow instructions to install the player.
- Apple QuickTime Player. You can get this player by going to <http://www.apple.com>. Once there, click on the "Downloads" tab on the top of the page and then click on QuickTime "Download" and follow instructions.
- Microsoft Office. I recommend buying this if you do not have any word processing software or presentation software. As students, you can generally buy this whole package for about \$25, far less than the store price of approximately \$400 at the UTEP Bookstore.

### **Effective Electronic Communications**

It is important to share a word of caution, so we can become wiser about interpersonal distance learning communications. When communicating electronically, many of the feelings or impressions that are transmitted via body language in face-to-face communications are lost. Consequently, interpreting emotions and innuendos is much more difficult. Only what is written, or drawn, carries the message. Often, excitement can be misinterpreted as anger or insult. It is important that we all keep this in mind as we communicate. Words in print may seem harmless, but they could emotionally injure us when working at a distance. Hence, it is vitally important that we are conscious of how we communicate while working at a distance.

- For example, avoid the use of caps in your electronic messages, as wording in caps comes across as shouting. The standard practice ("Netiquette") for participation in networked discussion requires that all participation be focused on the topic at hand, not become personalized, and be substantive in nature. (Translation: you may certainly disagree with others, but you must do so respectfully; you may express strong beliefs or emotions, but you may not get so carried away that you lose all perspective on the course itself.)
- More information on Netiquette, the etiquette of Internet communication, can be found at [www.albion.com/netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette) and <http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/effective-e-mail-communication/>

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### **Academic Dishonesty Statement (again!)**

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person's as ones' own. And, collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.

Academic dishonesty is an assault upon the basic integrity and meaning of a University. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities are serious acts which erode the University's educational and research roles and cheapen the learning experience not only for the perpetrators, but also for the entire community. It is expected that UTEP students will understand and subscribe to the ideal of academic integrity and that they will be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work. Materials (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill academic requirements must represent a student's own efforts. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.

### **Notice of SafeAssign**

This course may utilize third party software that has the ability to automatically detect plagiarism on documents submitted for grading.

### **Copyright Notice**

Many of the materials that are posted within this course are protected by copyright law. These materials are only for the use of students enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further retained or disseminated.

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