



COLLABORATION AND TRANSITION WITH DIVERSE LEARNERS

SPED 586.01W

COURSE SYLLABUS: SUMMER 2020 ONLINE

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Beth Jones

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Office Hours: by appointment; Please do not hesitate to contact me, preferably through e-mail, if an appointment is needed.

Course Description:

SPED 586 explores models of inclusion and transition practices to support students with disabilities. Models of consultation and collaboration are presented for effective inclusion and transition practices. Accommodation strategies for supporting the academic/behavioral and social/emotional needs of students with disabilities in inclusive classrooms will be presented. Culturally competent and responsive practices will be emphasized. Home/school/community collaboration to prepare exceptional students for post-secondary environments through transition programming is emphasized.

Text:

Mastropieri, M. A. & Scruggs, T. E. (2014). *The inclusive classroom: Strategies for effective instruction*. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Education, Inc. (6th edition)

Course Objectives:

Educator Certification Standards Associated with SPED 586:

Competencies within the special education EC-12 certification and educational diagnostician certification associated with this course are as follows:

The special education teacher

- Understands and applies knowledge of characteristics and needs of students with disabilities
- Understands and applies knowledge of how to promote educational performance in all content areas by facilitating achievement in a variety of settings
- Understands and applies knowledge of issues and procedures for teaching appropriate student behavior and social skills
- Understands and applies knowledge of philosophical, historical, and legal foundations of special education
- Understands and applies knowledge of professional roles and responsibilities adhering to legal and ethical requirements of the profession
- Understands and applies knowledge of effective communication and collaboration in a variety of professional settings

The educational diagnostician

- Understands process of learning and development and demonstrates knowledge of effects of disabilities on student's learning and development
- Interprets assessment results to enhance knowledge about individual learners and their functioning
- Uses assessment information to make recommendations about educational placement, services, and programming that respond to learners' identified needs and that enhance their educational functioning

INSTRUCTOR AND COURSE ACCESS

Contacting the Instructor

If you have a question that you feel others in the class would benefit from the answer to, please post your question in the virtual office. For all other inquiries, email is my preferred method of communication. Please give me 48 hours to respond to your emails before resending. In addition, please be aware that I will not respond to emails on Saturday or Sunday, and emails received on Friday could potentially be responded to the following Monday.

A Note About the Virtual Office: The Virtual Office is a public forum. If you need to contact me about something of a personal nature, feel free to e-mail me. Also, please note that I do not receive an alert when something is posted in the virtual office, so if you need immediate assistance, it might be better to email me directly.

Three Before Me Rule: The 3 before me rule simply means, before you e-mail me with a question, (when is an assignment due, how do I turn it in, how many points is it worth, etc.), you are to attempt 3 times to answer your question. What are some suggested ways you can do this? You could: read your syllabus, review Virtual Office to see if someone else has asked this question, post a question for your peers in the Virtual Office, or contact other members of your class.

As a student enrolled at Texas A&M University-Commerce, you have access to an email account via MyLeo. ALL class emails from your instructor WILL GO TO YOUR MyLeo ACCOUNT. Please be sure to check this email account frequently and regularly.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
 - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
 - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer

- Speakers or headphones.
- *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/](https://get.adobe.com/reader/)
 - [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/)
 - [Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support

Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words “[click here](#)” to submit an issue via email.



System Maintenance

D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise specified in an announcement. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Contacting the Instructor

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CLASS REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

- **ONLINE DISCUSSIONS/CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Activities and discussions in class and online will be utilized to promote understanding and application of course content. You will be required to respond to each discussion thread and respond to the posting of at least one classmate each time. **All discussion posts are due by midnight on the days they are assigned (if there are two days on the calendar devoted to a chapter, the discussion posts are due by midnight on the second of those days).** Failure to complete course assignments, late work, and non-participation in class discussions may be

reflected in your participation grade. **Participation/discussions will be worth 150 points.**

- **EXAMS:** **Two exams, worth 70 points each**, will contribute to the final grade. The examinations will cover lecture material, readings, and assignments. The exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions and will focus on the application of course material. **Exams are NOT open book, open notes, or open friends. Exam reviews are posted in DocSharing. Essay responses will be graded for accuracy and completeness. Please note that the MC will be graded automatically, but it will take me up to a week to get the essays graded—so the grade showing in eCollege initially will just be your MC score. I have to manually add in your essay points.**
- **COLLABORATION PAPER:** Enrolled students will complete a 3-5 page paper related to collaboration. The purpose of this assignment is to share collaboration techniques and to gain experience preparing a manuscript for submission to a journal. Specifically, you will prepare your paper as if you were going to submit it to *Intervention in School and Clinic*, and you need to comply with the requirements for the Collaboration Column Submission Category found at [http://www.sagepub.com/upm-data/53674_ISC_48\(3\)_ag.pdf](http://www.sagepub.com/upm-data/53674_ISC_48(3)_ag.pdf). Be sure to follow the guidelines for manuscript preparation found on the journal's website. **This assignment will be worth 50 points. You will be required to post your topic choice and a description of your paper idea to a discussion thread early in the semester (10 points). Make sure to refer to the sample articles posted in DocSharing to get an idea of the type of article you are writing.**
- **ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY HIGHLIGHT:** In Chapter 9, we will discuss ways to foster inclusion with classroom peers. For the discussion associated with this chapter, students will be required to share information on Assistive Technology (AT). **This discussion will be worth 30 points. SUBMIT TO THE DISCUSSION AND THE ASSIGNMENT DROPBOX.**

Total Points Possible: 370 points

Grade Assignment:

A=90-100% B=80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69% F=59 and below

RULES ABOUT DISCUSSIONS, REFLECTIONS AND PEER RESPONSES

- These assignments are to encourage **thoughtful** reflection and expression of your views. This is a college class so postings called “drive by” postings (such

as: “that’s great”, “yea I agree”, “good idea”, “You go girl!”) are not welcome and will NOT receive a high grade.

- There are few “wrong” answers. As said, these assignments are to encourage thought and reflection. I expect all students in this class have different education and professional experiences and have different goals in life. New ideas and new ways of looking at things are encouraged. For those of you with a “lifetime” in special education, we can always learn from those less indoctrinated into our system. More importantly, remember that your colleagues new to the field will probably think more like our student’s families, so we need to listen to and learn from their perspective. Be creative and have fun with it. Scoring will be based on timeliness, correctness of any factual information, and your ability to justify your opinion.
- There is no minimum length like you may have had in other classes. Conversely, I don’t encourage really long answers – remember your peers have to read it (as well as me) and they are just as cramped for time as you are. Generally, a few sentences or a short paragraph is sufficient.
- In responding to another person’s post, be considerate and respectful. You may not agree – and do not have to. We all learn by being challenged to think deeper and consider more alternatives. I encourage “talking” out new ideas and perspectives. BUT, if you disagree, you are expected to express your disagreement in a respectful way.
- Typically, your grade will not be based on writing mechanics or correctness of grammar and punctuation. Good writing mechanics shows a respect for your reader, however, and allows me to score your response (and not your grammar). If your writing and grammar compromises my reading and understanding, you will not receive a high score. On this note – I don’t speak “text” very well, so don’t use text abbreviations and expect me to understand. Just, play it safe and don’t use these abbreviations.
- APA 6th edition guidelines should be adhered to, when appropriate.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

- All assignments/discussions must be turned in on the assigned due date. ***Unexcused assignments turned in after the due date will be returned ungraded.***
 - **A note about timeliness: it is highly advised that you DO NOT wait until the deadline for turning in an assignment. I have set the deadlines for assignments to be Sunday nights, in order to give you the weekends for completion. However, this does not mean you can email me over the weekend with questions---it is my weekend with my family, too. Also, if you wait until 11:00 pm on Sunday to turn in an assignment due at midnight and the electricity goes out, you have missed the deadline and will NOT get credit for the assignment. you need to plan ahead for questions/completion of assignments.**

- Ensure that the assignment guidelines presented in the syllabus are followed. It is important that all assignments are organized according to headings and subheadings delineated in the guidelines. ***Failure to do so will result in an ungraded assignment or a lower evaluation.***
- **Please always submit your assignments in a word document, so that I can use track changes to provide comments if so needed. In other words, don't submit a whole assignment in D2L by simply cutting and pasting. Always attach your assignments as their own file.**
- **Written Assignments.** Written assignments MUST be typed using double spaced lines, include your name, and have page numbers. In addition, work submitted should reflect a professional quality in terms of scope, depth, writing mechanics, and appearance that would be expected of students at a prestigious university. Proofread all assignments as only materials with minimal or no errors will receive high scores.
- **Person First Language:** Our language is a reflection of our attitudes. Always refer to persons with disabilities with respect. ***Degrading terminology will not be tolerated.*** In this class we will strive to use “people first” language at all times. “People First” language always refers to the person first and not as a label or a category. For example, refer to “a student with autism” and not “an autistic” or “students with disabilities” and not “disabled students”. In addition, avoid such stigmatizing terminology as “confined to a wheelchair” (say “uses a wheelchair” instead.).
- *If you have suggestions, comments, questions, or concerns about the class or the assignments, please call or see the instructor. Please do not save your suggestions for the evaluation at the end of the term when it is too late to implement your suggestions.*

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Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Tentative Course Schedule

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
<u>June 1</u>	Overview of Syllabus and Course Requirements, Introductions	
<u>June 2</u>	Chapter 1	Getting to Know You Discussion/Select AT Highlight Topics Due 6/2/20
June 3-4	Chapter 2	Read <i>Fostering Collaboration in Inclusive Settings: The Special Education Students at a Glance Approach</i> ; Post Topic for Collaboration Paper for Approval-- Due in a Discussion Thread by 6/7/20
June 8-9	Chapter 3	What does the research say? And LRE discussions due by 6/9/20
June 10-11	Chapter 4	Transition Scavenger Hunt Discussion Due 6/14/20
June 15-16	Chapter 5	Read Garcia and Ortiz Article and Respond to Discussion Thread; Lenses of Inequity Discussion Due 6/15/20 Exam 1 (Chapters 1-5)- Available 6/16-6/17
June 17-18	Chapter 6/7	Collaboration Papers Due to DropBox by 6/21/20 DI discussion due by 6/21/20
June 22-23	Chapter 8	Read Inclusion Article and Post Response to Discussions by 6/23/20
June 24-25	Chapter 9	Assistive Technology Highlight Due to Discussion Thread by 6/28/20

June 29-30	Chapters 10-11	Exam 2 (Chapters 6-11)- Available 6/30-7/1
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Calendar: Please note that the calendar is tentative and may change at any time and as many times as necessary during the semester. In case of any changes, you will be informed in a timely manner. **It is your responsibility to regularly check your email and D2L for announcements regarding the course.**