

CHARACTERISTICS OF LEARNERS WITH MODERATE TO SEVERE DISABILIITIES

SPED 526.01W

**COURSE SYLLABUS: SUMMER 2020 ONLINE**

## INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

**Instructor: Dr. Beth Ashby 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 INFORMATION

### Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

**Text (you may choose one of the following for your research report):**

**Ashby, W. (2017). Impaired, but Empowered. Up-Words Press.**

**ISBN-10: 0998398705**

**ISBN-13: 978-0998398709**

**Draper, S. M. (2010).**Out of my mind**. New York, NY: Athenum Books for Young Reader.**

**\*There will be supplemental readings to accompany topics wiothin the course.**

## Course Description

**Course Description:**

**SPED 526 examines the characteristics of students with moderate to severe disabilities. Emphasis is placed on etiology, ethics, contributing factors, conditions that affect learning, the challenges of identifying students with disabilities, and the need for academic, social, and emotional accommodations, assistive technology, and support.**

## Student Learning Outcomes (Should be measurable; observable; use action verbs)

**Essential Skills:**

* **IDEA eligibility criteria for special education and related services for students with moderate to severe disabilities**
* **Texas Education Agency procedural rights and safeguards**
* **Procedures and timelines for evaluation, service implementation, and dismissal**

**Texas EC-12 Special Education Competencies**

1. **Competency 001: The special education teacher understands and applies knowledge of the characteristics and needs of students with disabilities.**
2. **Competency 003: The special education teacher understands and applies knowledge of procedures for planning instruction for individuals with disabilities.**
3. **Competency 005: understanding assistive technology as defined by sate and federal regulations.**
4. **Competency 006: understanding and applying knowledge of transition issues and procedures across the life span.**
5. **Competency 007: The special education teacher knows how to promote students’ educational performance in all content areas by facilitating their achievement in a variety of settings and situations.**
6. **Competency 008: The special education teacher promotes students’ performance in English, language arts, and reading.**
7. **Competency 009: The special education teacher promotes students’ performance in mathematics.**

**Texas EC-12 Educational Diagnostician Competencies**

1. **Competency 001: Knows eligibility criteria.**
2. **Competency 001: Knows procedures for identification of disabilities and determination of education need.**

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Enrolled students will need a working knowledge of how to access the course online, access materials and resources the instructor posts, recording/posting videos, and the use of Microsoft Word for submitting assignments.

## Instructional Methods

## This course will be facilitated using D2L, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. The instructor has included various forms of instructional tools in the course such as recorded lectures, videos, helpful websites/resources, scholarly articles, and discussion topics.

## Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Enrolled students are responsible for logging into the course several times a week. The instructor may post announcements that need to be seen and responded to in a timely manner. Additionally, please be aware that you should be spending the equivalent to three hours a week of class time (listening to lectures/accessing class materials) on a three-hour course, with additional time being required to complete assignments.

## GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

**B = 80%-89%**

**C = 70%-79%**

**D = 60%-69%**

**F = 59% or Below**

### Assessments

**Discussions (115 points):**

Students are expected to participate actively in assigned discussions. For each discussion, you are to contribute at least one original thought by posting your ***reflection*** to a thought-provoking question based on assigned readings / videos, etc. Discussions will be posted to a discussion forum as specified in each assignment. For some discussion forum posts, you may be required to respond to one or more postings of one of your classmates (***peer response***).

**Functional Scheme Reflection (25 points):**

<http://activelearningspace.org/assessment>Video at bottom of page on Functional Scheme – Students will write reflection on Functional Scheme; Reflections must contain students it would address and impact on services in the classroom. *SUBMIT TO DROPBOX.*

**Assistive Technology Case Study (25 points):** Enrolled students will complete a study of AT videos, documents for including AT in the IEP, and applying the SETT framework to select appropriate AT. Students will work through a training case study that is provided and then apply the knowledge to a different case study. SUBMIT TO THE DROPBOX.

**Transition IRIS Module (50 points): This assignment has two parts.**

1. Browse the Information Briefs. Find two you find helpful related to transition and write a short summary of what you found most helpful and how you plan to utilize what you learned.
2. Work through the IRIS Module at:

<https://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/module/tran-ic/>

Complete the assessment questions (assuming the special educator will have the primary role in facilitating the transition process for our students) and submit them to the DropBox.

**Disability Outlines (50 points)**

* One of the crucial elements of this course is for enrolled students to leave with mastery of basic information about each IDEA eligibility category, especially the category definition and eligibility criteria. Each student will create outlines containing information about disabilities emphasized in this course. Information should be presented as headings with bullets of information. There is a template posted in D2L that you may choose to use (or you can do it in another format, such as a power point, that best matches you learning preferences) to complete your outlines. There is an example posted in D2L as well.
  + You may only turn in two pages for each of the disability categories. Make sure to delete any blank pages. ALL PAGES SHOULD BE TURNED IN IN ONE FILE WITH YOUR NAME AS A HEADER. SUBMIT TO THE DROPBOX.

Info to Include on Each Page of the Exceptionalities Handbook:

1. IDEA Definition, including types as appropriate. In preparation for comps, you may choose to include your study technique for remembering the definition, such as the example in D2L of the 5 components of the ED definition illustrated as fingers on a hand. (You can use this one for ED if you choose, but you will need to come up with the remainder on your own.)
2. Causes
3. Prevalence (provide percentages/numbers as much as possible)
4. Prevention
5. Characteristics
6. Teaching strategies/Accommodations
7. Assistive Technology
8. Resources

You will have ONE handbook page for each of the following topics:

|  |
| --- |
| Intellectual Disabilities (focus on moderate and severe)  Orthopedic Impairments (Physical Disabilities)  Traumatic Brain Injury  [Deaf and Hard of Hearing](file:///E:\Files%20from%20Jump%20Drive%201_9_14\SPED%20520\Jones_Syllabus%20SPED%20520%20Spring%202017.docx#chap10)  [Low Vision and Blindness](file:///E:\Files%20from%20Jump%20Drive%201_9_14\SPED%20520\Jones_Syllabus%20SPED%20520%20Spring%202017.docx#chap11) |

**GRADING: 5 pages @ 10 points each = 50 points total**

**\*\*Note:** The other disabilities that fall within these categories can be listed as part of the definition.  For example, on the sheet for orthopedic impairments, cerebral palsy can be listed as part of the definition as types of disorders in this category.

**Research Report: (50 points)**

Each student will demonstrate ability to summarize, apply, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate research-based findings from professional sources by developing one written report. Required components are (1) source, (2) summary of information/abstract [knowledge & comprehension/*Bloom’s Taxonomy]*, (3) relevance of information for 21st century schools [application, analysis & synthesis/*Bloom’s Taxonomy],* and (4) personal reaction [evaluation/*Bloom’s Taxonomy*]. There is a rubric and template posted in D2L.

## 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 |
| 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, D2Lsupports 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](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) *(version 17 or later)* <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](mailto: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***

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.

## 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.*

**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.**

### 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).

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

### TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf).

<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)

<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)

<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](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

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

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.

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

**Tentative Course Schedule**

**Tentative Course Schedule**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Section*** | ***Topic*** | ***Readings/Materials*** | ***Assignment*** |
| ***One*** | ***Introductions***  **Instructional Environment**  ***School/Home Partnerships*** | Pennington, R., Courtade, G., Jones Ault, M., & Delano, M. (2016). Five Essential Features of Quality Educational Programs for Students with Moderate and Severe Intellectual Disability: A Guide for Administrators. Education And Training In Autism And Developmental Disabilities, 51(3), 294-306.  TEACCH Method  Curriculum for Students who are Deaf-Blind:  <http://www.perkins.org/school/day-residential/deafblind/curriculum>  Chinedu I, O. (2014). Effective home-school partnership: Some strategies to help strengthen parental involvement. South African Journal of Education, 34 (3), 1-9. | **Discussion—book selection for Research Report**  **(10 points)**  **DUE 6/7/20**  **Discussion—Pennington et al article**  **What are the five essential features of quality programs and describe each? (10 points)**  **DUE 6/7/20**  **Discussion—Choose ONE of the instructional strategies from the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind to watch. Write a ½ page summary of each strategy and how you could implement it. (15 points)**  **DUE 6/7/20** |
| ***Two*** | ***Assistive Technology***  ***Functional Scheme*** | James, S. (2014). Giulio E. Lancioni, Jeff Sigafoos, Mark F. O'Reilly, and Nirbhay N. Singh: Assistive Technology: Interventions for Individuals with Severe/Profound and Multiple Disabilities. Journal Of Child & Family Studies, 23(1), 169-171. doi:10.1007/s10826-013-9723-4  Total Communication (including AT) for Students who are Deaf-Blind:  <http://www.perkins.org/school/day-residential/deafblind/total-communication>  VI Lecture  HI Lecture  IEP/AT Lecture | <http://activelearningspace.org/assessment>  Video at bottom of page on Functional Scheme – write reflection on Functional Scheme; students it would address, impact on services in the classroom (25 points)  ***SUBMIT TO THE DROPBOX BY 6/14/20***  **Assistive Technology Case Study (15 points)**  **DUE TO THE DROPBOX *6/14/20***  **Discussion-Assessment of Students with Sensory impairments**  **(25 points)**  **DUE *6/14/20***  **Discussion—topic selection for Research Report**  **(10 points)**  **DUE *6/14/20*** |
| ***Three*** | **Motor Functioning / Health and Self-Care** | Active Learning – sensory exploration (PPT in D2L shell)  <http://activelearningspace.org/>  Learning Module  <https://www.region10.org/programs/low-incidence-disabilities-lid/overview/>  Life Skills Bootcamp -  <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL2aWaC4-4MBJ4CzTotunmMCIq-cx6Jj0a>  OI/OHI Lecture  Multiple Disabilities Lecture  ID Lecture | **Discussion-Biomedical Issues (15 points)**  **DUE 6/21/20**  **Discussion—Sensory Exploration PPT (10 pts)**  **Due 6/21/20**  **Disability Outlines DUE TO THE DROPBOX**  **6/21/20** |
| ***Four*** | ***Transition and Wrap-up*** | Michael Wehmeyer Lecture Series on Self-Determination:  <http://ngsd.org/everyone/what-self-determination>  Resource Guide:  <http://ngsd.org/everyone/resource-guide>  <http://texasvitransition.org/> | **Discussion-Preparing Students for Postschool Outcomes (30 points)**  **DUE 6/28/20**  **Transition IRIS Module DUE to DropBox 6/28/20**  **Research Report DUE TO THE DROPBOX 6/30/20 (shows in section 5 in D2L)** |

***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 any changes.**