



Survey of Exceptionalities - SPED 346-02W  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2021

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor: Jennifer Ozuna, M.Ed.**

Adjunct Professor Telephone:

Cell (972) 948-9647 (please text before calling)

**University Email Address:** [Jennifer.Ozuna@tamuc.edu](mailto:Jennifer.Ozuna@tamuc.edu)

I will respond to emails within 48 hours.

**Office Hours:** You are welcome to text me any time after 3:15 pm (Please remember I do not have an office on campus).

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required: Hallahan, D. P., Kauffman, J. M., & Pullen, P. C. (2019). Exceptional Learners: An Introduction to Special Education (14<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

This is an **ONLINE only** course; therefore, a computer with access to the internet is required.

**Course Description**

This course will provide a survey of populations identified with exceptionalities. Attention will be given to the causes and effects of these differences upon the individual's development. Emphasis will be given to the historical, legal, and philosophical aspects of Special Education services.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Understand and apply knowledge of the characteristics and needs of students with disabilities,
2. Understand and apply knowledge of procedures for managing the teaching and learning environment, including procedures related to the use of assistive technology,
3. Understand the philosophical, historical, and legal foundations of special education, and
4. Know how to communicate and collaborate effectively in a variety of professional settings.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Be able to use the D2L learning management system, Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, as well as use presentation and graphics programs

### **Instructional Methods**

This is strictly an online class. All assignments, discussions, and tests are **self-paced** and will be completed in D2L. Please let me know if you need help accessing the material.

### **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

You will need to **regularly log into the course** website (weekly/daily) to complete all required assignments/assessments by the due date. You may complete the assignments/assessments before the due date if they are open for you to do so.

## **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

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## Exams

**Exams:** Three objective exams will be given on the scheduled dates. Tests will be taken in D2L Online and will be randomized to each user. You will have one-attempt at each test. You will have *unlimited* time to take the exam. There will be **NO MAKEUP** opportunities for missed tests. However, if there is a technical issue, those will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Exam reviews will be posted in doc sharing.

## Assignments

**Chapter Discussions:** After reading each chapter, you will be required to answer a question in the discussion board. ***If another assignment or exam is due that week, there will NOT be a discussion question due.***

**Misunderstood Minds Videos:** You will watch a series of videos and write a brief reflection. Details about the assignment are linked in D2L.

**Film Analysis:** ***This assignment can be turned in before the due date.*** This assignment will allow students to analyze how society experiences “disability” as it is portrayed in film. Please note, this is NOT a review of a film and cannot be downloaded from the film’s website. There are specific questions to be addressed in your analysis:

- Summary of film
- Critique of the film
- Your analysis:
  - Emotional Response
  - Portrayal
  - Filmmaking
  - Class Discussion
  - Cultural Response

Additional information on each of these required sections AND a list of approved films is provided in DocSharing. Your Film Analysis must be posted in WORD AS AN ATTACHMENT

**Parent/Family Interview** - To gain a better understanding of a parent’s perspective of having a child with an exceptionality, you will complete an interview. The rubric is attached in the Assignments list.

**Through Your Child’s Eyes Discussion** - You will complete 3 of the 5 simulations and respond how it felt in the discussion board.

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## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

## 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.

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## COMMUNICATION AND 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. Other support options can be found

here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

### Interaction with Instructor Statement

Responses to emails and texts will be made within 48 hours. Holidays and/or weekends may affect the response time.

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Late assignments will not be accepted unless with instructor's prior approval (before the deadline) or due to extenuating circumstances.

### 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: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

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#### 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>

## Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

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/>

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## 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.

**The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)**

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### Course Outline/Calendar

Unit	Days	Chapter Readings/Assignment Due	Exam Date
<b>Unit 1: Chapters 1-5</b>	Week 1 August 30-Sep. 5	<b>Chapter 1:</b> Exceptionality and Special Education <b>Ch. 1 Discussion Question Due 9/5</b>	<b>Exam 1 (Chapters 1-5)</b>  <b>Open September 27 - October 3</b>
	Week 2 September 6-12	<b>Chapter 2:</b> Current Practices for Meeting the Needs of Exceptional Learners <b>Ch. 2 Discussion Question Due 9/12</b>	
	Week 3 September 13-19	<b>Chapter 3:</b> Multicultural and Bilingual Aspects of Special Education <i>(no discussion question this week)</i> <b>Misunderstood Minds Assignment Due 9/19</b>	
	Week 4 September 20-26	<b>Chapter 4:</b> Parents and Families <b>Ch. 4 Discussion Question Due 9/26</b>	
	Week 5 Sep. 27 - Oct. 3	<b>Chapter 5:</b> Learners with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities <i>(no discussion question due this week)</i> <b>Exam 1 Due 10/3</b>	
	<b>Unit 2: Chapters 6-10</b>	Week 6 October 4 - 10	
Week 7 October 11-17		<b>Chapter 7:</b> Learners with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder <i>(no chapter discussion question this week)</i> <b>Through Your Child's Eyes Discussion Due 10/17</b>	
Week 8 October 18-24		<b>Chapter 8:</b> Learners with Emotional or Behavioral Disorders <b>Parent/Family Interview Due 10/24</b>	
Week 9 October 25 - 31		<b>Chapter 9:</b> Learners with Autism Spectrum Disorders <b>Ch. 9 Discussion Question Due 10/31</b>	
Week 10 November 1-7		<b>Chapter 10:</b> Learners with Communication Disorders <i>(no discussion question this week)</i> <b>EXAM 2 - Due by 11/7</b>	



<b>Unit 3: Chapters 11-15</b>	Week 11 November 8-14	<b>Chapter 11:</b> Learners who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing  <b>Ch. 11 Discussion Question Due 11/14</b>	<b>Exam 3 (Chapters 11-15)</b>  <b>Open November 22 - December 17</b>
	Week 12 November 15-21	<b>Chapter 12:</b> Learners with Blindness or Low Vision  <b>Ch. 12 Discussion Question Due 11/21</b>	
	Thanksgiving Break 11/22 - 11/28		
	Week 13  Nov. 29 - Dec. 5	<b>Chapter 13:</b> Learners with Low-Incidence, Multiple, and Severe Disabilities <i>(no discussion question this week)</i>  <b>Film Analysis Due 12/5</b>	
	Weeks 14 - 15  December 6 - 17	<b>Chapters 14 &amp; 15:</b> Learners with Physical Disabilities and Other Health Impairments; Learners with Special Gifts and Talents  <b>Exam 3 Due by 12/17</b>	