



SPED 449 Seminar in Assessment

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Michelle Hanks, MEd

Instructor/Field Supervisor

Office Location: Henderson 204

Office Hours: Thurs 10-3pm

University email Address michelle.hanks@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: e-mail

Communication Response Time: Responses to emails will be made Monday through Friday *within 48 hours unless out-of-office notification has been provided*. Please note I will not guarantee immediate response to emails during weekends, holidays, or in the evenings.

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook(s) Required: Spinelli, 3rd edition Classroom Assessment for Students in Special & General Education, Pearson (no access code needed)

Course Description

Students will be presented with a variety of assessment and evaluation procedures. Normative and criterion referenced procedures will be examined. Emphasis will be placed on curriculum-based assessment, progress monitoring, and the use of formative and summative evaluation strategies in educational decision making. Prerequisite SPED 346. If you do not have a passing grade in SPED 346, or its equivalent, please contact the professor BEFORE enrolling in this course.

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

1. Apply knowledge of the evaluation and assessment process and of appropriate assessment strategies to inform instructional design and to support students.
2. Apply knowledge of formative and summative assessments administration, data collection, and record maintenance.
3. Apply knowledge of interpreting the results of a variety of assessment data to describe students' progress on and mastery of grade-level Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

4. Apply knowledge of how to use a variety of formative and summative assessment data to identify learning goals and to plan, design, adjust, and adapt instruction or intervention.
5. Apply knowledge of how to interpret results of multiple assessments and evaluation data (e.g., state assessments; district assessments; measures of student functioning; students' educational, physical, and medical needs) to determine if a student is making progress toward measurable outcomes in functional, academic, and/or behavioral goals

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Be able to use the learning management system, Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, also being able to use presentation and graphics programs

Instructional Methods

The course will be a combination of in-class & online learning. There will be active participation activities, class assignments, lecture, quizzes & exams.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

You will need to regularly log into the course website, weekly/daily study and participation time expected are expected for you to be able to take the quiz at the end of each chapter.

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

All modules, online activities, in class participation, quizzes, exams and assignments are worth 100 points. Your final grade will be based on the above scale.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University 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

Zoom Virtual Classroom Requirements:

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-Zoom-system-requirements-Windows-macOS-Linux>

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@etamu.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, an ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

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):

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

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Responses to emails will be made Monday through Thursday within 48 hours. Please note that I will not respond to emails on Saturdays, Sundays, during holidays, or in the evenings. If you have any questions or need clarification on any aspect of the course, email me early in the week. I will make time during office hours or after class to review and collaborate with you regarding any concerns you have regarding assignments, quizzes, exams, etc.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Late assignments will not be accepted unless with instructor's prior approval (before the deadline) due to extenuating circumstances. Quizzes and exams will not be reopened for students to access once the deadlines indicated on the tentative calendar have elapsed. Thus, please make very sure to note when all quizzes and exams are available to access. Attendance in class is mandatory in order to keep up with lecture and assignments. Please be present and on time.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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](#)

<https://inside.etamu.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>.

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>

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please visit the webpages below.

[Attendance](#).

<https://inside.etamu.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University 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 Students Academic Integrity Policy and Form

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

<https://inside.etamu.edu/aboutus/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13student/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<https://inside.etamu.edu/aboutus/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

Graduate Students Academic Integrity Policy and Form

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty](#)

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

<https://inside.etamu.edu/aboutus/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.etamu.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.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 Services
Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5930

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: StudentDisabilityServices@etamu.edu

Website: <https://www.etamu.edu/student-disability-services/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M 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.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

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

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East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health

Counseling Center Services

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, 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.etamu.edu/counsel

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