

EDSP - Special Education

EDSP 306 Exceptional Learners: 3 Credits (3 Lec)

PREREQUISITE: EDEC 160 or EDU 222IS or EDU 223IS, and sophomore standing. (F, Sp, Su) An in-depth exploration of disabilities and implications for educators. Historical, societal, familial and educational attitudes; legal requirements of Preschool Amendments, IDEA and ADA including IEPs, IFSPs, 504s, FBAs, and BIPs. Identification, intervention, and best practices including multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) and RTI

EDSP 410 Supporting Diverse Learners Through Collaboration: 3 Credits (3 Lec)

PREREQUISITE: EDSP 306. (Every other fall semester, alternating with EDSP 434) Education majors only. One of the most significant changes in education over the past several decades is the rapid growth of collaborative educational teams to address students' educational needs. Students in this course will investigate processes and procedures that promote successful collaboration with students, families, colleagues (teachers, paraprofessionals, related service providers), and agencies to improve the education of students with disabilities. EDSP 410 students will also investigate how to successfully develop and implement a variety of transition plans for students with disabilities across a wide range of settings and learning experiences. Upon successful completion, EDSP 410 students will have improved specialized professional knowledge and enhanced pedagogical skills which will allow them to better support students with disabilities and their families

EDSP 434 Behavioral Principles of Teaching & Learning: 3 Credits (3 Lec)

PREREQUISITE: EDSP 306. (Every other fall semester, alternating with EDSP 410.) In this course, students will embark on a transformative exploration of behavioral principles in teaching and learning, intricately aligned with cutting-edge instructional techniques that meet Montana's and the Council for Exceptional Children's (CEC) stringent standards for inclusive education. EDSP 434 is designed to empower future special educators with a specialized toolkit of evidence-based teaching strategies tailored to students with disabilities in preschool through high school education settings. EDSP 434 students will refine their teaching approaches aimed at increasing positive experiences for students in school settings. The course will also result in EDSP 434 students being better able to embrace diversity and champion equitable access to rigorous and individualized curricula, shaping an educational landscape where every student, regardless of ability, thrives in an environment that encourages their unique potential

EDSP 458 Assessment and Intervention: 4 Credits (3 Lec, 1 Lab)

PREREQUISITE: EDSP 306. (Every other spring alternating with EDSP 464) This course prepares teacher candidates to assess and support children's development through the functions, methods, and roles of assessment and evaluation of learning. This course focuses on planning and implementing effective programs for all children, including young children ages 3-5 and 5-8-, and 9-18-year-olds - from diverse cultures and with varied learning needs. Additionally, this course includes information on fundamental assessment issues and concerns, social-emotional and mental health of infants and young children, specialized assessment instruments for developmental domains, and recommended procedures for assessing young children and school aged-children with mild to moderate disabilities

EDSP 462 Special Education Law, Policies & Practices: 3 Credits (3 Lec)

PREREQUISITE: EDSP 306. (Spring, even years.) This class builds on concepts taught in EDSP 306. Majors only. Students will review Montana and federal laws, regulatory requirements, and educational safeguards pertaining to special education programs and students with exceptional learning needs. Students will also learn concepts associated with offering a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to students with disabilities. Other topics to be covered include: preparation, implementation and evaluation of Individualized Education Plans (IEPs); and Section 504 eligibility and accommodations

EDSP 464 Methods of Instruction for Students with High Incidence Disabilities: 3 Credits (3 Lec)

PREREQUISITE: EDSP 306. (Su, Every other spring, alternating with EDSP 458) In this course, students learn instructional practices that align with Montana's standards for inclusive education for students with high incidence disabilities, from preschool to high school. It offers future special educators professional development in specific, evidence-based teaching strategies. These strategies, known for their adaptability and challenge, help improve students with disabilities' access to general education and promote positive academic and social outcomes. By the end of the course, EDSP 464 students will have improved their methods for teaching students with disabilities, focusing on diversity, using evidence-based methods, and ensuring equitable access to comprehensive curricula

EDSP 498 Internship: Special Education: 2 Credits (1 Lec, 1 Lab)

PREREQUISITE: EDSP 306. (Every other fall semester, alternating with EDSP 410) Education majors only. The Special Education Internship is a mandatory component of the Special Education Certificate Program at Montana State University. It comprises two parts: ten hours of class instruction and 80 hours of experience observing, describing, and demonstrating effective teaching practices in special education. Enrollees are required to attend ten classroom hours, complete 80 hours of fieldwork at scheduled times, undergo two observations while teaching students with disabilities, and complete all necessary assessments. This course is offered every other fall semester and must be taken concurrently with EDSP 434