EDSP 505

Teaching, Supporting, and Including Students on the Spectrum

Instructor: Robin Greenfield, Ph.D.
Assistant: Nick Stallings

Number of Professional Development Graduate Credits: 1

Course Location: This is an online course using the Idaho Training Clearinghouse Learning Management System (LMS) at the Center on Disabilities and Human Development at the University of Idaho. There are no face-to-face classes. The web link for the LMS is:
http://www.idahotc.com/lms

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Course Description

**Session 1:** “Just Give Him the Whale”: Teaching Passions, Areas of Expertise and Strengths
This session will explore how special interests can serve as supports, teaching tools, inspirations, and hobbies for children on the autism spectrum.

**Session 2:** Beyond “Turn and Talk”: 10 Ways to Support Communication in the Classroom
This session will discuss ten different low tech strategies that provide students with opportunities to share ideas, practice communication skills, and learn augmentative and alternative communication.

**Session 3:** “You’re Going to Love This Kid”: Educating Students on the Spectrum in Inclusive Schools (K-12)
This session will focus on practical ways of supporting students with autism spectrum labels and other disabilities within a general education classroom. It will address differentiated instruction, making classrooms comfortable and providing opportunities for social development.

University of Idaho Learning Outcomes

1. **Learn and integrate**
   Through independent learning and collaborative study, attain, use, and develop knowledge in the arts, humanities, sciences, and social sciences, with disciplinary specialization and the ability to integrate information across disciplines.

2. **Think and create**
   Use multiple thinking strategies to examine real-world issues, explore creative avenues of expression, solve problems, and make consequential decisions.

3. **Communicate**
   Acquire, articulate, create and convey intended meaning using verbal and non-verbal methods of communication that demonstrate respect and understanding in a complex society.

4. **Clarify purpose and perspective**
   Explore one’s life purpose and meaning through transformational experiences that foster an understanding of self, relationships, and diverse global perspectives.

5. **Practice citizenship**
   Apply principles of ethical leadership, collaborative engagement, socially responsible behavior, respect for diversity in an interdependent world, and a service-oriented commitment to advance and sustain local and global communities.

**Specific Course Objectives Related to Above Learning Outcomes:**
At the conclusion of this course, participants will:
• Describe how to use interests to teach standards based academic content
• Describe how to minimize anxiety and expand communication opportunities
• Describe strategies that provide students with opportunities to share ideas
• Describe strategies to provide students with opportunities to practice communication
• Describe practical ways to support students with autism in general education classes
• Describe how to provide students with opportunities for social skill development

Graduate Credit Course Requirements

1. Participation: Participants are required to log into/attend the full period (2 hours) of all webinars in this series.
2. Quizzes: All quizzes must be submitted through the Idaho Training Clearinghouse LMS. [http://www.idahotc.com/lms](http://www.idahotc.com/lms)
3. Survey: Participants are required to complete a course satisfaction survey.
4. Final assignment: A written assignment (requirements listed below) must be submitted through the Idaho Training Clearinghouse LMS.

*Note: There are no outside readings or materials required for this course. Handouts for each webinar session are located in the course site at the Idaho Training Clearinghouse LMS.*

Quizzes

All quizzes must be completed on the Idaho Training Clearinghouse Learning Management System on the date(s) specified in the course site. Students must earn an 80% score on each quiz to pass the course. Quizzes can be retaken until passed.

**Quiz 1 (20 points)**

**Quiz 2 (20 points)**

**Quiz 3 (20 points)**

Final Assignment

**Final Assignment (10 points)**

1) Create a one-page positive profile of a student/individual with a disability you know. Use Thomas Armstrong’s “lead to gold” examples as a guide. 2) Develop a fascinations curriculum map or “Strengths & Strategies Profile” for a student/person you know with a disability. 2) Write a short reflection (2-3 paragraphs) of what you could do to become a better communication partner for a person on the spectrum or any individual you know with unique
communication needs. Be specific about tools you could use and what behaviors or strategies you might use.

Grading Policy
This is a Pass/Fail course.

1. Participants must earn an 80% score on each quiz to pass the course. Quizzes can be retaken until passed.
2. Credit participants must also earn an 80% (8/10 points) on the final written assignment to pass the course.
3. Participants must complete the online course satisfaction survey.

Academic Integrity

The University of Idaho has as one of its core values the ideal of academic honesty and integrity. University of Idaho students live and work in a collegiate community which emphasizes their responsibility for helping to determine and enforce appropriately high standards of academic conduct. The faculty of the University of Idaho expects all students to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty, and to refrain from any action which infringes upon academic freedom of other members of the academic community. Please refer to the University of Idaho - Student Code of Conduct Article II-Academic Honesty.

Condensed Policy of Nondiscrimination

The University of Idaho has a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, disability, or status as a Vietnam era veteran. This policy applies to all programs, services, and facilities, and includes, but is not limited to, applications, admissions, access to programs and services, and employment. Such discrimination is prohibited by titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Vietnam Era Veterans’ Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Pregnancy Act of 1978, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act Amendments of 1978, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Rehabilitation Act Reauthorization of 1992, and other state and federal laws and regulations.

Sexual harassment violates state and federal law and policies of the Board of Regents, and is expressly prohibited, see Faculty Staff Handbook: 3220. Retaliation for bringing forward a complaint is prohibited, see 3810.

Questions or concerns about the content and application of these laws, regulations or University policy may be directed to the Director, Human Rights Access and Inclusion (885-4285); Coordinator of Disabled Student Services (885-6307); Idaho Commission on Human Rights (208-334-2873); Regional Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education in Seattle (206-220-7900); Equal Employment Opportunity
Commission, Seattle District Office (206-220-6883); or Seattle Regional Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, U.S. Department of Labor (206-398-8000). Complaints about discrimination or harassment should be brought to the attention of the Human Rights Compliance Office (885-4285 or hrai@uidaho.edu).