



**College of Education and Human Development
Division of Special Education and disAbility Research**

Fall 2021

EDSE 662 662: Consultation and Collaboration

CRN: 86332, 3 – Credits

Instructor: Dr. Christine McElwee	Meeting Dates: 9/15/2021 – 11/17/2021
Phone: 703-864-5776	Meeting Day(s): Wednesday
E-Mail: cmcelwee@gmu.edu	Meeting Time(s): 4:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Office Hours: By Appointment only	Meeting Location: Off Campus
Office Location: Finley, Rm. 208B	Other Phone: NA

Note: This syllabus may change according to class needs. Teacher Candidates/Students will be advised of any changes immediately through George Mason e-mail and/or through Blackboard.

Prerequisite(s):

Teaching licensure, or enrollment in graduate degree program in education.

Co-requisite(s):

None

Course Description

Provides professionals in special education, regular education, and related fields with knowledge and communication skills necessary for collaborative consultation and technical assistance to other educators and service providers.

Advising Contact Information

Please make sure that you are being advised on a regular basis as to your status and progress in your program. Students in Special Education and Assistive Technology programs can contact the Special Education Advising Office at 703-993-3670 or speced@gmu.edu for assistance. All other students should refer to their assigned program advisor or the Mason Care Network (703-993-2470).

Advising Tip

Did you know that to receive your teaching license you need to submit your request to VDOE? Depending on your situation, you can either submit your paperwork to VDOE through your

county HR office or through GMU. For instructions, visit <http://cehd.gmu.edu/teacher/instructions>.

Course Delivery Method

Learning activities include the following:

1. Class lecture and discussion
2. Application activities
3. Small group activities and assignments
4. Video and other media supports
5. Research and presentation activities
6. Electronic supplements and activities via Blackboard

Learner Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, teacher candidates/students will be able to:

1. Define collaboration, consultation, and teamwork and explain the essential characteristics of each.
2. Identify variables that may facilitate or constrain participation in collaboration, consultation, or teamwork settings.
3. Demonstrate communication skills of listening, avoiding communication roadblocks, dealing with resistance, being appropriately assertive, and resolving conflicts.
4. Apply problem-solving techniques in collaborating with professional colleagues, parents, and related and ancillary personnel to provide for students' learning and behavioral needs.
5. Develop self-assessment techniques for improving consultative and collaboration skills.
6. Plan activities that implement effective consultation and collaboration techniques.
7. Develop an Individualized Education Plan.

Professional Standards

(Council for Exceptional Children [CEC] and the Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium [InTASC]). Upon completion of this course, students will have met the following professional standards: CEC Standard 1: Learner Development and Individual Learning Differences (InTASC 1,2); CEC Standard 3: Curricular content knowledge (InTASC 4,5); CEC Standard 5: Instructional planning and strategies (InTASC 7,8); CEC Standard 6: Professional learning and ethical practice (InTASC 9) & CEC Standard 7: Collaboration (InTASC 10).

Evidence-Based Practices

This course will incorporate the evidence-based practices (EBPs) relevant to communication, collaboration, and consultation. Evidence for the selected research-based practices is informed by meta-analysis, literature reviews/synthesis, the technical assistance networks which provide web-based resources, and the national organizations whose mission is to support students with disabilities. We address both promising and emerging practices in the field of special education. This course will provide opportunities for teacher candidates/students to take an active, decision-making role to thoughtfully select, modify, apply, and evaluate EBPs in order to improve outcomes for students with disabilities.

Required Texts

Friend, M. (2021). *Interactions: Collaboration skills for school professionals* (9th ed). Pearson. ISBN: 9780135752388

Gibb, G. S., & Dyches, T. T. (2016). *Guide to writing quality individualized education programs* (3rd ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson. ISBN-13: 9780133949520

Recommended Texts

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). <https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000>

Additional Readings

Additional readings will be posted on Blackboard as needed.

Course Performance Evaluation

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, VIA, hard copy).

VIA Performance-Based Assessment Submission Requirement

It is critical for the special education program to collect data on how our students are meeting accreditation standards. Every teacher candidate/student registered for an EDSE course with a required Performance-based Assessment (PBA) is required to upload the PBA to VIA (regardless of whether a course is an elective, a one-time course or part of an undergraduate minor). A PBA is a specific assignment, presentation, or project that best demonstrates one or more CEC, InTASC or other standard connected to the course. A PBA is evaluated in two ways. The first is for a grade, based on the instructor's grading rubric. The second is for program accreditation purposes. Your instructor will provide directions as to how to upload the PBA to VIA.

For EDSE 662, the required PBA is **Individualized Education Program Project**. Please check to verify your ability to upload items to VIA before the PBA due date.

Assignments and/or Examinations

Performance-based Assessment

(VIA submission required)

Individualized Education Program Project – (100% points)

The required PBA assignment for this course is an Individualized Education Program (IEP) Project. Students will work to craft a well-developed IEP on a case K-12 student with disabilities.

***Specific instructions will be given in the directions packet that will be posted in Blackboard and reviewed on the first night of class.*

**College Wide Common Assessment
(VIA submission required)
NA**

Other Assignments

Collaborative Learning Team Group and Assignments – (100 % points *per assignment*)

Each student will be placed by the professor in a Collaborative Learning Team (CLT) group for the course. Within the CLT group, three major assignments will be completed: a Chapter presentation, a collaborative lesson plan based on the chapter being presented, and a position paper about a topic in the chapter being presented.

- **Chapter Group Presentation** – Each CLT group will plan and present **one** of the following chapters to the class: Chapters 5, 6, 7, 9, 10.
- **Collaborative Lesson Plan** pertaining to the chapter group presentation chapter.
- **Position Paper** pertaining to the chapter being presented. The CLT group will decide on a topic for research and discussion based on the information in the chapter they are presenting.

***Specific instructions will be posted on Blackboard and described on the first night of class.*

Interview Summary Assignment – (100% points/*each interview*)

There will be **one interview of a special educator** who has collaborated with other staff members (e.g., ESOL teachers, General Education teachers, Special Education teachers, administrators, etc...) within the work setting during the school day. During the interview sessions, students will “interview” the special educator using questions *developed in your CLT group*.

***Specific instructions will be posted on Blackboard and discussed on the first night of class.*

Case Study “Back to the Case” Discussion Questions – (10 points *per set of discussion questions*)

As part of the participation grade, each student who is **not presenting** the chapter will complete the “Back to the Case” Discussion Questions.

***The list of questions and further directions will be given in the directions packet that will be posted on Blackboard by the first night of class.*

Assignment Summary

Assignments	% points
Individual Education Program Project (VIA)	100 points
CLT: Chapter Group Presentation	100 points
CLT: Collaborative Lesson Plan	100 points
CLT: Position Paper	100 points
Interview Summary Assignment	100 points
Attendance/Participation (Case Study Discussion Question sets)	100 points = 50 points attendance/ 50 points participation
Total Average of all % Points:	xxx points

Course Policies and Expectations

Attendance/Participation

Class attendance and participation are essential to this course because of the complexity of the course content. Attendance points (5 points per class) are earned for each class to give students experience with and class credit for engaging in key activities related to the course content. Students are expected to be on time for class; actively participate in activities; and remain for the duration of class time. Attendance will be maintained through the artifacts students produce during class through group and individual work. For full attendance credit during each class, students must not only attend the full class session, but actively participate, work cooperatively, and turn in high quality class products. *If you are unable to make a class session during the semester, please contact the instructor by phone or email BEFORE the class session when you will be absent. In the rare event of an emergency or severe sickness, each student is given 1 “grace” absence without penalty, as long as the instructor is notified BEFORE the class session.* In this case, it is still the student’s responsibility to make arrangements to obtain notes, handouts, and lecture details from another student. **Two or more unexcused absences may result in students not being successful in the course.**

In addition, as part of the **participation grade**, students will complete the “*Back to the Case*” discussion questions if not presenting the chapter (Ch. 5, 6, 7, 9, 10) being presented (*directions will be given on the first night of class*).

Use of Computers, Cell Phones, PDAs, iPads and other electronic devices and materials: Please be *fully present* in class. It is impossible to participate wholly

in this class while texting, engaging in social media sites, tweeting, working on documents, checking email, etc. *Please use computers only for work related to the current class activity.* Checking email, surfing the web, using applications software, or working on material other than the current class activity are considered distractions and counterproductive. Students engaging in such conduct during class time will not be permitted use of devices in class. The breach will be considered as non-attendance for the class session. If, *for emergency reasons*, you must be available via cell phone, place your cell phone on vibrate and mute the ring tone to avoid class disruption.

Late Work

All assignments should be submitted *on or before* the assigned due date via BlackBoard. In fairness to students who make the effort to submit work on time, total assignment points will be deducted from your grade for late assignments.

Late assignments will be accepted in the following manner,

- 5% point deduction – up to 1 week late
- ☒ 10% point deduction – 1-2 weeks late
- ☒ 25% point deduction – 2 weeks late up through last class

Grading

A	=	95-100%
A-	=	90-94%
B+	=	87-89%
B	=	80-86%
C+	=	77-79%
C	=	70-76%
F	=	69% and below

***Note:** The George Mason University Honor Code will be strictly enforced. See [Academic Integrity Site \(https://oai.gmu.edu/\)](https://oai.gmu.edu/) and [Honor Code and System \(https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/\)](https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/). Students are responsible for reading and understanding the Code. “To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.” Work submitted must be your own new, original work for this course or with proper citations.

Professional Dispositions

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. See [Policies and Procedures \(https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/\)](https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/). Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. Professional dispositions are an

essential function of a special educator's job, indicating that these dispositions are critical to develop and assess in special education licensure programs. In the College of Education and Human Development, dispositions are formally and separately evaluated in at least three points in each student's program – a self-evaluation at the start of their program, a self-evaluation at the mid-point of their program, and a university supervisor's evaluation during internship. In special education graduate licensure programs, the initial self-evaluation is completed in a designated course (EDSE 501), the mid-point self-evaluation is completed in designated courses (EDSE 627, EDSE 661, and EDSE 616), and the internship evaluation is completed by instructors in EDSE 783, EDSE 784, and EDSE 785. In addition to these three designated evaluation times, instructors may complete instructor-rated disposition assessments other times throughout the program. When dispositions are assessed, it is important that for areas where a positive disposition is rated as "not proficient," the student takes steps to grow as an educator. See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/epo/candidate-dispositions>.

Class Schedule

*Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

Date	Topics	Assignments Due
Sept. 15	Overview of Course Review of Syllabus Introduction to Consultation and Collaboration Ch. 1 (Friend and Cook) – Foundations and Perspectives Forming CLT Groups Developing Interview Questions	
Sept. 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Integrating Skills in Formal & Informal Interviews ● Developing Interview Questions ● The IEP in Perspective ● The Legally Correct IEP **Review assignments **CLT Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read Friend & Cook (FC) – Ch. 4 ➤ Read Gibb & Dyches (GD) – pp. 1-46
Sept. 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Group Problem Solving **Possible Interview Guest Speaker #1 ** Review Interview Summary paper assignment **CLT Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read FC – Ch. 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter Group Presentation ● Back to the Case Discussion Questions
Oct. 6	Asynchronous work **CLT Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Interview Summary Paper due
Oct. 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teams ● Co-Teaching ● Educationally Useful IEPs ● Writing the PLAAFP for IEPs ● Review IEP Project Paper ** CLT Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read FC – Ch. 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter Group Presentation ● Back to the Case Discussion Questions ➤ Read FC – 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter Group Presentation ● Back to the Case Discussion Questions ➤ Read GD – Ch. 1

Oct. 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult Interactions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Teaching • Writing Annual Goals • Writing Short Term Objectives • How to Report and Measure Progress <p>**CLT Work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read FC – 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter Group Presentation • Back to the Case Discussion Questions ➤ Read GD - Ch. 2&3
Oct. 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paraeducators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IEP services • Participating with nondisabled peers • Classroom and State Assessment Accommodations <p>**CLT Work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read FC – 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter Group Presentation • Back to the Case Discussion Questions ➤ Read GD – Ch. 4, 5, 6
Nov. 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APA Reference list and citation review <p>**CLT Work</p> <p>** Review CLT Position Paper</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IEP Papers due and Upload to VIA
Nov. 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening, Responding, and Giving Feedback <p>** Review CLT Journal Assignment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read FC – Ch. 3 ➤ CLT Position Papers due
Nov. 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position Paper Presentations 	

Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: See [Core Values](http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/) (<http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>).

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code. See [Honor Code and System](https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing. See [Responsible Use of Computing](http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/) (<http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor. See [Disability Services](https://ds.gmu.edu/) (<https://ds.gmu.edu/>).
- Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to either Tk20 or VIA should be directed to <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/assessments/>
- Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to [Blackboard Instructional Technology Support for Students](https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/) (<https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>).

Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:

- As a faculty member, I am designated as a “non-confidential employee” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing the [Title IX Coordinator](mailto:titleix@gmu.edu) (titleix@gmu.edu).
- **For information on student support resources on campus, see [Student Support Resources on Campus](https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus/) (<https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus/>).**

- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website [College of Education and Human Development \(http://cehd.gmu.edu/\)](http://cehd.gmu.edu/).

Appendix

Assessment Rubric(s)

VIA Performance-Based Assessment for EDSE 662: Individualized Education Program

EDSE 662 CAEP Assessment	Does Not Meet Expectations 1	Meets Expectations 2	Exceeds Expectations 3
<p>Present Levels of Performance</p> <p>CEC/IGC Standards 1 & 4</p> <p>Candidate understands how exceptionalities may interact with development and learning and uses this knowledge to provide meaningful and challenging learning experiences for individuals with exceptionalities.</p> <p>Candidate uses multiple methods of assessment and data sources in making educational decisions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate writes a present levels of performance statement that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ lacks consistent or logical links to evaluations and assessments and/or ○ fails to include educational implications of the student's exceptionality, and/or ○ fails to consider variations in beliefs, traditions, and values across and within cultures. • Candidate fails to demonstrate respect for the student by using biased and negative language. • Candidate fails to show evidence of the similarities and differences between the student's development and typical human development. • Candidate includes statements irrelevant to the performance within the past calendar year or since the last IEP. • Candidate uses educational jargon and/or does not define terms that may not be understood by all who participate in the IEP development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate interprets information from formal and informal assessments to write an appropriate, relevant present levels of performance statement with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ clear links to evaluations and assessments (such as interviews, observations, informal and classroom assessments, and standardized tests), ○ reference to the similarities and differences between the student's development and typical human development, ○ description of educational implications of the characteristics of various exceptionalities and sensory impairments (as applicable), and ○ description of variations in beliefs, traditions, and values across and within cultures (as applicable). • Candidate identifies specific areas of need and for each identified area describes what the student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ currently can do, ○ currently cannot do that is appropriate for curriculum-based or age-based or ability-based expectations, and ○ needs to do within the coming IEP year. • Candidate uses unbiased, objective language, defines terms and acronyms to assist understanding by all who participate in the IEP development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate interprets information from formal and informal assessments to write an appropriate, relevant present levels of performance statement with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ clear links to evaluations and assessments (such as interviews, observations, informal and classroom assessments, and standardized tests), ○ reference to the similarities and differences between the student's development and typical human development, ○ description of educational implications of the characteristics of various exceptionalities and sensory impairments (as applicable), and ○ description of variations in beliefs, traditions, and values across and within cultures (as applicable). • Candidate identifies specific areas of need and for each identified area describes what the student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ currently can do, ○ currently cannot do that is appropriate for curriculum-based or age-based or ability-based expectations, and ○ needs to do within the coming IEP year. • Candidate uses unbiased, objective language, defines terms and acronyms to assist understanding by all who participate in the IEP development. • Candidate describes strengths and areas in need of improvement in relation to Virginia Standards of Learning.

EDSE 662 CAEP Assessment	Does Not Meet Expectations 1	Meets Expectations 2	Exceeds Expectations 3