

VIRGINIA CONSORTIUM FOR TEACHER PREPARATION
IN SPECIAL EDUCATION ADAPTED CURRICULUM

Fall 2024
Teaching Strategies, 3 Credits

Consortium Titles

- VCU: SEDP 601: Instructional Methods and Programming for Individuals with Disabilities: ADCR
- RU: EDSP 674: Teaching Students with Individualized Adapted Curriculum
- JMU: EXED 584: Methods of Instruction for Students with Moderate/Severe Disabilities
- ODU: SPED 676: Curriculum and Methods: Severe Disabilities
- GMU: EDSE 661: Curriculum and Methods: Severe Disabilities; Section DL1 CRN: 70820; 6U1 CRN: 84121; Section 6Y1: CRN: 84093; Section 679: CRN: 84066

Instructor: Dr. Melissa Ainsworth	Meeting Dates: 8/26/24 – 12/3/24
Phone: See <i>Instructor Info</i> on BB	Meeting Day(s): Tuesday
E-Mail: mainswor@gmu.edu	Meeting Time(s): 5 pm – 7:40 pm
Office Hours: by appointment	Meeting Location: N/A; Online
Office Location: Finley 206A Fairfax	Instructing University: GMU

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 their LMS (Learning Management System).

Prerequisite(s):

None

Co-requisite(s):

None

GMU Course Description

Focuses on current best practices in curriculum, and methods for students with severe disabilities, including specific strategies for teaching students with severe disabilities, general strategies for working with heterogeneous groups of students in inclusive settings, and methods for adapting the general education curriculum to include students with severe disabilities.

Course Overview

EDSE 661 focuses on current best practices in curriculum, and methods for students with severe disabilities, including specific strategies for teaching students with severe disabilities, general strategies for working with heterogeneous groups of students in inclusive settings, and

methods for adapting the general education curriculum to include students with severe disabilities. Note: Field experience required.

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).

Course Delivery Method

Learning activities include the following:

1. Pre-recorded lectures
2. In Class lecture and discussion
3. Application activities
4. Small group activities and assignments
5. Video and other media supports
6. Electronic supplements and activities via Canvas

This course will be delivered online (76% or more) using a synchronous format via Mason's Learning Management system (LMS). You will log in to the course site using your Mason email name (everything before [@masonlive@gmu.edu](mailto:masonlive@gmu.edu)) and email password. The course site will be available on Sunday, August 25th, 2024.

- To access your course in **Canvas**: <https://canvas.gmu.edu/login/canvas>.

Under no circumstances, may candidates/students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles. Further, as expected in a face-to-face class meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication.

- You are expected to be on camera for the duration of class time.

Technical Requirements

To participate in this course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements:

- High-speed internet access with updated browsers.
 - [Canvas](https://guides.instructure.com/a/720329) supported browsers: <https://guides.instructure.com/a/720329>
- Consistent and reliable access to your University email and the course LMS, as these are the official methods of communication for this course.
- Speakers and a microphone or a microphone-enabled headset for use with synchronous web conferencing tools.

- Note that students may be asked to create logins and passwords on supplemental websites and/or to download trial software to their computer or tablet as part of course requirements.

Expectations

- **Course Week:**
Our course week will begin on the day that our synchronous meetings take place as indicated on the Schedule of Classes.
- **Log-in Frequency:**
- Students must actively check the course Canvas site and their University email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to course materials at least 2 times per week to watch lecture videos and complete discussion questions. In addition, students must log-in for all scheduled online synchronous meetings.
- **Participation:**
Students are expected to actively engage in all course activities throughout the semester, which includes viewing all course materials, completing course activities and assignments, and participating in course discussions and group interactions.
- **Technical Competence:**
Students are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of all course technology. Students who are struggling with technical components of the course are expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or College or University technical services.
- **Technical Issues:**
Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.
- **Workload:**
- Please be aware that this course is not self-paced. **Students are expected to meet specific deadlines and due dates listed in the Class Schedule section of this syllabus.** It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the weekly course schedule of topics, readings, activities and assignments due.
- **Instructor Support:**
Students may schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss course requirements, content or other course-related issues via telephone or web conference. Students should email the instructor to schedule a one-on-one session, including their preferred meeting method and suggested dates/times.
- **Netiquette:**
The course environment is a collaborative space. Experience shows that even an innocent remark typed in the online environment can be misconstrued. Students must always re-read their responses carefully before posting them, so as others do not consider them as personal offenses. *Be positive in your approach with others*

and diplomatic in selecting your words. Remember that you are not competing with classmates but sharing information and learning from others. All faculty are similarly expected to be respectful in all communications.

Specific Expectations for Students Participating Using Web Conferencing (Zoom):

- Zoom Access: Links for synchronous class sessions will be provided on the course Canvas site. Students do not need a Zoom login to participate.
- Web conferencing requirements:
 - You must have a working web camera and headset/microphone combination.
 - Use your real name to sign in—no aliases, please.
 - Mute your microphone when not speaking.
 - Your camera output must remain live in order to document your attendance during class. Please don't freeze your camera.
- Web conferencing decorum: Remember that while you are participating in the class via web conferencing, you are visible to the entire class and must maintain an appropriate professional demeanor. This includes preventing auditory and visual interruptions from your site, dressing professionally, and managing the area from which you broadcast, including setting up an appropriate neutral backdrop and adequate lighting.
- Technical problems: Avoid problems: Test your system several days before the first class. Zoom requires a high bandwidth connection. Students attending at home should advise others in the home they may not use the Internet for online games, movies, etc. during class time. Avoid public Wi-Fi; the bandwidth is shared and you may experience dropout or shutdown. Test your system before the first class.
 - The professor cannot help you with the technical side of web conferencing--signing on, problems with the interface, etc. You should have become familiar with Zoom before class begins and tested your system. As a web conferencing participant, you alone are responsible for the equipment that you use to join the class.
 - Students who experience technical problems with their courses must contact the CEHD Office of Technology Support at (703) 993-5654 or cehdtech@gmu.edu. Contact Tech Support as soon as you have determined you cannot correct your connection problem.
 - If you have problems with your home computer that prevent you from web conferencing, it is your responsibility to locate another computer or temporarily join the class at the site nearest you as quickly as possible to avoid missing classes and losing points.
- Attendance: If you are registered into a web conferencing section, please be make sure that you check in with the professor at the beginning of each class period and check out at the end to be credited for attendance in this class. Web conferencing in the special education program requires synchronous attendance (you must be viewing the class at the time it is meeting). If you can't attend synchronously, please drop the class. Participant login frequency and duration is tracked in Zoom.
- Asking questions: Ask your questions verbally rather than using the hand raise icon or typing your comments. The professor will answer as many questions in class as possible. All students should email the professor with any questions that cannot be answered in class or are private in nature.
- Taking tests: All testing will be done on Canvas at your home or another secure computer and requires no proctors. Avoid public Wi-Fi; the bandwidth is shared and you may experience system dropout or shutdown that will end your test attempt.

Learner Outcomes

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

1. Write IEPs so they define individualized sequences of measurable objectives for teaching needed functional skills that link to standards of learning general curriculum and begin with present level of performance and end with goal performance.
2. Construct, use, and interpret nonstandard, informal skill assessment (such as task analysis and observation) to identify appropriate objectives, evaluate student performance during baseline and intervention, and make improvements in instruction for students with disabilities in an adapted curriculum across the K-12 levels.
3. Assess target skills before (baseline probes) and during (instructional probes) instruction using direct observation or assessment of permanent products.
4. Create dated graphs of student performance data using Excel; draw aim and trend lines using Excel.
5. Use “raw” and graphed student performance data (along with aim and trend lines and problem analysis) to evaluate the effects of instruction and make data-based decisions for improving student performance.
6. Embed instruction on targeted IEP objectives into functional daily routines and activities.
7. Plan, implement, and evaluate instructional programs that use effective antecedent teaching strategies (e.g., observational learning, milieu approach, system of least intrusive prompts, simultaneous prompting, time delay, graduated guidance, picture assists, audio/video-modeling, backward and whole task chaining) and consequent strategies (e.g., shaping, error correction, consequential strategies, and interspersed review).
8. Write and implement an instructional plan that specifies a sequence of instructional objectives leading to a goal, uses a task analysis (for multiple step skills) or a skill sequence (for discrete skills), incorporates antecedent and consequence teaching strategies aimed at a specific stage of learning, and specifies a plan for collecting and analyzing student performance data on an ongoing basis.
9. Understand general education teaching practices that promote inclusion of students with severe disabilities in the general education curriculum and support them in the least restrictive environment (e.g., curriculum and instructional adaptation, group instruction, self-management, schedule following, cooperative learning, peer tutoring). Understand when and how to use small group instruction, peer tutoring, community-based instruction, simulated instruction, video-modeling instruction, and instruction involving both typical students and students with disabilities.
10. Apply a model to plan with general educators any adaptations and modifications that are needed in the general education curriculum and class activities in order to meet the instructional needs of students with severe disabilities.
11. Train paraprofessional support staff to use appropriate teaching methods and supportive interaction styles with students to support students without encouraging dependency. Provide these staff members with supervision and feedback.
12. Demonstrate proficiency in the use of educational technology for instruction.

13. Apply course concepts to K-12 school settings through field-based learning experiences (e.g., field experiences in K-12 classrooms, field-based case studies, field-based virtual/online learning experiences, etc.).

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 2: Learning Environments (InTASC 3); CEC Standard 4: Assessment (InTASC 6); CEC Standard 5: Instructional Planning and Strategies (InTASC 7,8); CEC Standard 6: Professional Learning and Ethical Practices (InTASC 9) & CEC Standard 7: Collaboration (InTASC 10).

This course contains at least one Common Assessment developed by the College of Education and Human Development to assess our candidates' performance on nationally accepted standards for beginning teachers (InTASC) and our programs' performance on national accreditation standards (CAEP).

Required Texts

Browder, D. M., Spooner, F., and Courtade, G. R. (2020). *Teaching students with moderate and severe disabilities*. (2nd Ed). Guilford Press. 9781462542383

Recommended Texts

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

Required Resources

Access to Canvas

Additional Readings

As assigned and posted on Canvas in each module.

Course Performance Evaluation

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., LMS, 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/SLL (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/SLL.

For EDSE 661, the required PBA is Instructional Plan and Implementation. Please check to verify your ability to upload to VIA/SLL before the PBA due date.

Assignments and/or Examinations

Performance-based Assessment

(VIA submission required)

The performance-based VIA assignment is the Math Instructional Plan and Implementation. See the Course Assignments section for full assignment description.

College Wide Common Assessment

(VIA submission required)

This course contains at least one Common Assessment developed by the College of Education and Human Development to assess our candidates' performance on nationally accepted standards for beginning teachers (InTASC) and our programs' performance on national accreditation standards (CAEP). The college-wide common assessment in this course is: Midpoint Self-Rated Dispositions.

Field Experience Requirement – Directions for GMU Students

A field experience is a part of this course. A field experience includes a variety of early and ongoing field-based opportunities in which candidates may observe, assist, and/or teach. Field experiences may occur in off-campus settings, such as schools (CAEP, 2016). Below are REQUIRED PROCEDURES FOR ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THIS COURSE.

1. Complete the online EDSE Field Experience form. This online form will be sent to your GMU email from EDSEfld@gmu.edu on the first day of the semester. Click on the link and complete the form as soon as possible. ALL students should complete the form, regardless of whether you need assistance in locating a field experience placement or not. This information is required by the state. Please direct any questions about the form to Dr. Kristen O'Brien at EDSEfld@gmu.edu.

If you are a full-time contracted school system employee and will complete the field experience at your worksite with administrator and instructor approval, you will be asked to specify the school at which you will be completing the field experience.

If you request a field experience placement to be arranged, you will receive information via your GMU email about your assigned placement from the Clinical Practice Coordinator in the College's Office of Teacher Preparation. Check your GMU email

regularly for important information regarding your field experience. Follow all instructions for the necessary Human Resource (HR) paperwork required to access the assigned field experience placement. Note that you may NOT arrange your own field experience placement.

2. View the EDSE Field Experience Introduction presentation. On the first week of classes and prior to representing George Mason in off-campus settings, your instructor will show a video presentation or provide a link to the presentation, which includes important information about the registration process for EDSE field experiences and tips for a successful field experience. After the presentation, sign the document provided by your instructor to indicate that you have watched the presentation and are aware of the EDSE field experience professionalism expectations.
3. Document your field experience hours. Your instructor may provide you with access to field experience documentation forms to use in documenting the hours and activities completed in your field experience placement. Your instructor will provide more directions on how to use and submit the documentation form.
4. Complete the field experience end-of-semester survey. If you complete your field experience at a placement arranged by GMU, towards the end of the semester, you will receive an email from EDSEfld@gmu.edu with a link to an online survey. This brief survey asks you to report about important features of your field experience placement.
5. If you believe you need ADA accommodations during your field placement and/or internship experience, please contact Mason's Disability Services office (DS). Specific accommodations for fieldwork and internships may be different than academic accommodations; however, like academic accommodations, they are not retroactive. Connecting with DS is a student-initiated interactive process. DS will collaborate with the department and possibly the placement site to provide reasonable accommodations that are individualized and based on documentation, functional limitations, and a collaborative assessment of needs. For more information, please refer to the Disability Services website: <https://ds.gmu.edu/field-placement/>.

Course Assignments

Lesson Plans (225 points total; 75 points each x 3 lesson plans):

As we cover different academic areas you will be asked to turn in 1 lesson plan per area for a total of 4 lessons plans (1 each for the following areas: math, science OR history and life skills) The assignment includes a complete lesson plan as outlined in the complete assignment description on Canvas *and* an analysis of the instructional strategies used, connection to the text or articles supporting their usage and rationale for the structure of the lesson. You will need to download and follow the rubric and questions for each of the lesson plans as the questions are unique for each assignment.

Lesson Plan Dissection (75 points):

You will be given two lesson plans and corresponding videos which you will be asked to dissect by identifying various parts of the lessons presented and analyzing them as you have learned about EBP's from your text, the lectures and our in-class discussions.

Math Data Collection and Sequencing Assignment: (100 pts)

Based upon your math lesson plan, you will take data on that target skill with an identified student for at least 2 weeks (10 sessions). In a short paper you will present a graph of the data, a discussion of the student's performance, an analysis of what the graph shows you and a discussion of next steps including the sequence of steps beyond the student's mastery of the current skill.

In Class Quiz /Reading Activity: (75 points total; 5 pts per week, 14 weeks + intro):

Each there will be a reading quiz or other online activity posted and available for students to do while not in small group with the instructor. These 5-point activities will be available as soon as the small groups begin on Tuesday and are due by 7:40 that evening. The expectation is that while you are not in a small group with the instructor, you are to complete the in class activity. The first and last week, these will be done during the whole group instruction.

Small Group Participation and Discussion Question Assignment (55 points total; 5 pts per week, 11 Weeks):

Each week you will participate in a small group discussion led by the instructor(s). The discussion will be based upon the pre-recorded lecture that you will watch prior to class and the readings. Each week you will be asked to upload and come to class prepared with some small discussion assignment. In order to get your points, you must BOTH upload your discussion assignment by Tuesday at 5:00 pm AND attend small group. Only 1 point may be awarded for a Discussion Assignment that is turned in but the student does not attend small group time that week. Only 1 point will be awarded if a student attends small group but does not turn in their Discussion Assignment on time for the week. The lectures are available for an entire week so late Discussion Assignments are not accepted.

Assignment Summary

Assignment	Due Date	Points possible
Lesson Dissection	9/24 @ 5 PM	75
Math Lesson Plan	10/15 @ 5:00 PM	75
Science OR History Lesson Plan	10/29 @ 5:00 PM	75
Life Skills Lesson Plan	11/12 @ 5:00PM	75
Math Skill sequencing Plan	SUNDAY 12/8 @ midnight	100

Weekly Lecture/ reading check/ or activity @ 5 points each	Weekly for 14 weeks + intro quiz (see class schedule)	75
Small Group Participation and Discussion Assignment @ 5 points each	Weekly for 11 weeks (see class schedule)	55
Total Points Possible		550

Student Evaluations of Teaching:

The student evaluation of teaching, or SET, is an online course survey. You are strongly encouraged to complete this form for each course as this feedback helps instructors and administrators improve your class experiences. Towards the end of the course, you will receive email and LMS notifications when the evaluations open. Your anonymous and confidential feedback is only shared with instructors after final grades have been submitted. More information about the SET can be found on The Institute of Effectiveness and Planning website at <https://oiep.gmu.edu/set/>

Course Policies and Expectations

Attendance/Participation

Students are expected to attend all class sessions during the course. As adult learners, you make personal decisions about enacting professional responsibilities, including those as a student.

- Students are expected to log in on time for their assigned small group time each week and stay for the duration of small group time.
- No points can be awarded for missed small group time.
- Attendance, timeliness, and professionally relevant, respectful and active participation are expected. Please see participation points under the assignments section.

Late Work

All assignments are due posted to Canvas by 5:00 PM on the dates listed in the course syllabus, unless otherwise specified.

****Late or incorrectly turned in/uploaded assignments will be graded at the convenience of the instructor and therefore may not provide timely feedback. Late work may not be returned until the end of the semester.**

One point per day of the available points before grading will be deducted from the point total for each day the assignments are late. For example, after 5 days, a lesson plan of 75 points could earn no more than 70 points with is a starting point of a A- @ 93%. If you are having difficulty with an assignment, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. Submitting an assignment late does not alter the due dates of the other assignments and prevents timely feedback that may be of value in later assignments. Strive to keep up with the assignment schedule.

Other Requirements

You must be on camera and available for discussion during assigned class time (whole group or your assigned small group). You may not switch groups. You must reserve the entirety of the class time 5:00 – 7:40 for class. Small group times will change weekly and some weeks will be whole group

Grading

93-100% = A
90-92% = A-
87-89% = B+
80-86% = B
70-79% = C
< 70% = F

***Note:** George Mason University Academic Standards will be strictly enforced *through an institutional sanctioning matrix that all colleges and departments will need to adhere to if they find there are students who are engaged in academic dishonesty.* See [Academic Standards](http://academicstandards.gmu.edu/) (<http://academicstandards.gmu.edu/>) and [GMU Catalog - Academic Standards](https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic-standards/) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic-standards/>). Students are responsible for reading and understanding the Standards. The Office of Academic Integrity “works to promote authentic scholarship, support the institution’s goal of maintaining high standards of academic excellence, and encourages continued ethical behavior of faculty and students to cultivate an educational community which values integrity and produces graduates who carry this commitment forward into professional practice.” Work submitted must be your own new, original work for this course or with proper citations.

Professional Dispositions

Throughout study in the College of Education and Human Development, students are expected to demonstrate behaviors that reflect the positive dispositions of a professional. See [Student Guide](https://cehd.gmu.edu/current-students/cehd-student-guide) (<https://cehd.gmu.edu/current-students/cehd-student-guide>). 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.

Use of Generative AI

Generative AI tools should follow the principles of Mason’s Academic Standards. This includes being honest about the use of these tools for submitted work and including citations when using the work of others, whether individual people or Generative AI tools.

Other AI Information

Generative AI (GenAI) tools have limitations: they can hallucinate (create incorrect statements and provide fake citations), create inaccurate code, and provide offensive images or examples. They have been trained on limited sources that may contain biases and create biased output. The use of these tools creates other ethical quandaries: the algorithms rely on work done by other humans and do not give credit to their sources, and the algorithm adjustments are often completed by workers who may not be fully compensated for their labor and emotional stress. Lastly, reliance on these tools may stifle your own creativity and impede the learning process. Your decision to use Generative-AI tools should always consider these limitations.

If you do not understand what you are asking the AI generator to write, then you will not understand what it wrote and whether what it wrote is correct. Be advised.

Who owns the right to materials used with GenAI tools — including original student work submitted to a GenAI program—is currently unclear. If you do not wish to risk (or give up) the rights to your intellectual property, you should consult your instructor.

CEHD Commitments

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to fostering collaboration and community, promoting justice and equity, and advancing research-informed practice. Students are expected to adhere to, and contribute to, these commitments, the CEHD Mission, and Core Values of George Mason University. More information can be found here: [Culture \(https://cehd.gmu.edu/about/culture/\)](https://cehd.gmu.edu/about/culture/)

Class Schedule

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

Week	Class Topic	Assignment Due	Reading Assignment (To be completed before coming to class)	Group Assignments
8/27	Introduction: Educational Assumptions/ What's Up with Education?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Student Information Sheet due end of day 	None	Whole Group 5:00-7:40 PM
9/3	Instructional Strategies: Overview & Lessons vs Instructional Plans vs IEP Goals & Depth of Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discussion Question upload by 5:00PM ➤ In class Quiz/Activity upload by 7:40 PM 	Lectures: Recorded Lectures in course content folder Text: Browder, Spooner & Courtade - chapter 1 Article: Archer & Hughes (2011)	Small groups – see Canvas for your group and time
9/10	Instructional Strategies: General and Special Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discussion Question upload by 5:00PM ➤ In class Quiz/Activity upload by 7:40 PM 	Lectures: Recorded Lectures in course content folder Text: Browder, Spooner & Courtade - chapter 6 Article: Riccomini, Morano & Hughes (2017)	Small groups – see Canvas for your group and time
9/17	Designing Effective Lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discussion Question upload by 5:00PM ➤ In class Quiz/Activity upload by 7:40 PM 	Lectures: Recorded Lectures in course content folder Article: Schmoker, M. (2012) The Stunning power of good, effective lessons	Small groups – see Canvas for your group and time

<p>9/24</p>	<p>Instructional Strategies: Math Part 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lesson Plan dissection due by 5 PM ➤ Discussion Question upload by 5:00PM ➤ In class Quiz/Activity upload by 7:40 PM 	<p>Lectures: Recorded Lectures in course content folder</p> <p>Text: Browder, Spooner & Courtade - chapter 10</p> <p>Article: Virginia Department of Education (2020). <i>Students with disabilities in Mathematics: Frequently asked questions. [Find on Canvas under Additional Readings Tab]</i></p>	<p>Small groups – see Canvas for your group and time</p>
<p>10/1</p>	<p>Instructional Strategies: Math Part 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discussion Question upload by 5:00PM ➤ In class Quiz/Activity upload by 7:40 PM 	<p>Text: Browder, Spooner & Courtade - chapter 11</p> <p>Article: Root et al. (2019) <i>Find on Canvas under Additional Readings Tab</i></p>	<p>Small groups – see Canvas for your group and time</p>
<p>10/8</p>	<p>Instructional Strategies Math Part 3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discussion Question upload by 5:00PM ➤ In class Quiz/Activity upload by 7:40 PM 	<p>Lectures: Recorded Lectures in course content folder</p>	
<p>10/15</p>	<p>Effective teaching through an</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Math Lesson Plan Due 3/5 by 5 PM ➤ Discussion Question 	<p>Lectures: Recorded Lectures in course content folder</p>	<p>NO small groups these weeks – complete work on your own</p>

	Organized classroom	upload by 5:00PM ➤ In class Quiz/Activity upload by 7:40 PM		time. All work is due by 3/12 but don't forget you have work due on 3/19
10/22	Instructional Strategies: Science & Social Studies	➤ Discussion Question upload by 5:00PM ➤ In class Quiz/Activity upload by 7:40 PM	Lectures: Recorded Lectures in course content folder Text: Browder, Spooner & Courtade - chapter 12 & 13 Article: Spooner, F., Knight, V., Browder, D., Jimenez, B., & DiBiase, W. (2011). Evaluating evidence-based practice in teaching science content to students with severe developmental disabilities <i>Find on Canvas under Additional Readings Tab</i>	Small groups – see Canvas for your group and time
10/29	Instructional Strategies: Life Skills and communication	➤ Science or History Lesson Plan due by 5 PM ➤ Discussion Question upload by 5:00PM ➤ In class Quiz/Activity upload by 7:40 PM ➤ by 5:00PM	Lectures: Recorded Lectures in course content folder Text: Browder, Spooner & Courtade - chapter 3, 14 & 16 Bouck, E.C., & Joshi, G. (2012). Article: Lee, & Morningstar (2019) Article: Cullen et al. (2017)	Small groups – see Canvas for your group and time
11/5 NO class - meeting Do your work on	Data Analysis and Long-term Skill Planning	➤ Graph activity due 11/12	Lectures: Recorded Lectures in course content folder :	NO CLASS Asynchronous this week.

your own time				
11/12	Writing Meaningful Academic Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Life Skills Lesson Plan Due ➤ [graph from 11/5] ➤ Discussion Question upload by 5:00PM ➤ In class Quiz/Activity upload by 7:40 PM 	Lectures: Recorded Lectures in course content folder Text: Browder, Spooner & Courtade - chapter 5,4 & 17	Small groups – see Canvas for your group and time
11/19	Inclusion & Self-Contained Classrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discussion Question upload by 5:00PM ➤ In class Quiz/Activity upload by 7:40 PM 	Lectures: Recorded Lectures in course content folder	Small groups – see Canvas for your group and time
Thanksgiving	No Class	No class		
12/6	Successful Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In class BB activity due 7:40 PM 		Whole Group 5:00 – 7:40 pm
12/8	SUNDAY No class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Math Instructional plan Skill Sequence Due by midnight 		

ADAPTED CONSORTIUM SYLLABUS STATEMENTS AND POLICIES

Honor Code

Each university has its own honor code and it is important for you to review the honor code at your university. However, all students taking this course, regardless of the university they are enrolled in, are expected to follow this honor code and may be asked to pledge all assignments and their exam to indicate that they have followed the honor code. A pledge means that you have not cheated or plagiarized, nor have you given or received assistance that violated the description of how assignments are to be completed for this course. The shortened version may be used: “Pledged” followed by the date and your full name (typed “signatures” will be OK for assignments/tests submitted electronically).

Students at all universities pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.” Work submitted must be your own or with proper citations

A complete copy of each university’s Honor System document is available through

GMU: <http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/>

VCU: www.students.vcu.edu/rg/policies/rg7honor.html.

Radford: http://www.radford.edu/~dos-web/handbook02-03/Honor_Code.pdf

NSU: http://www.nsu.edu/student_judicial/policy.html

JMU: <http://www.jmu.edu/honor/code.shtml>

ODU: <https://www.odu.edu/about/monarchcitizenship/student-conduct>

Accommodations for Disability

At all the participating universities, accommodations can be made with the instructor if a student has a documented disability. University specific information regarding eligibility, services and accommodations can be found at:

GMU: <http://www.gmu.edu/student/drc/>

VCU: <http://www.students.vcu.edu/dss/index.html>

Radford: <http://www.radford.edu/~dro/>

NSU: <http://www.nsu.edu/disabilityservices/index.html>

JMU: <https://www.jmu.edu/ods/>

ODU: <https://www.odu.edu/life/diversity/accessibility>

Student Support Resources

At all the participating universities, students have access to free counseling and support services. University specific information can be found at:

GMU: <https://caps.gmu.edu/>

VCU: <https://counseling.vcu.edu/>

Radford: <https://www.radford.edu/content/student-counseling/home.html>

NSU: <https://www.nsu.edu/Campus-Life/Services-Resources/Counseling-Center>

JMU: <https://www.jmu.edu/counselingctr/>

ODU: <https://www.odu.edu/counselingservices>

Inclement Weather

Since students connect from home class will occur regardless of university closures for inclement weather. However, in the rare occurrence of a system-wide outage or extreme weather a message will be posted on the class Canvas site and all class members will receive an email. Students experiencing connection issues related to weather are expected to communicate with their instructor and will be expected to connect to class via phone.

Course Materials

This course gives you access to PowerPoint files, class lecture notes, handouts, and copyrighted articles. All these materials should be regarded as authored materials, which if used or referred to must be fully credited through reference to the author, the class, and date. If used beyond citation, permission of the instructor/author is required.

Technology Proficiencies

All students participating in this course are expected to be proficient in several technology skills. Students are expected to be proficient in using the Internet and have reliable and consistent Internet access. Students are expected to have an active university email account and to check email regularly. This course requires students to use Canvas, which is our online course management system located at <http://mymason.gmu.edu> under the COURSES tab.

Students are expected to login to this system frequently and be proficient in using its features. Students are expected to be proficient in using the computer, which includes downloading and saving files, typing, and word processing skills. Students participating in this course are expected to use Microsoft Word for all written assignments. Furthermore, students are expected to use Microsoft PowerPoint and Adobe Acrobat Reader for class documents located on the Canvas website.

Canvas Access and Non-Mason Students

NON GMU students will be required to activate and utilize their GMU login credentials to access Canvas. NEW students this semester should have received an email with activation directions from Marci Kinas Jerome. Any questions please contact Marci Kinas Jerome, mkinas@gmu.edu. Passwords must be reset every 6 months. If students do not receive the change password email request, they will need to request a password reset if they can no longer login. Students can reset their password at <https://password.gmu.edu>

Canvas Assistance

This course requires that you be a regular email user and be able to use various features of Canvas (sign on, download materials, hand in completed assignments electronically through the assignment submission link). You may direct your questions about Canvas to Marci Kinas Jerome (mkinas@gmu.edu). She will be the best resource.

Viewing Course Archives

All students have access to the video archives of this class, which are typically posted 24-48 hours after the class has met. Use this resource to prepare final assignments and review other class information. The special education program does not allow students to take a class via archive—you must be present when the class meets. The archive links will be posted on the course Canvas site.

Policies and Resources for GMU Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to Mason’s Academic Standards. See [Academic Standards](https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic-standards/) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic-standards/>).
- 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 VIA should be directed to viahelp@gmu.edu or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/assessments>.
- Questions or concerns regarding use of your LMS should be directed to:
 - o [Canvas Learn](https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/Canvas-instructional-technology-support-for-students/): <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/Canvas-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>
 - o [Canvas](https://its.gmu.edu/service/canvas/): <https://its.gmu.edu/service/canvas/>
- For information about [student support resources](https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus) on campus, see: <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>
 - o [TimelyCare](https://caps.gmu.edu/timelycare-services/): <https://caps.gmu.edu/timelycare-services/>
 - o [Writing Center](https://writingcenter.gmu.edu/): <https://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>

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

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Non-Confidential Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, sexual harassment, 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 the [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 or support measures from Mason's Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.

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/).

Student and Faculty Names and Pronouns

Name and pronoun use: If you wish, please share your name and gender pronouns with me and indicate how best to address you in class and via email. I use [she/her for myself and you may address me as "Dr./Prof. Ainsworth in email and verbally. I encourage students to use tools Mason provides to change your name and pronouns on Mason records, if you so choose: <https://registrar.gmu.edu/updating-chosen-name-pronouns/>

Diversity and Inclusion Statement

The College of Education and Human Development, an intentionally inclusive community, promotes and maintains an equitable and just work and learning environment. We welcome and value individuals and their differences including race, economic/class status, gender expression and identity, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, first language, religion, age, and ability status, among other characteristics.

- We value our diverse student body and desire to increase the diversity of our faculty and staff.
- We commit to supporting students, faculty and staff who have been the victims of bias and discrimination.
- We promote continuous learning and improvement to create an environment that values diverse points of view and life experiences.
- We believe that faculty, staff, and students play a role in creating an environment that engages diverse points of view.
- We believe that by fostering their willingness to hear and learn from a variety of sources and viewpoints, our students will gain competence in communication, critical thinking and global understanding, and become aware of their biases and how they affect their interactions with others and the world.

Land Acknowledgement Statement

Land acknowledgment engages all present in an ongoing indigenous protocol to enact meaningful, reciprocal relationships with ancestors and contemporary tribal nations. As a state university, we have a responsibility to include and support indigenous communities and sovereign tribes in our work.

At the place George Mason University occupies, we give greetings and thanksgivings to these Potomac River life sources, to the Doeg ancestors, who Virginia annihilated in

violent campaigns while ripping their lands apart with the brutal system of African American enslavement, to the recognized Virginia tribes who have lovingly stewarded these lands for millennia, including the Rappahannock, Pamunkey, Upper Mattaponi, Chickahominy, Eastern Chickahominy, Nansemond, Monacan, Mattaponi, Patawomeck, and Nottaway, past, present, and future, and to the Piscataway tribes, who have lived on both sides of the river from time immemorial.

Appendix
Assessment Rubric(s)

	Does Not Meet Expectations 1	Meets Expectations 2	Exceeds Expectations 3
Abstract and Introduction CEC/IIC Standard 5	Candidate fails to provide a clear overview of all elements of the instructional plan and use evidence-based practices validated for the specific characteristics of learners with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs to establish a clear need for behavior change. Candidate cites literature that supports the development of the instructional program.	Candidate provides a clear overview of all elements of the instructional plan and uses evidence-based practices validated for the specific characteristics of learners with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs to establish a clear need for behavior change. Candidate cites literature that supports the development of the instructional program.	Candidate provides a clear overview of all elements of the instructional plan and uses evidence-based practices validated for the specific characteristics of learners with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs to establish a clear need for behavior change. Candidate establishes a clear and explicit connection between the literature and the development of the instructional program that reflects the theories and research that form the basis of curriculum development and instructional practice.
Learner Description CEC/IIC Standard 1	Candidate provides limited demographic and background information related to the target learner’s physical, sensory, and/or medical needs as well as academic needs and levels of support. Candidate does not accurately discuss the educational impact of the learner’s exceptionality and current physical, sensory, and/or medical needs, attitude, interests, values, and behavior and the effect these conditions can on the life of a learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs.	Candidate provides demographic and background information related to the target learner’s physical, sensory, and/or medical needs as well as academic needs and levels of support. Candidate accurately discusses the educational impact of the learner’s exceptionality and current physical, sensory, and/or medical needs, attitude, interests, values, and behavior and the effect these conditions can on the life of a learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs. Candidate discusses the educational impact of the learner’s exceptionality that	Candidate provides demographic and background information related to the target learner’s physical, sensory, and/or medical needs as well as academic needs and levels of support. Candidate accurately discusses the educational impact of the learner’s current physical, sensory, and/or medical needs, attitude, interests, values, and behavior and effect these conditions can on the life of a learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs. Candidate discusses the educational impact of the learner’s exceptionality that explicitly justifies the need

		implicitly justifies the need for the development of goals and planned instruction.	for the development of goals and planned instruction by providing specific examples.
Setting and Materials CEC/IIC Standard 2	Candidate describes the learner’s classroom and school setting, inclusive of the demands of the learning environments, design and management of daily routines, and teacher attitudes/behaviors, but does not discuss how these factors may influence the behavior of the learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs, and the basic behavior management theories and strategies being utilized is limited. Candidate does not list the ancillary services available for the student with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs or the specialized materials utilized, including assistive technology.	Candidate describes the learner’s classroom and school setting, inclusive of the demands of the learning environments, design and management of daily routines, and teacher attitudes/behaviors that may influence the behavior of the learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs, and the basic behavior management theories and strategies being utilized. Candidate describes the ancillary services available for the student with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs, but does not identify the specialized materials utilized, including assistive technology.	Candidate describes the learner’s classroom and school setting, inclusive of the demands of the learning environments, design and management of daily routines, and teacher attitudes/ behaviors that may influence the behavior of the learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs, and the basic behavior management theories and strategies being utilized. Candidate describes the ancillary services available for the learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs and the specialized materials utilized, including assistive technology. Candidate summarizes their perspectives and philosophy regarding effective management of teaching and learning.
Collaborative Teaming CEC/IIC Standard 7	Candidate describes the roles the families and school and community personnel played in the development and implementation of the instructional program, but does not consider the input of the learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs. Candidate fails to specifically address the role of the paraeducator in the data collection and instructional procedures in order to maximize the direct instruction for individuals with severe exceptional learning needs. Candidate describes teaming in a manner that lacks cultural responsiveness and does not promote effective communication and collaboration with families and school/community personnel.	Candidate describes the roles the learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs, families, and school and community personnel played in the development and implementation of the instructional program. Candidate specifically addresses the role of the paraeducator in the data collection and instructional procedures in order to maximize the direct instruction for the learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs. Candidate describes teaming in a manner that demonstrates awareness of culturally responsive factors that promote effective communication and collaboration with families and school/community personnel.	Candidate describes the roles the learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs, families, and school and community personnel played in the development and implementation of the instructional program. Candidate specifically addresses the role of the paraeducator in the data collection and instructional procedures in order to maximize the direct instruction for the learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs. Candidate describes teaming in a manner that demonstrates awareness of culturally responsive factors that promote effective communication and collaboration with learners with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs,

			families, and school/community personnel.
Selection of Target Skills CEC/IIC Standard 3	Candidate fails to consider the general curriculum and does not prioritize the learning needs of students with moderate to severe exceptionalities by not developing an age and ability appropriate instructional goal for at least two target skills and includes related short-term objectives that accommodate the student’s individualized learning needs.	Candidate considers the general curriculum and prioritizes the learning needs of students with moderate to severe exceptionalities by developing an age and ability appropriate instructional goal for at least two target skills and includes related short-term objectives that accommodate the student’s individualized learning needs.	Candidate considers the general curriculum and prioritizes the learning needs of students with moderate to severe exceptionalities by developing an age and ability appropriate instructional goal for at least two target skills, including related short-term objectives that accommodate the student’s individualized learning needs while also integrating communication, social, and life skills with academic curricula.
Selection and Implementation of Instructional Intervention CEC/IIC Standard 5	Candidate fails to select, adapt and describe age and ability appropriate instructional strategies and specialized materials to address the target behavior of the learner with severe exceptional learning needs. Candidate provides a limited description of accommodations and/or modifications, which demonstrates that they have interpreted some sensory, physical and health needs. Candidate’s description of procedures used to increase the learner’s self-reinforcement and describes strategies to facilitate maintenance and generalization of skills across learning environments is limited. Candidate fails to detail which evidence-based practices validated for specific characteristics of learners and settings were used and describes the plan to evaluate and modify instructional practices in response to ongoing assessment data.	Candidate selects, adapts and describes age and ability appropriate instructional strategies and specialized materials to address the target behavior of the learner with severe exceptional learning needs. Candidate provides a thorough description of a variety of accommodations and/or modifications, which demonstrates that they have interpreted sensory, physical and health needs. Candidate describes procedures used to increase the learner’s self-reinforcement and describes strategies to facilitate maintenance and generalization of skills across learning environments. Candidate details which evidence-based practices validated for specific characteristics of learners and settings were used and describes the plan to evaluate and modify instructional practices in response to ongoing assessment data.	Candidate selects, adapts and describes age and ability appropriate instructional strategies and specialized materials to address the target behavior of the learner with severe exceptional learning needs. Candidate provides a thorough description of a variety of accommodations and/or modifications, which demonstrates that they have interpreted sensory, physical and health needs. Candidate describes procedures used to increase the learner’s self-reinforcement and describes strategies to facilitate maintenance and generalization of skills across learning environments. Candidate details which evidence-based practices validated for specific characteristics of learners and settings were used and describes the plan to evaluate and modify instructional practices in response to ongoing assessment data. Candidate describes instructional procedures, which include a plan for individualized reinforcement systems and environmental modifications.
Data Collection CEC/IIC	Candidate develops an assessment plan, which allows for nonbiased informal	Candidate develops an assessment plan, which allows for nonbiased informal	Candidate develops an assessment plan, which allows for nonbiased informal

Standards 3 and 4	assessment of the target skill and accommodates the unique abilities and needs of the student with severe exceptional learning needs is limited. Candidate does not describe the methods of maintaining records or outlines a plan for using baseline ongoing data to modify instructional practices.	assessment of the target skill and accommodates the unique abilities and needs of the learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs. Candidate reflects theories and research that form the basis of curriculum development and instructional practice (3) by developing an assessment plan that includes methods of maintaining learner records and outlines a plan for systematically collecting baseline and ongoing data on learner performance.	assessment of the target skill and accommodates the unique abilities and needs of the learner with moderate to severe exceptional learning needs. Candidate reflects theories and research that form the basis of curriculum development and instructional practice by developing an assessment plan that utilizes a variety of methods of assessing learner performance, outlines a plan for systematically collecting baseline and ongoing data on learner performance, and how data are to be used to modify instructional strategies and materials.
Results CEC /IIC Standard 4	Candidate fails to report assessment and intervention results effectively both in graph and written form, based on the data collected on the target behavior. Candidate fails to report on inter-observer agreement and use basic assessment terminology accurately.	Candidate reports assessment and intervention results effectively both in graph and written form, based on the data collected on the target behavior. Candidate reports on inter-observer agreement and uses basic assessment terminology accurately.	Candidate reports assessment and intervention results effectively both in graph and written form, based on the data collected on the target behavior. Candidate reports on inter-observer agreement and uses specialized terminology used in the assessment of individuals with severe exceptional learning needs accurately.
Discussion CEC/IIC Standards 4	Candidate fails to interpret information and use learner data to evaluate the efficacy of the behavior change program (selection and use of specialized strategies appropriate to the abilities and needs of the individual, effectiveness of plan to improve target behavior across environments, etc.). Candidate fails to use learner data to guide educational decisions and to provide feedback to the learner.	Candidate interprets information and uses learner data to evaluate the efficacy of the behavior change program (selection and use of specialized strategies appropriate to the abilities and needs of the individual, effectiveness of plan to improve target behavior across environments, etc.). Candidate uses learner data to guide educational decisions and to provide feedback to the learner.	Candidate interprets information and uses learner data to evaluate the efficacy of the behavior change program (selection and use of specialized strategies appropriate to the abilities and needs of the individual, effectiveness of plan to improve target behavior across environments, etc.).Candidate uses organized and graphed learner data to guide educational decisions and to provide feedback to the learner.

<p>Discussion CEC/IIC Standards 5</p>	<p>Candidate fails to use learner data to reflect on the student's response to the behavior change process, including the advantages, limitations, variety of techniques used, integration of appropriate adaptations and technology in order to improve instruction and guide professional growth. Candidate fails to integrate findings with current evidence-based practices.</p>	<p>Candidate uses learner data to reflect on the student's response to the behavior change process, including the advantages, limitations, variety of techniques used, integration of appropriate adaptations and technology in order to improve instruction and guide professional growth. Candidate integrates findings with current evidence-based practices.</p>	<p>Candidate uses learner data to reflect on the student's response to the behavior change process, including the advantages, limitations, variety of techniques used, integration of appropriate adaptations and technology and details areas of focus for future behavior change in order to improve instruction and guide professional growth. Candidate integrates findings with current evidence-based practices.</p>
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