**Texarkana College**

**Syllabus:** Introduction to Special Populations
**Course Number:** EDUC 2301-Hybrid
**Semester & Year:**

**Instructor Information**

Name: Melanie Allen

Office: “B” – Social Sciences
Telephone: (903) 823-3364
E-mail: Melanie.allen@texarkanacollege.edu
Office Hours:

**Textbook Information**

Teaching Students Who Are Exceptional, Diverse, and at Risk in the General Education Classroom;; Vaughn, Bos, & Schumm; 7th Edition



**Student Learning Outcomes for the Course**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Describe the characteristics of exceptional learners (e.g. Learning Disabilities, Gifted and Talented), including legal implications.

 2. Describe and analyze characteristics of diverse learners (e.g. language, gender, sexual orientation, race, and ethnicity) and how diversity impacts learning.

3. Describe the impact of socio-economic status on learning and creating equitable classrooms.

4. Demonstrate an understanding of the benefits and challenges of racial, ethnic, and other types of cultural diversity in the classroom

This is a **HYBRID** course; meaning you will be responsible for mastering at least half of the course content independently, outside of class. It is imperative that you keep up with the assigned reading. Please also ensure that you have the proper technology to access Moodle and complete the online assignments each week. I will be communicating with you via your TC email as well as the “announcements” section on Moodle. Please check these daily!

**Student Assessment**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 11 Chapter Quizzes  | 200 points total (Lowest grade dropped) |
| 1 Final Exam | 100 points |
| Online Assignments | 100 points (total) |
| Research Assignment | 200 points |
| Classroom Observation Reflections | 200 points |
| Interview Assignment | 50 points |
| Movie Assignment | 50 points |
| Participation | 100 points |

**Grading Scale:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Grade**  |  |
| **A** | 90-100 |
| **B** | 80-89 |
| **C** | 70-79 |
| **D** | 60-69 |
| **F** | 59-below |

**Classroom Observation Requirement**

1. Students are required to complete 16 hours of classroom observation for this course. A student cannot receive credit for this course without ALL documentation for field based experience.

2. Students are required to establish all contacts with the school district of choice and make all subsequent arrangements regarding their field experience. Note: Most campuses will require a background check.

3. Students are required to observe in at least TWO different classrooms for a total of 16 hours. The focus should be on students with and IEP plan in place to observe accommodations/modifications to the curriculum.

4. If observation requirements are not met, it will result in automatic failure of the course.

**THERE WILL BE NO INCOMPLETES ISSUED DUE TO FAILRE TO COMPLETE THESE HOURS.**

**Participation**

Each student in this course begins their Participation Grade with a 100%. This ongoing grade depends on classroom etiquette/behavior. Students in this course are expected to act in a respectful manner AT ALL TIMES! For each disrespectful occurrence – deemed so by the Professor – a minus 20 points will be deducted. Such occurrences might include, but are not limited to, arriving tardy, leaving early, texting during class, talking excessively, completing other assignments during class, sleeping, etc. Students are expected to address one another and their Professor respectfully. Inappropriate or foul language will NOT be tolerated. This is grounds for removal from the course.

**Absentee Policy**

Texarkana College’s absentee policy allows instructors to withdraw a student from a course due to excessive absences. If a student leaves and returns during class or leaves the class before the class is over, he/she **may** be considered absent. Three tardies constitute one absence. It is the student’s responsibility to check the syllabus for each instructor’s tardy policy.

Faculty members **are not** obligated to provide opportunities for students to make-up missed assignments and tests as a result of a student’s absence from class. A student should not stop attending a class without formally withdrawing from the course by the institutions published Last Day for Students to Drop. If a student stops attending class after the published Last Day for Students to Drop, the student **may** receive a grade of “F” in the class. The instructor will submit the last date of attendance for students receiving a grade of “F” or “W”.

Withdrawal from a course(s) **may** affect a student’s current or future financial aid eligibility. Students should consult the Financial Aid Office to learn both short and long term consequences of a withdrawal.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES**A student’s absence due to school trips and/or school business will not be counted against a student’s allowable number of absences. Military duty and absences for Holy Days (FBD LEGAL) are covered in a separate section of the catalog and the student handbook. These are the only excused absences that are considered by Texarkana College. Responsibility for work missed for any absence is placed on the student. Instructors are required to allow students to make up work missed if the absence is due to military duty\* or religious holy days when students follow the correct notification procedures. Instructors are not required to allow students to make up work for absences due to other reasons. Make-up policies are listed in each individual instructor’s syllabus.

**MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE ABSENCES**

Students in a hybrid course that meets once a week are allowed 2 total absences. Students in this EDUC 2301 course will be allowed TWO TOTAL ABSENCES before being dropped. The professor is NOT required to contact or warn the student before he/she is dropped. Although a student does not owe the Professor an explanation for missing class, if the total number of allowed absences is exceeded it is recommended that the student KEEP IN CONTACT with the Professor and assess the situation together.

**Make-up Policy**

Make-up work is allowed but students are encouraged to turn things in on time to ensure a better grade. For every class day that a student is present but their assignment is not, there will be a minus 10 points deducted.

**Academic Dishonesty Policy**

Scholastic dishonesty, involving but not limited to cheating on a test, plagiarism, col­lusion, or falsification of records will make the student liable for disciplinary action after being investigated by the Dean of Students. Proven violations of this nature will result in the student being dropped from the class with an “F”.

This policy applies campus wide, including TC Testing Center, as well as off-campus classroom or lab sites, including dual credit campuses. This information can be found in the Student Handbook at <https://texarkanacollege.edu/PDFFiles/CurrentStudents/studenthandbook.pdf.>

A student in this Education Course is NOT ALLOWED to use ANY PART of past assignments turned in. This includes assignments from CDEC/TECA courses and especially if this course is being repeated. An attempt to do so will result in NO CREDIT for that assignment with NO opportunity to redo the assignment.

**Disability Act Statement:**

Texarkana College complies with all provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and makes reasonable accommodations upon request. Please contact Tonja Blase at (903) 823-3349 for additional information.

If you have an accommodation letter from their office indicating that you have a disability which requires academic accommodations, please present it to me so we can discuss the accommodations that you might need for this class. *It is best to request these changes at the beginning if not before the start of class* so there is ample time to make the accommodations..

Basic Needs Security Statement

Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing enough food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live and believes this may affect their performance in this course or ability to remain in school, is urged to contact Tonja Blase, Director of Student Retention, at 903.823.3349 for support.  Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so.

**Financial Aid:**

**Attention!** Dropping this class may affect your funding in a negative way! You could owe money to the college and/or federal government. Please check with the Financial Aid office before making a decision.

**Computer Requirement Policy:**

Students are required to have a computer with Internet access for classes. The computer must be an actual computer – smart phones, iPads, Androids, Chromebooks, etc., are not acceptable substitutes because they lack software compatibility necessary to complete all assignments and tests. Financial costs for the necessary equipment and internet access are the responsibility of the student.

Students needing to purchase a computer may do so through the Texarkana College Bookstore. Systems purchased through the bookstore meet or exceed all requirements, are competitively priced, and may be purchased using financial aid funds. If the system is purchased through another source, it is the student’s responsibility to ensure the system meets all requirements.

Computer systems requirements:

* Webcam, microphone, and speakers or headphones
* Windows 10 or a recent version of Mac OS (minimum Sierra). Windows 10 S mode is not supported
* Hardware capable of running Microsoft Teams (free download) and supports multi-media playback
* Support for Chrome or Microsoft Edge – Note: Firefox, Safari, or other browsers may not work on all TC applications
* Able to run Microsoft Office which will be provided free to TC students
* Adobe Reader or another PDF viewer
* Antivirus software such as Windows Defender or another 3rd party anti-virus solution
* The Respondus Lockdown browser is used for taking tests; therefore, the system must be capable of running this software. Most newer systems that meet other specifications should work.

Students should regularly backup content to prevent loss of coursework due to hardware failure. Backup copies of documents and other coursework may be placed on OneDrive cloud storage. OneDrive is included free of charge for all TC students.

A list of Internet service providers can be found on the TC website at: <https://www.texarkanacollege.edu/coronavirus/>.