

EDUC 101 – Introduction to Paraeducation

Dakota College Bottineau

1 Semester Credit

Instructor: Ms. Jackie Migler, MS

Phone: 701-228-54672

Email: jacalyn.migler@dakotacollege.edu

There will be no text required for the class. The class will follow the modules set up by the Department of Public Instruction, North Dakota. Additional information will be used from a variety of sources including paraelink.org. A variety of videos and internet links will be used as well.

Course Description: This course will provide the student an overview of the field of paraeducation. Topics include roles and responsibilities of a paraeducator, professional and ethical conduct, federal and state educational policies, creating a positive and safe learning environment, understanding the diverse needs of students, interacting with families and working collaboratively as part of a team.

Prerequisites: None

Course Goals:

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

- Understand the characteristics of students with various disabilities
- Discuss the role of IDEA in the education of students with disabilities
- Define the roles and responsibilities of a paraeducator
- Identify interventions to strengthen behavior
- Develop an effective communication strategy with families and school personnel
- Identify principles of effective instruction

Course Requirements:

Grading is based on a standard college curve, where students earn a grade based upon the percent of total points possible. Students will earn points for questions answered about the unit readings, reflection on videos watched, and participation in discussion forums. Final letter grades are based on the following criteria:

A - 89.5 - 100% of the total points

B - 79.5 - <89.5% of the total points

C - 69.5 - <79.5% of the total points

D - 59.5 - <69.5% of the total points

F - <59.5% of the total points

Tentative Course Outline (Subject to Change):

<u>WEEK:</u>	<u>Discussion Topic and Activities:</u>	<u>Assignment/Readings:</u>
Week 1	Who is a paraeducator? What are their roles and responsibilities? What's a job description? Confidentiality?	Powerpoint: Introduction to Para Training Assignments: Confidentiality discussion, student records, job description
Week 2	Background information on special education including a brief history, IDEA, 504, ADA, ESSA; Least restrictive environment, FAPE, inclusion and IEP (individualized education plan), parental rights	Powerpoint: State and Federal Educational Guidelines, more information on IEPs Assignment: Quiz
Week 3	Piaget and Erickson's model of stages of development in children	Powerpoint: Child Development Stages Assignment: Human development and students
Week 4	Mandated reporter training and Inclusion	Complete the Mandated Reporter Training, Read the powerpoint on inclusion, watch the Educating Peter video Assignment: Reflection on inclusion and on the Educating Peter video
Week 5	Examining each of the 13 disability categories, characteristics and instructional implications for each category	Powerpoint: 13 Disability categories Assignment: Disability summary
Week 6	Task analysis, prompting and fading support, modifying and accommodating instructional materials for students Read article on Helping or Hovering	Powerpoint: Instructional Strategies Assignment: Reflection on Helping or Hovering
Week 7	Principles on Strengthening Behavior and Effective Limit Setting	Powerpoints on Behavior and Setting Limits Assignment: Strategy discussion
Week 8	Functional behavior assessment, positive behavior intervention plans, collecting data	Powerpoints: Collecting Data and FBA Assignment: Final reflections

Course Assignments and Assessments:

There are weekly readings and power points, videos to view with discussion questions, periodic progress checks, and discussion forums to participate in as presented in Moodle.

Week 1	Get to know you	10 points
Week 2	Confidentiality discussion	20 points
Week 2	Student records	20 points
Week 2	Job description	20 points
Week 2	Quiz	40 points
Week 3	Developmental strategies	20 points
Week 4	Mandated reporter certificate	40 points
Week 4	Reflection on Peter	20 points
Week 4	Reflection on inclusion	10 points
Week 5	Disability	30 points
Week 6	Helping or Hovering discussion	20 points
Week 7	Behavior strategies	20 points
Week 8	Final reflections	30 points
Total		300 points

Relationship to Campus Theme:

The purpose of the Education and Human Development Discipline is to educate students for careers as paraeducators, teachers, early childhood professionals, and adult caregivers. The discipline provides coursework which transitions to higher education degrees and work-related skills. Programs must prepare professionals based on industry standards and provide an educational continuum for degree advancement. Dakota College at Bottineau is committed to a hands-on learning environment and uses field experiences in educational settings as common instruction techniques.

Academic Integrity:

The academic community is based on honesty, integrity, and fair play. It is expected that all students, as members of the college community, adhere to the highest levels of academic integrity. Dishonesty in the classroom and with assignments, quizzes, and exams is a serious offense and is subject to disciplinary action by the instructor and college administration. For more information, refer to the Student Handbook.

- Students are responsible for submitting their own work. Violations of academic principles such as cheating, plagiarism, and other academic improprieties will be handled according to the guidelines outlined in the Student Handbook.
- Students must not cooperate on oral or written exams or quizzes or work collaboratively on other assignments unless authorized by the instructor.
- Completion of assigned readings is imperative to your professional development.

Confidentiality:

The experiences or problems shared by classmates during class time or on discussion forums should not be discussed outside of class. This is part of the professional code of ethics.

Quality of Work:

At the college level, it is expected that all work be submitted free of spelling, grammar, and punctuation errors. Discussion and information should be done with forethought and utilize the knowledge and concepts presented in the course.

Help Desk:

For help with Blackboard: 1-888-918-5623, 701-228-5623 or email:

whitley.wyciskalla@dakotacollege.edu

Disabilities and Special Needs:

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact your instructor and/or the Disability Support Center (that's me!!) to request disability support services as early as possible in the beginning of the course.