



EDUC 101 – Introduction to Paraeducation

1 Credit

Course Description: This course will provide the students 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, managing behavior, collecting data on student progress, and working collaboratively as part of a team.

Pre-/Co-requisites: None

Course Objectives:

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 the principles of effective instruction
- Understand the principles of inclusive education

Instructor: Jacalyn Migler, MS

Office: Library 101A

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday: 8-11, by appointment, BB Collaborate

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Lecture/Lab Schedule: Online

Textbook(s): The required text is “The Paraprofessional’s Handbook for Effective Support in Inclusive Classrooms by Julie Causton and Kate MacLeod. (2021). There will also be articles to read and various videos to view.

Course Requirements:

Grading will be based on standard college curve, where student earn a grade based upon the percent of total points possible. Students will earn points for questions answered about unit reading, reflections 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>Assignments/readings:</u>
1	What does it mean to be a paraprofessional? What is inclusive education? What does special education include?	-Introduction of self in discussion board -Read Chapter 1 in Text “The Paraprofessional” -Powerpoint: Introduction to Para Training -Discussion board: Student records and confidentiality
2	Background information on special education including a brief history, IDEA, 504, ADA, ESSA, least restrictive environment, free appropriate public education, inclusion and IEP (individualized education plan), parental rights	-Powerpoint: State and federal educational guidelines -Read information about IEP -Read and comment on procedural safeguards -Discussion board: confidentiality
3	Piaget’s and Erickson’s models of stages of development in children Examining diversity	-Powerpoint: Child Development Stages, overview of disability categories, cultural diversity -Read summaries of Piaget’s Four Levels and Erickson’s Theory of Child Development, there is an assignment on the discussion board for this reading
4	Inclusion	-Powerpoint on Inclusion -Discussion board: Inclusion -Watch the video, Educating Peter -Complete the Discussion board on this video
5	Examining each of the 13 disability categories, characteristics, and instructional implication for each category	-Powerpoint: Disabilities -Read the disability information sheets
6	Task analysis, prompting and fading support, modifying and accommodating instructional materials for students	-Powerpoint: Instructional Strategies -Read the article “Helping Vs. Hovering” -Complete the discussion board questions on article
7	Principles of behavior management	-Powerpoint: Behavior Management

		Powerpoint: Effective Limit Setting -Discussion board: Answer questions on strategies Powerpoint: Intervening with behavior and collecting data
8	Functional behavior assessment, positive behavior intervention plans, setting limits, collecting data Mandated reporter training	-Powerpoint on Functional behavior assessment -Powerpoint on Data collection and data collection forms -Powerpoint and web site: mandated reporter training

Midterm and final exams

General Education Competency/Learning Outcome(s) OR CTE Competency/Department Learning Outcome(s): Employs industry-specific skills in preparation for workplace readiness/Demonstrate effective oral and written communication

Relationship to Campus Focus:

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.

Classroom Policies:

- Regular participation is expected in order to finish all requirements of the class
- Learning activities will require internet connectivity

Student Email Policy:

Dakota College at Bottineau is increasingly dependent upon email as an official form of communication. A student’s campus-assigned email address will be the only one recognized by the Campus for official mailings. The liability for missing or not acting upon important information conveyed via campus email rests with the student.

Academic Integrity:

According to the DCB Student Handbook, students are responsible for submitting their own work. Students who cooperate on oral or written examinations or work without authorization share the responsibility for violation of academic principles, and the students are subject to disciplinary action even when one of the students is not enrolled in the course where the violation occurred. The Code detailed in the Academic Honesty/Dishonesty section of the Student Handbook will serve as the guideline for cases where cheating, plagiarism or other academic improprieties have occurred.

- Students are responsible for submitting their own work.
- If there is evidence of a student cheating, they will receive an F on the assignment.

Disabilities or Special Needs:

Students with disabilities or special needs (academic or otherwise) are encouraged to contact the instructor and Disability Support Services at 701-228-5672.

Title IX:

Dakota College at Bottineau (DCB) faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students and for the College as a whole. Please be aware that all DCB employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as advocates, counselors, clergy and healthcare providers) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the College Title IX Coordinator. This means that if a student tells a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the College's Title IX Coordinator. Students wishing to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility can find a list of resources on the DCB Title IX webpage.