EDX 6813 Introduction to Assessment in Special Education

Credit Hours: Three (3) credit hours

Method of Instruction: Online, Internet or Web-based

Catalog Description: Online, Internet or Web-based instruction. Assessment as it relates specifically to working with special education students. Topics to be covered will include Special Education Law, IEP development, and related topics. The class is offered online.

College of Education Conceptual Framework

The faculty in the College of Education at Mississippi State University are committed to assuring the success of students and graduates by providing learning opportunities that are continually improved as society, schools, and technology change. The organizing theme for the conceptual framework for the College of Education at Mississippi State University is educational professionals - dedicated to continual improvement of all students’ educational experiences. The beliefs that guide program development center on the tenets of knowledge, collaboration, reflection, and practice. For additional information, please visit https://www.educ.msstate.edu/about/framework/

Course Objectives

1. Demonstrate knowledge of laws and legal issues related to the practice of special education. (CFPO 1, 3, 6; INTASC 4, 9; CEC 2, 6, 7)
2. Demonstrate knowledge of types of assessments and testing considerations used in the evaluation process for special education. (CFPO 3, 6, 14; INTASC 4, 6; CAEP 1; CRT 13; CEC 4)
3. Demonstrate knowledge of basic statistical concepts, reliability, and validity. (CFPO 3, 4, 13; INTASC 4; CAEP 1.2, 1.5; CEC 4)
4. Demonstrate the ability to interpret common standardized assessments that are used in the evaluation process for special education (i.e., measurements of intelligence, achievement, and adaptive behavior. (CFPO 3, 4, 13; INTASC 5, 6; CAEP 1.2, 1.5; CEC 4)
5. Demonstrate knowledge of Response to Intervention. (CFPO 3, 4, 13; INTASC 4; CRT 8.1; CEC 3)
6. Demonstrate knowledge of the special education referral process. (CFPO 3, 4; INTASC 4, 5; CEC 1)
7. Demonstrate knowledge of the process of developing and individualized education plan (IEP) and write appropriate IEP goals. (CFPO 3, 4; INTASC 4, 5, 7, 8; CAEP 1.1; CRT 7.1; CEC 1-7)
8. Demonstrate knowledge of how to write behavior goals for an IEP. (CFPO 3, 4; INTASC 4, 5, 7, 8; CAEP 1.3; CRT 7.1; CEC 1-7)

9. Demonstrate knowledge of how to use graphs to monitor progress as part of the special education evaluation and monitoring process for students with IEPs. (CFPO 3, 4; INTASC 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; CAEP 1.2; CEC 4)

10. Demonstrate the ability to assess reading and develop interventions for struggling learners. (CFPO 3, 4; INTASC 4, 5, 6, 7, 11.1, 12.1; CEC 1-7)

11. Demonstrate the ability to assess math and develop interventions for struggling learners. (CFPO, 3, 4; INTASC 4, 5, 6, 7; CAEP 1.3, 1.4; CRT 9.1, 11.1, 12.1; CEC 1-7)

12. Demonstrates knowledge of the issues related to high stakes testing. (CFPO, 3, 4; INTASC 4, 6, 9, CRT 13.1)

**Detailed Course Outline/Topics Covered in the Course**

1. Special Education Laws and Legal Issues – (4 contact hours)
   a. Major Special Education Laws and Litigation
   b. Assessment Specific Topics

2. Types of Assessments and Testing Considerations – (3 contact hours)
   a. Intelligence Tests
   b. Achievement Tests
   c. Tests of Adaptive Behavior
   d. Tests of Behavior and Personality
   e. Methods of Assessment
   f. Testing Considerations

3. Basic Assessment Concepts – (3 contact hours)
   a. Reliability and Validity
   b. Scoring Terminology

4. Interpretation of Standardized Assessments – Norm Referenced – (3 contact hours)
   a. Common Standardized Assessments
      1) Intelligence Tests
      2) Achievement Tests
      3) Adaptive Measures

5. Response to Intervention – (3 contact hours)
   a. History of RTI
   b. RTI in Mississippi
   c. Tiers
   d. Special Education Referral Process
   e. Child Find
   f. Assessment Process

6. Individualized Education Plans – (4 contact hours)
   a. Stakeholders
   b. Meetings

7. Writing Individualized Education Plan Goals – (4 contact hours)

8. Creating Behavioral Goals and Writing Behavioral Objectives – (3 contact hours)

9. Progress Monitoring and Graphing – (3 contact hours)

10. Assessing Reading – (3 contact hours)
   a. Curriculum Based Measurement
      1) Basic Reading
      2) Reading Comprehension
      3) Reading Fluency

Changing Tomorrow Through Education Today
b. Universal Screeners  
c. Achievement Tests  
d. Functional Reading Assessment  

11. Assessing Mathematics – (3 contact hours)  
a. Curriculum Based Measurement  
   1) Math Reasoning  
   2) Math Computation  
b. Universal Screeners  
c. Achievement Tests  
d. Functional Math Assessment  

12. Assessing Early Childhood – (3 contact hours)  

13. Assessing Other Areas – (3 contact hours)  
a. Speech and Language  
b. Hearing  
c. Physical and Occupational Therapy  
d. Multicultural Assessment  

14. High Stakes Testing – (3 contact hours)  
a. Allowable Accommodations and Modifications  

Text/Course Materials  

Description of Instruction  
This is a distance education class that is delivered online. Content material will be provided with activities and prompts for discussions of various topics to be covered. Students will participate in discussion of topics. Students will engage in online activities.  

Mississippi State University Honor Code  
“As a Mississippi State University student, I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do.”  

Upon accepting admission to Mississippi State University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor Code. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be dealt with according to MSU policy. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the MSU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor Code.  

For additional information visit: http://students.msstate.edu/honorcode.  

Technology  
This course is an online course and will be delivered using the Canvas platform. Students in the course will use a variety of online tools such as videos, email, discussion boards to access the content and to demonstrate their learning in the course.  

Diversity  
This course focuses on assessment of students with special needs and implications for the classroom. As such, the course focuses on understanding and teaching diverse students throughout the semester.  

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Accommodations for Students with Disability
Students with disabilities in need of accommodations to meet the expectations of this course are encouraged to bring this need to the attention of the instructor and should register with the Office of Student Support Services as soon as possible. The Office of Student & Disability Support Services is located in 01 Montgomery Hall and can be reached via telephone at (662) 325-3335. http://www.sss.msstate.edu.

Field Component
This course does not have a field component. This course provides prerequisite knowledge that Mater of Arts in Teaching Special Education (MATX) students will need during their teaching internship later in the program. The class is one of the three courses that are required for the alternate route 3 year non-renewable license.

Evaluation of Student Progress

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment/Activity</th>
<th>Points/Percentage of Final Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Quizzes (13)</strong> - Quizzes will be due each Friday and they are based on the content area readings.</td>
<td>130/26%</td>
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<td><strong>Responses to Assigned Reading (13)</strong> – Students will read the assigned documents and respond with a reflection of the reading.</td>
<td>39/8%</td>
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<td><strong>Discussion Questions (13)</strong> - A topic is provided for discussion with your peers. Discussions should be a sound paragraph response. Response to your peers must be thought out.</td>
<td>26/6%</td>
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<td><strong>Midterm</strong> - 50 question multiple choice test</td>
<td>100/20%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Final</strong> - 50 question multiple choice tests</td>
<td>100/20%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Research Paper</strong> - Topic must be submitted and approved before you begin researching. Topics can range from any topic discussed within the text or that you are interested in that is related to assessment. The paper will be written in APA format, double spaced, 12 pt. font, with a length of 8-10 pages. Required components of research paper are listed in the rubric.</td>
<td>100/20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Grading Scale
A = 445 - 495 points
B = 394 - 444 points
C = 344 - 393 points
D = 294 - 343 points
F = 293 and below

Attendance Policy
Submission of assignments in compliance with due dates will account for this course’s attendance.
**Title IX Policy**
MSU is committed to complying with the Title IX, a federal policy that prohibits discrimination, including violence and harassment, based on sex. This means that MSU’s educational programs and activities must be free from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and other forms of sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know has experienced sex discrimination, sexual violence, and/or harassment by any member of the University community, you are encouraged to report the conduct to MSU’s Director of Title IX IEEO Programs at 325-8124 or by email to titleix@msstate.edu. Additional resources are available at [http://www.msstaet.edu/web/security/title9-12.pdf](http://www.msstaet.edu/web/security/title9-12.pdf) or at [http://students.msstate.edu/sexualmisconduct/](http://students.msstate.edu/sexualmisconduct/).

**University Safety Statement**
Mississippi State University values the safety of all campus community members. Students are encouraged to register for Maroon Alert texts and to download the Everbridge App. Visit the Personal Information section in Banner on your mystate portal to register. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort via Safe Walk, call University Police at 662-325-2121, or in case of emergency, call 911. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit ready.msstate.edu.

**Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics**
This code shall apply to all persons licensed according to the rules established by the Mississippi State Board of Education and protects the health, safety and general welfare of students and educators. Ethical conduct is any conduct which promotes the health, safety, welfare, discipline and morals of students and colleagues. Unethical conduct is any conduct that impairs the license holder’s ability to function in his/her employment position or a pattern of behavior that is detrimental to the health, safety, welfare, discipline, or morals of students and colleagues. Any educator or administrator license may be revoked or suspended for engaging in unethical conduct relating to an educator/student relationship (Standard 4). Additional information on the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics 10 standards is available at [https://www.mdek12.org/sites/default/files/documents/code-of-ethics_final.pdf](https://www.mdek12.org/sites/default/files/documents/code-of-ethics_final.pdf)

Teacher candidates are initially introduced to the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics in the orientation module which is required during the semester the intern is admitted to the Master of Arts in Teaching Special Education program. As a part of orientation module, candidates are required to complete an assessment to demonstrate their understanding of the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics. In addition, candidates complete a self-assessment using the Common Statewide Dispositions Instrument which is linked to the Mississippi Code of Ethics. Additional self-assessments are completed during Special Education Internship I and II.

**Mississippi College and Career-Ready Standards**
Content standards outline the skills and knowledge expected of students from grade to grade and subject to subject. In addition to the Mississippi College and Career-Readiness Standards, the Mississippi Department of Education has developed a wide variety of training materials for educators and administrators across the state.

This course provides candidates with a deep understanding of the critical concepts, principles, and practices of their field.

**Bibliography**


