

EDUC 101 – Introduction to Paraeducation

Dakota College Bottineau

1 Semester Credit

Instructor: Ms. Jackie Migler, MS

Phone: 701-228-5466

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. 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?	Powerpoint: Introduction to Para Training
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
Week 3	Piaget and Erickson's model of stages of development in children Examining diversity	Powerpoint: Child Development Stages, Overview of Disability categories, cultural diversity
Week 4	Examining each of the 13 disability categories, characteristics and instructional implications for each category	Powerpoint: 13 Disability categories
Week 5	Task analysis, prompting and fading support, modifying and accommodating instructional materials for students	Powerpoint: Instructional Strategies
Week 6	Principles of behavior management	Powerpoint: Behavior Management
Week 7	Functional behavior assessment, positive behavior intervention plans, setting limits, collecting data	Powerpoint: Intervening with Behavior and Collecting Data
Week 8	Mandated reporter training	Powerpoint: Mandated reporter training

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.

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 Moodle: 1-888-918-5623, 701-228-5623 or email:

connie.allison@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 Learning Center to request disability support services as early as possible in the beginning of the course.

