**SNE 401 HUMAN EXCEPTIONALITIES**

**Course Description**

This course is designed to give general educators, special educators and other caregivers an overview of children with exceptionalities. The main emphasis of this course is to provide an introduction to the broad span of children with exceptionalities. This course will benefit general educators to deal with exceptionalities in their classrooms. The overview of this group of children includes those children at risk, those with communication disorders, children with intellectual differences, children with the learning disabilities, those who are gifted, creative, and talented, children with sensory impairments, and children with behavioral problems. Additional areas discussed include children with special health needs, areas of low incidence disabilities, and interventions with infants, preschooler, adolescents and young adults.

**Course Objectives**

The participants will be able to:

1. Identify human exceptionalities in the classroom
2. Identify Characteristics of individuals with exceptionalities.
3. Review issues and trends in teaching of students with exceptionalities
4. Describe identification and assessment procedures regarding different exceptionalities
5. Discuss the family and lifespan issues of children with exceptionalities
6. Discuss the importance of early intervention programs

**Course Contents**

* + **Introduction and Overview**
  + The Exceptional Child
  + Education of exceptionalities
  + Who receives special education?
  + Prevalence of exceptionalities
  + Where are they?
  + Laws for students with exceptionalities
  + The pros and cons of labeling
  + Issues and trends in education of human exceptionalities
  + **Children with Mild Differences in Behavior and Learning**

**2. Children with Specific Learning Disabilities**

* A Historical Overview
* Classification of Learning Disabilities
* Identification and Assessment
* Family and Lifespan Issues
* Psychological characteristics of children with LDs

**3. Children with Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities**

* Definition
* Identification
* Family and Lifespan Issues
* Psychological characteristics of children with MR

**4. Children with Emotional and Behavior Disorders**

* History
* Definition
* Identification and Placement
* Intervention Strategies
* Psychological characteristics of children with EBD

**5.** **Children with communication disorders**

* + Definition
  + Identification
  + Intervention Strategies
  + Educational & Psychological Characteristics of children with communication disorders

**6. Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorders**

* Definition
* Identification
* Intervention Strategies
* Educational & Psychological Characteristics of children with ADHD

**7. Children Who Are Gifted, Creative, and Talented**

* + Definition
  + Identification
  + Intervention Strategies
  + Educational & Psychological Characteristics of children with Gifted Children
  + **Children with Sensory Impairments**

**8. Children Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

* Prevalence of Hearing Loss
* The School's Role in Identification
* Family and Lifespan Issues
* Psychological & educational characteristics of children with Hearing Impairment

**9. Children with Visual Impairments**

* Prevalence of visual impairment
* Identification and Assessment
* Ecology of the Child
* Family and Lifespan Issues
* Psychological & educational characteristics of children with Visual Impairment

**10. Children with Low Incidence Disabilities**

* Children with Special Health Care Needs
* Children with Severe and Multiple Disabilities
* Psychological & educational characteristics of children with Low incidence disabilities

**11. Children with Cultural and Linguistic Diversity**

**IV. Education and life planning**

* Individualized family service plan
* Individualized education plan
* Individualized transition plan

**Suggested Readings**

Friend, M. (2006). *Special Education. Contemporary perspectives for school professionals.* Boston: Pearson Education, Inc

Andrews, J & Lupart, J. (2000). *The inclusive classroom: Educating exceptional children*. Canada: Nelson Thomson Learning

Hallahan, D. P. & Kaufman, J. M. (1994). *Exceptional children*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Kar, C. (1992). Exceptional children: Their psychology and education. Orissa: Sterling Publisher