**SNE 403 INTRODUCTION TO SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**Course Description**

The course is designed to familiarize the students with philosophical, historical and legal foundations of special education. The focus of this course is to give an understanding of laws and regulations concerned with people with disabilities. It also includes current practices and trends and issues in the field of special education.

**Course objectives:**

At the end of the course the students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the basic understanding of the history of special education and underlying issues affecting policy, community values, and trends in providing special education programs
2. Examine the rights and responsibilities of students, parents, teachers, and other professionals, and schools related to exceptional learning needs.
3. Explain components of comprehensive, longitudinal individualized educational programs that include the identification of supports needed for integration into various program placements.
4. Describe various prevention and intervention strategies for individuals at-risk of a disability.
5. Relate levels of support to the needs of the individual.

**Course Content**

1. **Components of special education**

* Definition of special education
* Types of disability/disorders
* The aims and methods of special education
* Provision
* Distinctive
* Service delivery in special education

1. **Special Education System**

* Screening
* Identification
* Assessment
* Placement
* Educational planning
* Referral
* Resource sharing
* Transitional planning
* Parent education

1. **Issues in special education**

* Integration/segregation
* Early identification and intervention
* Transition from school to work
* Special education services
* Funding
* Professional development
* Labeling and classification
* Assessment and Placement

1. **Foundations of special education**
2. **Legal**

Social, political and economic contexts of legal structure

Special education law in the United States

Special education law in England

1. **Terminological**

Terminology in relation to special education

The scope of terminology

Example: Needs

Example: discrimination

Example: Rights

1. **Social**

Individual perspectives and attempts to move away from them

Social perspectives

A social perspective and special education

Some consideration relating to social perspectives of disability/disorder

The scope of a social perspective

1. **Medical**

Medicine and children with disorders/disabilities

Medicine in relation to special education

The scope of medical perspectives in special education

Application of medical perspective

1. **Neuropsychological**

Neuroanatomical measures

Neural imaging techniques

Assessment in neuropsychology

Relationships between neuropsychology and special education

The scope of neuropsychology

1. **Psychotherapeutic**

Psychotherapy and special education

Three approaches: systems, psychodynamic, cognitive-behavioral

1. **Behavioral**

Behavioral approaches

Observational learning and modeling

Relationship between learning theory and observational learning to special education

The scope of application of learning theory and observational learning

1. **Developmental**

Child development and developmental milestones

Cognitive development theory: Piaget’s theory

The scope of child development and Piaget’s theory

1. **Psycholinguistic**

Aspects, definitions and research methods of psycholinguistic

Relationship between psycholinguistic and special education

The scope of psycholinguistic approach

1. **Technological**

Technology and its effective use

Ways of considering technology

Relationships between technology and special education

The range of application of technology

1. **Pedagogical**

The nature of pedagogy

Pedagogy in special education

The scope of pedagogy in special education

1. **Serviced Delivery Model**

* Individualized Family Support Programme (IFSP)
* Individualized Education Programme (IEP)
* Individualized Transition Plan (ITP)
* Community Based Rehabilitation
* A Continum of Services

**Recommended Books**

* Farrell, M. (2009). *Foundations of special education: An introduction.* John Wiley & Sons Limited.
* Friend, M. & Bursuck, W. (2006). *Including students with special needs: A practical guide for classroom teachers* (4th Ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.
* Hallahan, D.P. (2006). *Exceptional learners: Introduction to special education.* Pearson Education, Inc.
* Hallahan, D. & Kauffman, J. (2005). *Exceptional Learners: Introduction to special education.*  (10th Ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon, Inc.