# ADED 7656 – Spring 2018

**Teaching the Disadvantaged Adult Tentative Syllabus**

Dr. Leslie A. Cordie

Auburn University - College of Education Educational Foundations, Leadership, and Technology Department

# Course Number: ADED 7656

Course Title: Teaching the Disadvantaged Adult Credit Hours: 3 semester hours

Class Time: Online ONLY

# Professor: Dr. Leslie Cordie

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Office Hours: Tuesdays – 1 to 5 PM; Anytime with an appt.

# Texts: Recommended ONLY

* 1. Crux, S. C. (1991). *Learning strategies for adults: Compensation for learning disabilities.* Toronto: Wall & Emerson, Inc.
  2. Falvo, D. (2017). *Medical And psychosocial aspects of chronic illness and disability (6th ed.).* Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett Publishers.

Online materials and resources will be posted in the course in Canvas. Please make sure to have Adobe Reader software on your computer, as most files will be in pdf format to download. There is a free download at the Adobe web site at: <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>

# Course Description:

This course is designed to define, survey and analyze the demographics of those who are targeted by various programs as the "disadvantaged" and to explore the unique sociological, psychological, and physiological factors which influence learning and participation in remedial adult education programs. The course would be advantageous for teachers of adult basic education and those in employee education, community agencies, or other educational roles which serve the ‘disadvantaged adult.’

# Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the demographics pertaining to the economically and educationally disadvantaged adult learner in the U.S.
2. Compare and contrast factors, such as sociological, psychological, and physiological factors, that characterize the disadvantaged population.
3. Cite theorists; compare the varied and often conflicting explanations of the condition of disadvantaged adult in learning situations.
4. Analyze selected aspects of disadvantaged adult exploitation.
5. Identify programs and resources to assist the disadvantaged adult learner.
6. Describe the development of the concept of "literacy" in the United States; identify the factors that contribute to being ‘disadvantaged’
7. Interpret and evaluate various adult learning theories applied to the learning situations of the disadvantaged.
8. Assess appropriate teaching behavior for teaching and learning with the disadvantaged adult.

# Course Philosophy:

This online course is interactive and requires scheduled participation and assignments. **This is NOT a self-paced course. You are required to participate regularly during a scheduled, weekly basis. Regular class logins are noted in Canvas, using the course analytics.**

A variety of teaching techniques and strategies are employed in the instruction of this course. The principal methods to be utilized include, but may not be limited to lectures, video, visual aids, developmental experiences, and group discussion. This is a professional education course in adult education and learning.

All participants are considered adults and are expected to not only study but also practice **andragogy by taking responsibility for their learning**. Thus, the participant is expected to contribute to the class setting by participating and to be collaborative and supportive of all members of the learning setting. Adult education is not a place for passive learning but a place to explore, take risks and grow. Ignorance is not vested in the participants while knowledge is vested in the instructor - both are learners and have contributions to make to each other. Both are responsible for their own learning.

The entire course is intended to be completed through distance education delivery methods. In general, lectures are asynchronously delivered and are available through online videos or other media for the online course.

Additional course materials are made available through the university’s learning management system (LMS). Interactivity is possible through the LMS, which allows for online discussions, web conferencing and chats with the instructor, along with testing and submission of assignments. **A student taking the online version of the course will need a reliable computer and will need to**

# decide if online learning is a good option for them (if you have a question, please contact me the first week of class). In general, this means you are familiar with how to use learning technologies. Therefore, the following are critical to success in the course:

* **High Speed Internet –** make sure that you have reliable access to high speed or broadband internet; WiFi is acceptable if it is reliable and is a secure network; if your employer has regulations (for instance on a military base), please make sure you plan for access
* **Desktop or Laptop Computer – this course and other online courses have been designed for access to materials on a deskptop or laptop;** tablets or other mobile devices may not guarantee adequate access; please be advised that no accommodations will be made for access problems if you are using a mobile device**; options for acquiring a computer should be made before the course starts**
* **Updated Browsers –** have more than one browser available on your computer; in general, Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox and Internet Explorer are recommended. If you have an Apple product, Safari is the main browser, but you should also be able to download one or more of the recommended browsers; browsers and security software need to be updated regularly
* **Technical Proficiency** – make sure you are self-directed and ready to take a distance learning course; a self-assessment by DANTES is available at <https://dlrsa.dodmou.com/>; additionally, there are resources on how to use Canvas posted in the course
* **Weekly Time Commitment** – this is a 3 credit hour GRADUATE course; in general, for each credit hour, there are at least 3 hours of study time involved; therefore, at a minimum, this course may involve 9 hours of participation (reading, writing, discussions, viewing lectures, assignments) per week; time management is crucial

# Course Content/Tentative Schedule: (tentative – subject to change)

There are approximately 15 sessions with a variety of topics related to special populations of adult learners. You are expected to read the assigned readings, participate and contribute by viewing lecture presentations, collaborate in discussions, and submit assignments. A variety of media provided by the LMS (Canvas) are used for learning, communication and discussion among class members and the instructor, along with additional resources.

Please see Academic Calendar for Important Dates <http://www.auburn.edu/main/auweb_calendar.html>

Our classes will run from Mondays to Sundays except the first week!! This will help keep us on a regular schedule.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Due Dates** | **Topics** | **Date Start** |
| Session 1 | Introduction - Syllabus and Assignments | Wednesday, January 10 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Session 2 | Overview Special Populations | Monday, January 15 |
| Session 3 | Learning and the Brain | Monday, January 22 |
| Session 4 | Learning Disabilities | Monday, January 29 |
| Session 5 | Chronic Illness | Monday, February 5 |
| Session 6 | Hearing and Visual Impairments | Monday, February 12 |
| Session 7 | Mental Illness/NAMI | Monday, February 19 |
| Session 8 | Prisoner Education | Monday, February 26 |
| Session 9 | The Homeless | Monday, March 6 |
| No Session | Spring Break | March 12-16 |
| Session 10 | Rural/Geographic Concerns | Monday, March 19 |
| Session 11 | ESL/Cultural Issues | Monday, March 26 |
| Session 12 | Age – Older Learners | Monday, April 2 |
| Session 13 | Poverty/Socio-Economic Status/Unemployment | Monday, April 9 |
| Session 14 | Veterans or College Completion | Monday, April 16 |
| Session 15 | Last Week – Official Last Day is | Monday, April 23 |

# Course Requirements and Evaluation:

The final grade for the course will be based on the following:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assignment/Activity** | **Points** |
|  |  |
| Participation – Multiple Assignments - in Class Discussions, Online Weekly Discussions Postings, Viewing of Course Lectures, Course Readings/Discussions, Peer Reviews of Presentations | **20** |
|  |  |
| Annotated Bibliography | **20** |
|  |  |
| Organizational Resource Sharing | **10** |
|  |  |
| Presentation or Research Paper (CHOOSE ONLY 1 Option) | **30** |
|  |  |
| Article Analysis | **20** |
|  |  |
| **Total** | **100** |

\*\*Note – all of these assignments can be turned in through Canvas or using your AU Email.

# Grading Scale

90 pts – 100 pts = A 80 pts – 89 pts = B 70 pts- 79 pts = C 60 pts – 69 pts = D Below 60 pts = F

# Participation - Logins/Viewing of Materials/Readings/Discussions

Class participation and discussion is essential to the success of this course. Therefore, attendance online (logins) and participation in class discussions and activities are required. Participation on the discussion board is also a requirement for this course through a variety of assignments. **Absences and lack of participation not due to sickness will be given consideration only if discussed with the instructor in advance of the absence and with proper documentation.** Each student is expected to participate in most class discussions throughout the week. Discussions will be graded based upon the quantity and quality of the discussions posted as determined by a rubric and the instructor (more information is posted in the LMS, including the rubric).

# Organizational Resource (10 points)

There are 2 parts to this assignment. Locate and evaluate the quality and usefulness of a resource for the disadvantaged adult. Write a one page summary and posting a summary point/paragraph on the discussion board is also required. Additional instructions provided in the LMS.

# Presentation OR Research Paper (Topic TBD) (may be Team Project) – 30 points

**For Option 1, students will be provided a variety of options in terms of recording their presentations for the online class. This information will be discussed posted in the course for other students to view. The resources to complete these presentations are available through the University’s LMS.**

**Option 1 – Presentation (may be Team Project)**

Students will record a formal learning- centered presentation of a minimum of 20 minutes, not including Question and Answers (Q & A).

* + Presentation handouts will be provided to each class member and the instructor prior to the start of class.

## *Visual aids (PowerPoint slides, handouts, etc.) will be instructor reviewed*

***and approved a minimum of one week prior to the scheduled presentation****.*

* Student presentations will be graded by both the instructor and his/her peers.
* Additional information is provided in the LMS.

# Option 2 - Research Paper (Individual Assignment Only)

The paper will be comprehensive and cohesive effort is representative and supporting documentation for the chosen topic on a specialization. This paper should be RESEARCH information from academic sources. The paper should be approximately, 7 to 10 pages, double-spaced, research-based, and in APA format. The paper should be submitted prior to the last day of class, but will have deadlines for draft components of the paper throughout the semester. Additional instructions provided in the LMS.

# Article Analysis (20 points)

This assignment includes two components. Critically examine an article for your research paper and/or presentation. Look at methodology, statistics, results, theoretical framework, the author's purpose, etc.

The analysis should include both the strengths and weaknesses of how the author conducted the study. Decide whether or not the study is generalizable to other settings or whether the findings relate only to the specific setting of the study.

Discuss why the author conducted the study and what he/she hoped to gain from the study. Also, note any inconsistencies in the results of the study.

Post and discuss a summary paragraph(s) in the online discussion board. Additional instructions provided in the LMS.

# d. Annotated Bibliography (20 points)

A bibliography is a list of sources (books, journals, web sites, videos, etc.) that you will compile to help you research your topic. For this course, in general, the annotated bibliography explains why the source will be relevant to your presentation or research paper assignments.**You will list and describe at least 10 (ten) sources. Additional information is provided in the LMS.**

# Class Policy Statements (review the Student eHandbook):

1. **Attendance/Logins/Excused or Unexcused Absences**

Students are expected to attend participate in all course activities and assignments. Should students need to be absent or gone for extended periods of time without access to

the internet for any reason need to contact the course instructor before missing that class meeting/discussions/presentations. Students are responsible for initiating arrangements for missed work due to excused absences, if approved. If you feel you will miss a substantial amount of the classes, you may need to consider withdrawal from the course.

All portions of the Auburn University Honesty Code found in the Student eHandbook will apply in this class.

The complete Student Handbook is available online at: <http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/>

You are expected to attend class by logging in regularly, viewing the lectures, and participating in all exercises, discussions and activities. It is your responsibility to contact me if assignment deadlines are not met. You are responsible for initiating arrangements for missed work.

Attendance/logins/activity online will affect your grade as this is graduate learning course, with guest speakers, discussions and student presentations. Your attendance/participation is part of the course design and is directly correlated to academic success.

Students are granted excused absences from class for the following reasons: Illness of the student or serious illness of a member of the student’s immediate family, the death of a member of the student’s immediate family, trips for student organizations sponsored by an academic unit, trips for University classes, trips for participation in intercollegiate athletic events, subpoena for a court appearance, and religious holidays. **Students who wish to have an excused absence from this class for any other reason *must contact the instructor in advance of the absence* to request permission**. The instructor will weigh the merits of the request and render a decision. When feasible, the student must notify the instructor prior to the occurrence of any excused absences, but **in no case**

# shall such notification occur more than one week after the absence.

1. **Late Submissions:**

**There are regular deadlines for the course assignments.** As a graduate student, it is your responsibility to share a significant responsibility for preparing and discussing course material. **If a serious situation arises and you anticipate you will not be able to meet a deadline, it should be discussed with the instructor, before the due date. Submitting all or most assignments the last few weeks of the class will not allow for learning and thus will most likely result in failure of the course.**

If the instructor is contacted, regarding the problem at least several days before the due date, and judges it to warrant special consideration (usually due to illness or injury) the instructor and you will negotiate an alternate due date. Some assignments may not be turned in late and will receive a grade of zero (0).

# Late assignments due to unexcused absence may not be accepted or will lose 10 percent/per day the assignment is late. In some cases, there will be a make-up assignment required in addition to the regular assignment.

**If approved, late assignments must be turned in within 1 week (7 days) of the original due date if approved by the instructor. After 7 days, not late assignments will be accepted.**

Again, appropriate documentation for all excused absences is required. Please see the [Student Policy eHandbook](http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/) for more information on excused absences.

# Make-up Assignments:

Make-up assignments will only be given with a valid university excuse. This means a doctor's statement or other documentation must be provided. You are responsible for informing the instructor prior to missing the assignment no later than one week after the assignment’s official due date. You must initiate arrangements to take the make-up immediately after the excuse. A make-up must occur within 1 week from the time that you initiate arrangements for it or you will receive a zero grade (0) for the make-up, which will affect your final grade.

1. **The University Academic Honesty Code** and the other rules and regulations from the Student Handbook will apply to this class. The eHandbook can be found at [www.auburn.edu/student\_info/student\_policies/](http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/)
2. **Professional Classroom Behavior:** As faculty, staff, and students interact in professional settings, they are expected to demonstrate professional behaviors as defined in the College’s conceptual framework. These professional commitments or dispositions are listed below:
   * Engage in responsible and ethical professional practices
   * Contribute to collaborative learning communities
   * Demonstrate a commitment to diversity
   * Model and nurture intellectual vitality

These behaviors are especially important in terms of our graduate classroom and online discussions.

1. **Accommodations:** Students who need accommodations are asked to electronically submit their approved accommodations through AU Access and to arrange a meeting during office hours the first week of classes, or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately. If you have a conflict with my office hours, an alternate time can be arranged. To set up this meeting, please contact me by e-mail. If you have not established accommodations through the Office of Accessibility, but need accommodations, make an appointment with the Office of

Accessibility, 1228 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT). . Please visit their web site at: <http://accessibility.auburn.edu/>

# Contact:

If you need to contact me, please use your AU email and/or call me immediately. The AU email is the recognized email and required for online courses. There is NO guarantee that I receive email from other sources; for instance, if you use gmail, yahoo, or other outside mail, they may be considered spank or junk and not allowed into my AU email address at [lesliecordie@auburn.edu](mailto:lesliecordie@auburn.edu) or [lak0007@auburn.edu](mailto:lak0007@auburn.edu). You are also asked to email me in Canvas.

# Justification for Graduate Credit:

Participants in this class must have an advanced knowledge level of learning and the adult. Participants will be required to demonstrate their ability to evaluate the completeness and appropriateness of disability services and campus programs related to adults based upon application and synthesis of principles associated with this course. Participants will demonstrate critical knowledge regarding programs in disability services problems and issues facing adult education programs.