**Auburn University Course Syllabus**

Department of Special Education, Rehabilitation, and Counseling

1. **Course Number:** RSED 5000/6000
2. **Course Title**: Advanced Survey of Exceptionality

**Credit Hours**: 3 semester hours (Lecture 3)

**Prerequisites:** None

**Corequisites:** None

1. **Instructor:** Dr. Peggy Shippen

**Office Address:** 345 West Samford Ave

**Contact Information:** [shippme@auburn.edu](mailto:shippme@auburn.edu). **Please use my EMAIL as your contact** **Term:** Summer 2025

**Meeting days/times:** Mondays and Wednesdays 5:00 p.m.-8:45 p.m.,

Syllabus updated May 2025. This syllabus is a tentative outline for the Summer 2024 Term II semester and **is subject to change.**

1. **Text:** Vaughn, S., Bos, C., & Schumm, J. (2018*). Teaching students who are exceptional, diverse,55w and at risk in the general education classroom, 7th edition.* Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson. (**ALL MAJORS**) (Available through MyLab)

Baditoi, B., & Brott, P. (2014). *What school counselors need to know about special education and students with disabilities (revised edition).* Arlington, VA: Council for Exceptional Children. **(Counseling Majors ONLY)** (Available in the bookstore or at <http://cec.directfrompublisher.com/catalog/book/what-school-counselors-need-know>)

1. **Course Description:** This course is an advanced study of exceptionality with an emphasis upon the educational implications of disability and current issues in special education.

## Student Learning Outcomes:

*Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:*

* 1. Demonstrate awareness and understanding of exceptionalities impacting individuals across the life span (early childhood, school age, adolescence, and adulthood) including definitions/eligibility criteria; distinguishing characteristics (learning style, behavioral patterns, educational strengths, and educational needs); etiology; incidence and prevalence; evaluation; assessment; instructional strategies; family issues; cultural diversity issues; advocacy organizations; resources; current issues; relevant technology; and current research. CACREP 5.G.2.k
  2. *Analyze, evaluate, and interpret current special education and rehabilitation research/literature.*
  3. Demonstrate awareness and understanding of current topics/ issues/ trends/ practices in special education and rehabilitation.
  4. Demonstrate knowledge of cognitive, behavioral, and communicative disabilities and their impact on the learning process and curriculum development.
  5. Demonstrate the ability to adapt and modify the general education classroom to provide generic interventions to assist students with disabilities to optimize their behavior, academic performance, social skills, and study skills.
  6. Demonstrate knowledge of the general characteristics of disabilities and of their impact on cognitive development and learning. CACREP 2.F.3.e
  7. Demonstrate knowledge of the components and characteristics of collaboratively designed and implemented individual educational and behavioral support plans. CACREP 5.G.2.b, 5.G.3.c
  8. Demonstrate the knowledge of the major areas of exceptionality in learning, including the range of physical and mental disabilities, social and emotional disorders, giftedness, dyslexia, and attention deficit disorder.
  9. Demonstrate knowledge of the indicators of the need for special education services. 290- 3-3-.03(4)(c)3.(ii); CACREP 2.F.3.h, 5.G.2.H, 5.G.3.c, 5.G.3.0,
  10. Demonstrate knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of members of different types of teams including, but not limited to, Building Based Student Support Teams. CACREP 5.G.2.b
  11. Demonstrate knowledge of the laws related to students’ and teachers’ rights and responsibilities and the importance of complying with those laws, including major principles of federal disabilities legislation (IDEA, Section 504, and ADA), as well as Alabama statutes on child abuse and neglect, and the importance of complying with those laws.

# Demonstrate knowledge of needs of and management techniques for, students who have communicable diseases and medical diagnoses or who are considered medically fragile and the adverse effect of these conditions on learning and family functioning. **290-3-3-.34 (2)(b)2.(ii)**

* 1. Demonstrate knowledge of medications, administration of medications and school healthcare protocols that have been determined educationally relevant. **290-3-3-.34 (2)(b)2.(iii)**

1. **Course Content Outline: (see following pages in table format)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Topic** | **Readings** | | **Assignment(s) Due** |
| **June 30th**  **M** | *What is the Foundation for the Education of Students with Disabilities?*   * Overview of the Course * Disability Legislation and History * Foundations of Special Education * IEP |  | |  |
| **July 2st**  **W** | *What is the Foundation for the Education of Students with Disabilities?*   * Responsibilities of Classroom Teachers and School Counselors * The Special Education Process * Self-Determination * Response to Intervention   **Discuss Graduate Project Directions** | **ALL Majors**: Vaughn et al. (2018), Chapters 1 and 2  **Counseling Majors** Chapters 1, 7  Students with Disabilities  <https://www.schoolcounselor.org/Standards-Positions/Position-Statements/ASCA-Position-Statements/The-School-Counselor-and-Students-with-Disabilitie> | |  |
| **July 7th**  **M** | *What is the Foundation for the Education of Students with Disabilities?*   * Collaboration/Family/Professionals * Culturally Responsive Teaching * Confidentiality   Exam 1 Test Review | **ALL**: Vaughn et al. (2018), Chapters 3 and 4  **Counseling Majors** Chapters 2-3,8  American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Position  The School Counselor and Equity for All <https://www.schoolcounselor.org/Standards-Positions/Position-Statements/ASCA-Position-Statements/The-School-Counselor-and-Equity-for-All-Students> | |  |
| **July 9th**  **W** | **NO CLASS MEETING**  **Exam 1 due @11:59pm on Canvas**  VBS: Chapters 1-4 (all students)  Counseling book: Chapters 1-3, 7,8 | | | |
| **July 14th**  **M** | *Who are Students with High*  *Incidence Disabilities?*   * Intellectual Disabilities * Developmental Disabilities | **ALL Majors**: Vaughn et al. (2018), Chapter 10  **Counseling Majors:**  Intellectual Disability <http://www.thearc.org/wp-content/uploads/forchapters/Introduction%20to%20ID.pdf> | | **Article Summary**  **Article Share** |
| **July 16th**  **W** | *Who are Students with High*  *Incidence Disabilities?*   * Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD) * ADHD * Communication Disorders * Emotional or Behavior Disorders | **ALL Majors**: Vaughn et al. (2018) Chapter 8  **Counseling Majors:** Chapter 5  School Counselors Serving Students with Disruptive Behavior Disorders <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=EJ1034659> | |  |
| **July 21st**  **M** | *Who are Students with High*  *Incidence Disabilities?*   * Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD) * ADHD * Communication Disorders * Emotional or Behavior Disorders | **ALL Majors**: Vaughn et al. (2018), Chapter 6, Chapter 7 | | **Graduate Project** |
| **July 23rd**  **W** | *Who are Students with Low*  *Incidence Disabilities?*   * Autism * Sensory Impairments * Physical, Health Disorders and TBI; * Severe Disabilities   Behavior Strategies | **ALL Majors**: Vaughn et al. (2018) Chapter 5, Chapter 9 |  | |
| **July 28th**  **M** | *Who are Students with Low*  *Incidence Disabilities?*  Autism   * Sensory Impairments * Physical, Health Disorders and TBI; * Severe Disabilities   Behavior Strategies | **ALL Majors**: Vaughn et al. (2018) Chapter 11  **Exam 2 Review** |  | |
| **July 30th**  **W** | **NO CLASS MEETING**  **Exam 2 due @11:59pm on Canvas**  VBS Chapters 5-11 (all students)  Counseling book: Chapters 6-8 | | | |

## Assignments/Projects:

Students will be held responsible for **all** of the information in the textbook and assigned readings. Students should read assigned material appropriate to the class topic **prior** to class meetings.

1. **Exams:** There will be two examinations during the term. Exams will be a combination of objective and short answer items.
2. **Article Summaries:** Students will submit 2 Article Summaries **that relate to Disability Today.** Students will choose, summarize, and reflect on an article from a peer-reviewed journal dealing with topics/ideas covered in class. Article *summaries* should be about ¾-1 page and *reflections* tying article content to class ideas should be about ¼-1/2 page. The article must be uploaded with your assignment (not a link to the article).
3. **Graduate Project:**

*Teaching certification* students will develop a **lesson plan** following the guidelines discussed in class. Briefly, students will select a lesson plan that they have used in their content area (general education). They will adapt the lesson for an inclusion class. The following are to be included: A general overview of the content area (goals/philosophy), general characteristics of students with high incidence disabilities and how the characteristics would impact learning and performance in their content area, lesson plan using format provided, and supporting materials.

*Counselor education students* will research the **roles and responsibilities** they will have working with students with disabilities. They will identify common learning and behavioral strategies of the students with disabilities they will likely work with and develop a list of **strategies for** working with students in the context of their roles and responsibilities.

## Grading and Evaluation Procedures:

Student performance in the class will be determined according to the following point assignment and scales**.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Undergraduate Students** | |
| 2 Exams (35 pts each) | 70 pts |
| 2 Article Summaries | 30 pts |
| **Total** | **100 pts** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Undergraduate Student Grading Scale: | |
| 90-100 points | **A** |
| 80-89 points | **B** |
| 70-79 points | **C** |
| 60-69 points | **D** |
| Below 60 points | **F** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Graduate Students** | |
| 2 Exams (35 pts each) | 70 pts |
| 2 Article Summaries | 20 pts |
| Graduate Project | 10 pts |
| **Total** | **100 pts** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Graduate Student Grading Scale: | |
| 90-100 points | **A** |
| 80-89 points | **B** |
| 70-79 points | **C** |
| 60-69 points | **D** |
| Below 60 points | **F** |

***Note: All assignments must be submitted to Canvas in order to be scored. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that your assignments meet the requirements of this course. If you experience any difficulties with Canvas, you must notify the instructor prior to the submission due date.Students who wish to withdraw should consult the Auburn University Academic Calendar to learn about deadlines, fees, and grade penalties.*** [***https://auburn.edu/about/academic-calendar/***](https://auburn.edu/about/academic-calendar/)

1. **Course Evaluation:** Student perception and evaluation of the course is valued by the instructor, the department, and the university. Two specific methods for obtaining student perception and evaluation of the course are requested. These evaluation procedures are both formative and summative in nature.

## Class Policy Statements:

1. Participation: Students are expected to participate in all class discussions and participate in all exercises. Assignments are due on announced dates. Unexcused late assignments will receive a 10% deduction per day late. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor if assignment deadlines are not met. Students are responsible for initiating arrangements for missed work. Students must satisfy all course objectives to pass the course. Additionally, students are responsible for checking emails and Canvas regularly. You can set up your notifications in Canvas to alert you when announcements are posted, grades are released, assignmetns are due, etc. [Link to Video on Getting Started with Canvas](https://vimeo.com/74677642).
2. Excused Absences: 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. 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 (<http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/>).
3. Make-Up Policy: Arrangement to make up missed major examination (e.g. hour exams, mid-term exams) due to properly authorized excused absences must be initiated by the student within one week from the end of the period of the excused absences. Except in unusual circumstances, such as continued absence of the student or the advent of University holidays, a make-up exam will take place within two weeks from the time that the student initiates arrangements for it. Except in extraordinary circumstances, no make- up exams will be arranged during the last three days before the final exam period begins. The format of the make-up exam will be the same as the original*.*
4. Distance learning courses**:** Canvas will be used for distance learning delivery. Students taking this course via distance education are expected to follow the course schedule, watch video lectures, and complete assignments as listed on the outline above. Students will have weekly opportunities to engage with the instructor as well as other students using the Discussion Board in Canvas. The use of Canvas to support student learning is used for both distance and on-campus students. Distance learning students will have internet access to libraries, learning centers, and/or laboratories that will facilitate their successful completion of the course.
5. Disability Accommodations**:** Students who need accommodations should submit their approved accommodations through the AIM Student Portal on AU Access and follow-up with the instructor about an appointment. It is important for the student to complete these steps as soon as possible; accommodations are not retroactive. Students who have not established accommodations through the Office of Accessibility, but need accommodations, should contact the Office of Accessibility at: [ACCESSIBILITY@auburn.edu](mailto:ACCESSIBILITY@auburn.edu) or [(334) 844-2096](tel:(334)844-2096) (V/TT). The Office of Accessibility is located in Haley Center 1228.
6. Academic Honesty: All portions of the Auburn University student academic honesty code (Title XII) found in the [*Student Policy eHandbook*](http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/) will apply to this class. All academic honesty violations or alleged violations of the SGA Code of Laws will be reported to the Office of the Provost, which will then refer the case to the Academic Honesty Committee.
7. Classroom Behavior: The Auburn University Classroom Behavior Policy is strictly followed in the course; please refer to the [Student Policy eHandbook](http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/) for details of this policy.
8. Course contingency: If normal class and/or lab activities are disrupted due to illness, emergency, or crisis situation, the syllabus and other course plans and assignments may be modified to allow completion of the course. If this occurs, and addendum to your syllabus and/or course assignments will replace the original materials.
9. Mental Health: If you are experiencing stress that feels unmanageable (personal or academic) during the semester, Auburn University’s Student Counseling & Psychological Services (SCPS) offers a variety of services to support you. The mission of SCPS is to provide comprehensive preventative and clinical mental health services to enhance the psychological well-being of individual students, as well as the broader campus culture. As an instructor, I am available to speak with you regarding stresses related to your work in this course, and I can assist in connecting you with the SCPS network of care. You can schedule an appointment yourself with the SCPS by calling [(334)844-5123](tel:+13348445123) or by stopping by their offices on the bottom floor of Haley Center or the second floor of the [Auburn University Medical Clinic](http://auburn.edu/map/?id=150)

If you or someone you know needs to speak with a professional counselor immediately, the SCPS offers counseling during both summer term as well as the traditional academic year. Students may come directly to the SCPS and be seen by the counselor on call, or you may call [334.844.5123](tel:+13348445123) to speak with someone. Additional information can be found at [http://wp.auburn.edu/scs](http://wp.auburn.edu/scs/).

1. Basic Needs: Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course or others is urged to contact Auburn’s Basic Needs Center for support at <https://aub.ie/basicneeds>. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so as this will allow the faculty member to connect you with any other known resources.
2. Justification for Graduate Credit: In addition to the undergraduate course requirements, graduate students will complete an additional project determined by their major.
3. Professionalism: 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