



Course Syllabus: SPED 3613 Exceptional Individuals 3613 101  
College of Education  
August 22-December 9

Contact Information

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Instructor Response Policy

**Use D2L for course related questions.** If I do not respond within 24 hours on **weekdays**, send a gentle reminder. I usually am very prompt in my replies.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Heward, W.L., Alber-Morgan, S.R., & Konrad, M. (2022). Exceptional Children: An Introduction to Special Education, 12 Edition. Pearson Publishing

Course Description

A study of the etiology of and concepts relating to exceptional individuals

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Course Competencies

This course is an introduction course for all education majors. It is based on relevant standards from 19 TAC Chapter 235 for Texas Teachers.

§235.21. Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities Standards, Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3. Early Childhood-Grade 6. (October 2020 Update)

Instructional Planning and Delivery.

(6) differentiate instruction, aligning methods and techniques to diverse student needs, including acceleration, remediation, and implementation of individual education plans;

(10) encourage all students to overcome obstacles and remain persistent in the face of challenges, providing them with support in achieving their goals;

(c) Knowledge of Student and Student Learning.

(1) create a community of learners in an inclusive environment that views differences in learning and background as educational assets;

(3) understand the unique qualities of students with exceptional needs, including disabilities and giftedness, and know how to effectively address these needs through instructional strategies and resources;

§235.61. Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities Standards, Grades 7-12

Knowledge of Student and Student Learning. Grades 7-12

(1) create a community of learners in an inclusive environment that views differences in learning and background as educational assets;

(4) understand the unique qualities of students with exceptional needs, including disabilities and giftedness, and know how to effectively address these needs through instructional strategies and resources;

§235.131. Special Education Standards: Early Childhood-Grade 6. §235.133. Special Education Standards: Grades 6-12.

(b) Legal and Ethical Guidelines.

(1) demonstrate knowledge of the major state and federal legislation (e.g., IDEA, Section 504, ADA, ADAAA) that has affected knowledge and practice of the education of individuals with high support needs;

(2) demonstrate knowledge of the history of exclusion of and discrimination against people with disabilities;

(3) demonstrate knowledge of IDEA 2004 eligibility categories;

(6) demonstrate knowledge of the legal responsibility of all school staff to fully implement an IEP;

(7) demonstrate knowledge of the legal responsibility of all teachers and school staff to protect the confidentiality and dignity of students with disabilities;

(8) demonstrate knowledge of the special education teacher's roles and responsibilities regarding Child Find;

(c) Understanding and Addressing Each Individual's Developmental and Learning Needs.

(3) demonstrate knowledge of how exceptionalities can interact with development and learning;

(4) demonstrate understanding that students with all support needs may also come from a different cultural background, may speak other languages than those of the dominant culture, or may come from a unique racial or ethnic group;

(h) Professional Learning and Collaboration.

(8) effectively collaborate with general education teachers to deliver, adapt, and differentiate instruction to address students' instructional, emotional, behavioral, and social needs;

(9) understand the strengths and limitations of various co-teaching models based on setting and the individual needs of students;

(10) effectively implement co-teaching models to deliver, adapt, and differentiate instruction to meet students' instructional, emotional, behavioral, and social needs;

(11) understand the reciprocal relationship with general education teachers for effective and inclusive practices;

#### Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook-2021-2022](#)

#### Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

#### Grading/Assessment

Table 1: Assignments

	Points
Dyslexia Training (TEA requirement)	25
Accommodated Lesson Plan (Key Assessment)	25
Midterm Exam	100
Online Activities	100
Reflection Activities Paper	100
Final Exam	100
Total	450

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	405-450
B	360-404
C	315-359
D	270-314
F	0-269

### Exams

Exams (2 Total) will generally be 50 questions (T/F, MC, and Constructed Response). You will usually be given a 3-5 day window and a 3 hour time limit. Details will be provided for each exam over what content it will cover.

### Projects/Assignments Required

1. Dyslexia Training (TEA Requirement),
2. Accommodated Lesson Plan (Key Assessment)
3. Midterm Exam MC, Short Answer, Essay, TF D2I
4. Final Exam MC, Short Answer, Essay, TF D2I
5. Online Activities-We will always have class. In the event the I have scheduled travel (approximately 3 times this semester), there will be an activity posted for that day on D2L. It will be brief and meaningful. Due by the next class. This is NOT the TEA required assignments (Dyslexia and Accommodations).
6. Reflection Activities Reflection paper. You will have 5 activities to do outside of class. Some require collaboration with peers. Assignment and materials can be found on D2I.

### Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: Aug 22-25

Deadline to file for graduation: Dec. graduation

Sept 26, May graduation Oct 3

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" 10/24/22

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

### Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or

contact your instructor. In addition, you must be able to access ZOOM (Free) in order to participate in the courses.

#### Attendance

You are expected to be in class on time and ready to learn. If you miss more than two classes without sufficient reason you will incur a final letter grade drop. Absences over 3 will result in 2 final letter grades drop. Communication with me is the key.

#### Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ***Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.*** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. **Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

#### Instructor Class Policies

[Click here to enter text.](#)

#### Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

#### Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

#### Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors

to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

### College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

### Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

## Course Lecture and Major Exam Schedule

Week or Module	Tue s	Thursday	Important Date (s)
Week 1 (Aug 23)	Ch 1-3	Ch 1-3	
Week 2 (Aug 30)	Ch 1-3	Ch 1-3	
Week 3 (Sept 6)	Ch 1-3	Ch 1-3	
Week 4 (Sept 13)	<b>Dyslexia Training (Online)</b>	<b>Accommodated Lesson Plan (in-class)</b>	<b>Dyslexia Training Due (Sept 15)</b>
Week 5 (Sept 20)	Ch 4 Intellectual Disabilities	Ch 4 Intellectual Disabilities	
Week 6 (Sept 27)	Ch 5 Learning Disabilities	Ch 5 Learning Disabilities	
Week 7 (Oct 4)	Ch 6 Emotional Disturbance	Ch 6 Emotional Disturbance	<b>Accommodated Lesson Plan Due (Oct 14)</b>
Week 8 (Oct 11)	<b>Midterm Exam (Online)</b>		<b>Midterm Exam</b>
Week 9 (Oct 18)	Ch 7 Autism	Ch 7 Autism	
Week 10 (Oct 25)	Ch 8 Communication	Ch Communication	
Week 11 (Nov 1)	Ch 9 Deafness	Ch 10 Blindness	
Week 12 (Nov 8)	Chap 11 ADHD	Chap 11 ADHD	
Week 13 (Nov 15)	Chap 12 Low Incidence	Teaching Strat	<b>Reflection Activities Due (Nov 18)</b>
Week 14 (Nov 22)	Teaching Strat	Teaching Strat	
Week 15 (Nov 29)	Teaching Strat	Teaching Strat	
Finals Week	<b>Dec 8 (8-10)</b>		<b>Final Exam</b>

References/Scientifically-Based Research/Additional Readings:

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Appendix A: Standards/Competencies  
Field 253: Educational Diagnostician Examination Framework

**WCOE Standards (InTASC):**

The outcomes for graduates of professional programs are based upon knowledge, skills, and dispositions in the following 10 elements: List up-to-date INTASC standards here.

### **WCOE Standards (InTASC):**

The outcomes for graduates of professional programs are based upon knowledge, skills, and dispositions in the following elements:

Learner Development - understand how learners grow and develop, recognizing that patterns of learning and development vary individually within and across the cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical areas, and design and implements developmentally appropriate and challenging learning experiences.

Learning Differences - understand individual differences and diverse cultures and communities to ensure inclusive learning environments that enable each learner to meet high standards.

Learning Environment - work with others to create environments that support individual and collaborative learning, and that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.

Content Knowledge - understand the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline(s) he or she teaches and creates learning experiences that make the discipline accessible and meaningful for learners to assure mastery of the content.

Application of Content - understand how to connect concepts and use differing perspectives to engage learners in critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative problem solving related to authentic local and global issues.

Assessment - understand and use multiple methods of assessment to engage learners in their own growth, to monitor learner progress, and to guide the teacher's and learner's decision making.

Planning for Instruction - plan instruction that supports every student in meeting rigorous learning goals by drawing upon knowledge of content areas, curriculum, cross-disciplinary skills, and pedagogy, as well as knowledge of learners and the community context.

Instructional Strategies - understand and use a variety of instructional strategies to encourage learners to develop deep understanding of content areas and their connections, and to build skills to apply knowledge in meaningful ways.

Professional Learning and Ethical Practice - engage in ongoing professional learning and use evidence to continually evaluate his or her practice, particularly the effects of his or her choices and actions on others (learners, families, other professionals, and the community), and adapts practice to meet the needs of each learner.

Leadership and Collaboration - seek appropriate leadership roles and opportunities to take responsibility for student learning, to collaborate with learners, families, colleagues, other school professionals, and community

members to ensure learner growth, and to advance the profession.