

**FLINDERS UNIVERSITY
AUSTRALIA
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**

**TOPICS AVAILABLE FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION MODE
CANADA
SEMESTER 1 & 2, 2008**

CODE	NAME	UNIT VALUE
EDSP9005	Early Development and Exceptionality (Sem 1)	6
EDSP9006	Intellectual Disability (Sem 1 & 2)	6
EDSP9007	Theories of Behaviour Management (Sem 2)	6
EDSP9008	Management of Physical & Multiple Disabilities (Sem 2)	6
EDSP9009	Education of Children with Learning Difficulties (Sem 2)	6
EDSP9010	Studies in Vision Impairment I (Sem 1)	6
EDSP9011	Studies in Vision Impairment II (Sem 1)	6
EDSP9012	Coursework Project in Special Education (BOTH SEMESTERS & Year)	12
EDSP9014	Assessment and Evaluation in Special Education (Sem 2)	6
EDSP9021	Autism: Theory and Practice (Sem 1 & 2)	6
EDSP9024	Special Education: Contemporary Issues (Sem 1)	6
EDSP9025	Intervention for Problems in Literacy (Sem 2)	6
EDSP9026	Programming for Students with Special Needs (Sem 1 & 2)	6
EDSP9027	Collaborative Consultation (Sem 2)	6
EDSP9044	Technology and Disability (Sem 1 & 2)	6
EDSP9056	Conceptions of Giftedness: The Creative Intellect (Sem 1)	6
EDSP9060	Numeracy, Mathematics & Learning Difficulties (Sem 2)	6

EDSP9005 EARLY DEVELOPMENT AND EXCEPTIONALITY

Dr Shirly Yates

This topic will detail the significance of atypical development on young children and their families and the effects of intervening during the early years. The challenges at this age of accurate identification and assessment of delays and advances in young children's development will be discussed. The topic will outline curriculum individualisation for young children in all developmental domains: cognitive, physical, language, social, emotional and behavioural.

EDSP9006 INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

John Grantley

During the first stage of this topic, attention will focus on Multi-disciplinary approaches toward intellectual disability. Particular areas are introduced relating to intellectual disability with respect to: (a) classification and aetiology; (b) psychological processes; (c) social cultural aspects; and (d) curriculum development.

The remaining section of the topic is designed to give students the opportunity to appraise critically an area of intellectual disability. The area of study will be selected by the student in consultation with the tutor. A major paper based upon an extensive research review will be developed.

EDSP9007 THEORIES OF BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

Dr. Julie McMillan

The focus of this topic will be theories and practices to manage difficult behaviour both with individual students and in the group setting. This topic will develop participants' understanding of students' difficult behaviour at a theoretical level, and will advance skills and techniques for responding to disruptive or withdrawn behaviour. Six theoretical models will be examined, ranging from behavioural and cognitive approaches, to the Adlerian theorists and humanists. Children's self-esteem and social skills will be given special attention. The contribution of the school to students' difficult behaviour will be examined. Formulation of a school discipline policy will be described.

EDSP9008 MANAGEMENT OF PHYSICAL & MULTIPLE DISABILITIES

Michelle Bellon

This topic will focus on the education of children with motor, orthopaedic and neurological disabilities, together with children who suffer from chronic illness. An intensive review will be made of underlying psychological, social and medical factors. Specific educational needs then will be identified across the whole range from birth to adulthood. Consideration also will be given to curriculum implications, school organisation, integration in ordinary schools, interdisciplinary approaches to treatment, and vocational preparation.

EDSP9009 EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

TBA

This topic aims to appraise, compare and integrate different traditions currently contributing to the debate on the identification of, and response to, factors that facilitate or inhibit successful instruction. The major traditions are those of remedial education, behaviour programming, psycho educational assessment and planning, medical approaches and research in cognitive science and neuropsychology. Instructional organisation will be discussed in the light of considerations emerging from this integrated package, and an attention to what we already know about teaching.

EDSP9010 STUDIES IN VISION IMPAIRMENT I

Assoc. Prof Carolyn Palmer

This topic will examine definitions and terminology relating to visual impairment, the anatomy and physiology of the eye, the aetiology, incidence and nature and loss of vision, and major eye diseases and disorders. The background and history of the field, educational principals and management of students and current issues and future trends in services will come into review. The impact of a loss of vision on learning will be analysed and the need for early education, and parent education services and guidance. Braille will be introduced.

EDSP9011 STUDIES IN VISION IMPAIRMENT II

Assoc. Prof Carolyn Palmer

This topic will continue with the investigation of aspects of the education of students with a visual impairment begun in EDSP9010. Specialisation will focus on the psychology of visual perception and its relation to visual impairment, enhancement and training of perceptual skills, optics and low vision aids to enhance visual functioning, orientation and mobility and the organisation and integration of educational services.

EDSP9012 COURSEWORK PROJECT IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

Julie McMillan

The coursework project is designed to enable students to develop areas of interest arising out of the theoretical and research literature in special education. A range of activities is permissible. Students may analyse and evaluate the literature in order to show its strengths and limitations. Alternatively they may examine the possible uses or implications of the literature. This could involve discussion of how the implications might be tested, how the

literature might be used in special education practice, or how the literature might apply to the analysis and understanding of particular problem areas.

The 12 unit project is normally taken over a full year as the final topic, or as one of the final topics in the award. If commencing in the second half of the year (semester two) students enroll in EDSP9012B (6 units) and in EDSP9012C (6 units) in first semester of the following year.

Students have a supervisor and assessment is based on a final report of 12,000 words.

EDSP9014 ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

Dr. Shirley Yates

This unit is concerned with the assessment and evaluation of exceptional students. The topics to be covered will focus on both formal and informal methods of assessment, with clear attention being paid to observational methods and curriculum based assessment. The application of principles of assessment to education will be clearly addressed.

EDSP9021 AUTISM : THEORY AND PRACTICE

Dr. Verity Bottroff

This topic will examine current research in the field of autism, analyse the implications of this research for theoretical positions regarding the primary learning difficulties for students with autism and consider the practical issues associated with curriculum and instruction for education, vocational and community programs. The roles of professionals within specialist and generic services responsible for programs involving individuals with autism and their families will be considered.

EDSP9024 SPECIAL EDUCATION: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Dr. Julie McMillan

In this topic students gain an overview of all forms of disability and the impact of disability upon learning and development. Particular attention is given to issues of inclusion of students with special needs in regular schools and to the support services needed by such students. Current policies and practices in special education in Australia and overseas are considered with a focus upon inclusion and the problems encountered in translating policy into practice.

EDSP9025 INTERVENTION FOR PROBLEMS IN LITERACY

Anne Bayetto

In this topic students will examine in detail the causes of learning failure in the basic academic skill areas of reading, writing and spelling. Students will develop appropriate skills in carrying out in-depth assessment of children who exhibit problems in acquiring literacy skills and in planning appropriate teaching programs and resources for them. Consideration will be given to various instructional strategies known to enhance the acquisition of literacy skills. Research on literacy intervention for children with special needs will be examined critically within the context of the literature on general methods of classroom instruction in literacy.

EDSP9026 PROGRAMMING FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Kerry Bissaker

In this topic students explore theories of learning and relate these to possible causes of learning difficulty in various areas of the school curriculum. Students also consider different types of teaching necessary to bring about different types of learning, and the applicability of specific types of teaching to particular characteristics of learners. Emphasis is given to

application of the research evidence on effective teaching. Students also develop skills in program planning and in the evaluation of learning, with particular reference to students with disabilities. A focus in the topic is on inclusive classroom practice.

EDSP9027 COLLABORATIVE CONSULTATION

Dr. Shirley Yates

This topic will provide students with an understanding of the processes of consultation and counselling within the context of the education of children with special needs.

It will help students acquire the skills necessary for effective helping relationships with a particular focus on a collaborative approach to the exploration and resolution of educational questions with teachers, administrators, children and their families.

EDSP9044 TECHNOLOGY & DISABILITY

Dr. Brian Matthews

This postgraduate topic provides an overview of the technology available for people with a range of disabilities. Aspects considered include the use of computers in special education and disability services, electronic augmentative communication devices, devices to aid mobility and access to visual material, and the use of the Internet in accessing information related to work in the disability field.

EDSP9056 CONCEPTIONS OF GIFTEDNESS: THE CREATIVE INTELLECT

Lesley Henderson

This topic combines current research on advanced thinking abilities with progressive guidelines on curriculum and instruction for gifted students. The topic has its foundations in recent developments in cognitive science, psychological research and educational research and practice. The concept of multiple intelligence is examined with theories of divergent thinking skills and most appropriate educational programs. The topic content will cover: thinking skills, perception, social/emotional development of gifted students, counselling gifted students, curriculum development for gifted students.

EDSP9060 NUMERACY, MATHEMATICS & LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

Anne Bayetto

This topic provides an introduction to the concepts of numeracy, mathematics and the implications of current research in these areas for students with learning difficulties. Specifically the topic will focus on key issues related to learning problems in the area of mathematics but will consider how the broader perspective of numeracy may add relevance to the learning of mathematics. Students will examine causes of learning failure in mathematics and will consider methods for overcoming these. Students will develop appropriate skills for conducting diagnostic assessment of mathematical skills. Attention will be given to selecting suitable curriculum content and instructional strategies for students with special needs.

April 2008