

Common Course Outline

EDTR/PSYC 107 Introduction to Special Education
3 semester hours (3 classroom hours per week)

The Community College of Baltimore County

Overall Course Description:

Introduction to Special Education

Presents applications of modern psychological research and principles pertaining to the education of special needs populations. The course includes historical foundations of special education, gifted and talented, mental retardation, as well as sensorimotor, learning, and behavioral challenges and the implications these conditions have for educational programming. Cultural perspectives, uses of appropriate educational and environmental modifications, as well as federal and state regulations for special needs populations are discussed. The course is designed primarily for pre-service teachers or others interested in the educational process.

NOTE: Same as PSYC 107. Credit earned for one only. Prerequisite: PSYC 101 or PSYC 215

Overall Course Objectives:

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

- Describe major categories of disability
- Describe specific limitations of each type of disability
- Identify components of PL 94-142 and other pertinent legislation
- Explain the process used to identify students with special needs
- Write an Individualize Education Plan
- Identify educational responses to exceptionality
- Identify indicators of possible learning problems.
- Describe the historical treatment of those with exceptionalities
- Identify the major classification systems of exceptionality for purposes of prevention and education
- Discuss societal values and reactions to exceptionality
- Explain cultural issues and exceptionality

Major Topics:

- History of special education
- Categories of exceptionality
- Assessment of exceptionality
- Legal issue re: exceptionality
- Society and exceptionality
- Cultural issues and exceptionality
- Individualized education plans
- Classification of disability

Requirements:

Assessment of learning includes tests and exams, oral presentations, research papers, group activities and other activities as determined by the instructor. There will be a field-based experience component as a requirement for this course. Students may register for EDTR 271D for an additional one (1) credit for the field-based component. The instructor will explain evaluation criteria during the first week of class.