Course Description

EEX4940 | Internship in Special Education | 9.00 credits

The student will engage in the educational and professional responsibilities common to teachers in exceptional student education. This internship experience reinforces and augments teaching strategies that students have developed through their coursework and clinical experiences. Students participate in a full time, supervised teaching experience. Co-requisites: EEX4930.

Course Competencies

Competency 1: The student will create and maintain a safe learning environment while encouraging fairness, respect, and enthusiasm by:

1. Identifying and addressing the needs of all learners
2. Respecting for individual differences, cultures, backgrounds, and learning styles
3. Evaluating and adapting the learning environment to accommodate the needs and backgrounds (i.e., cultural, home language, family) of all students
4. Organizing, allocating, and managing the resources of time, space, and attention
5. Managing individual and class behaviors through a well-planned management system
6. Conveying high expectations to all students
7. Modeling clear, acceptable oral and written communication skills
8. Maintaining a climate of openness, inquiry, fairness and support
9. Integrating current information and communication technologies
10. Adapting the learning environment to accommodate the differing needs and diversity of students, including those with exceptionalities
11. Utilizing current and emerging assistive technologies that enable students to participate in high- quality communication interactions and achieve their educational goals

Competency 2: The student will utilize appropriate curricula, instructional strategies, and resources to develop lesson plans that include goals and/or objectives, learning activities, assessment of student learning, and home learning in order to address the diverse needs of students by:

1. Applying concepts from human development and learning theories
2. Aligning instruction with state-adopted standards at the appropriate level of rigor
3. Sequencing lessons and concepts to ensure coherence and required prior knowledge
4. Designing instruction for students to achieve mastery
5. Selecting appropriate formative assessments to monitor learning
6. Utilizing diagnostic student data to plan lessons
7. Developing learning experiences that require students to demonstrate a variety of applicable skills and competencies

Competency 3: The student will promote learning by:

1. Demonstrating accurate content knowledge
2. Addressing academic needs through a variety of appropriate instructional strategies and technologies that engage learners
3. Delivering engaging and challenging lessons
4. Utilizing motivational strategies to engage and challenge all students
5. Deepening and enriching students' understanding through content area literacy strategies, verbalization of thought, and application of the subject matter
6. Identifying gaps in students' subject matter knowledge
7. Modifying instruction to respond to preconceptions or misconceptions
8. Relating and integrating the subject matter with other disciplines and life experiences
9. Employing higher-order questioning techniques
10. Applying varied instructional strategies and resources, including appropriate technology, to provide

comprehensible instruction, and to teach for student understanding
11. Implementing knowledge and skills learned in professional development in the teaching and learning process.

Competency 4: The student will gather, analyze, and use data to measure learner progress, guide instruction, and provide timely feedback by:
1. Analyzing and applying data from multiple assessments and measures to diagnose students' learning needs, informs instruction based on those needs, and drives the learning process
2. Designing and aligning formative and summative assessments that match learning objectives and lead to mastery
3. Utilizing a variety of assessment tools to monitor student progress, achievement and learning gains.
4. Differentiating instruction based on an assessment of student learning needs and recognition of individual differences in students
5. Providing immediate and specific feedback to students to promote student achievement
6. Utilizing student feedback to monitor instructional needs and to adjust instruction
7. Modifying assessments and testing conditions to accommodate learning styles and varying levels of knowledge
8. Applying technology to organize and integrate assessment information

Competency 5: The student will communicate effectively with students, their parents or families, staff, and other members of the learning community by:
1. Sharing the importance and outcomes of student assessment data with the student and the student's parent/caregiver(s)
2. Collaborating with colleagues, to evaluate learning outcomes, adjust planning and continuously improve the effectiveness of the lessons
3. Collaborating with the home, school, and larger communities to foster communication and to support student learning and continuous improvement

Competency 6: The student will demonstrate behavior consistent with legal, ethical, and professional standards and engages in continuous professional growth by:
1. Applying the Principles of Professional Conduct to professional and personal situations
2. Identifying statutory grounds and procedures for disciplinary action, the penalties that can be imposed by the Educational Practices Commission against a certificate holder, and the appeals process available to the individual
3. Applying knowledge of rights, legal responsibilities, and procedures for reporting incidences of abuse, neglect, or other signs of distress
4. Identifying and applying policies and procedures for the safe, appropriate, and ethical use of technologies.
5. Applying the appropriate use and maintenance of students' information and records

Learning Outcomes:
- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society