



Course Description

EPI0030 | Diversity | 2.00 credits

The student will learn the complexities surrounding the cultural, linguistic, and exceptional needs of P-12 learners. The student will learn about legal mandates, ethical issues, implications for classroom implementation, and best practices for instructional strategies and maintenance of safe, inclusive, and diverse learning environments. The student will learn to make researched-based decisions through designing and adapting the curriculum, as well as the learning environment to meet the needs diverse student population. Pre-requisites: EPI0002.

Course Competencies

Competency 1: The student will develop Knowledge and appreciation for cultural diversity and implement social justice by:

1. Analyzing the origins and development of multi- cultural education through a review of the educational changes for racial, sexual, and learning minorities
2. Utilizing a multi-cultural curriculum to address various learning styles
3. Identifying how cultural diversity and cultural pluralism affect the instructional planning process
4. Applying multi-cultural competence to a positive behavior management system
5. Critiquing learning environments that impede openness, inquiry, fairness, and support for diverse learners
6. Utilizing demographic data to guide the use of formal and informal assessments

Competency 2: The student will compare and contrast cultures by:

1. Discussing characteristics, practices, and beliefs of diverse cultural groups in South Florida
2. Comparing and contrasting how culture impacts an individual's personal beliefs and practices
3. Defining the concept of a "cultural filter" and explaining how this affects the way a person or a group perceives reality

Competency 3: The student will recognize how multiculturalism impacts students, teachers, and schools by:

1. Discussing the historical points of view and contributions of culturally diverse groups to education.
2. Describing how culture, family, gender, socioeconomic status, religion, language of origin, ethnicity, and age can exert influence upon the educational experience
3. Discussing current research on multicultural issues in education, including the demographics and impact of diversity, on the educational process
4. Identifying and applying reflective practices to determine how one's personal value system, attributes, stereotypes, and prejudices may influence teaching and the learning environment for teachers and students
5. Comparing and contrasting federal, state, and local laws and mandates affecting students from diverse populations
6. Discussing how cultural differences among students and teachers are natural and inevitable and should be celebrated

Competency 4: The student will determine methods and benefits of culturally responsive teaching including recognition of the needs of special education students and English language learners by:

1. Discussing issues of cultural understanding such as the concept and use of assessment of student achievement, intelligence tests, teacher biases, tracking of students, and other similar practices
2. Identifying issues of accessibility and acceptance of individuals with disabilities and/or English language learners
3. Defining the characteristics of the various classifications of student exceptionalities and identifying how the exceptionalities may impact student learning and achievement
4. Reviewing instructional practices appropriate for students with exceptionalities and/or English language learners and delineating the typical accommodations made in the classroom

5. Identifying and discussing the effects of discrimination, bullying, alienation, and violence on students and the learning environment, and determining how to help counteract the effects

Learning Outcomes:

- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society
- Describe how natural systems function and recognize the impact of humans on the environment