

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
EOCS 5550/7550 - Fall 2007
STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS IN OCCUPATIONAL STUDIES

Instructor: Dr. Karen Jones Phone: 706-542-4473
212 River's Crossing khjones@uga.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

Text: Although there is not a formal textbook, a packet of readings and materials will be provided by the instructor or made available on WebCT. You are responsible for reading these materials and for participating in class discussions. Students are also responsible for additional readings and resources given by guest speakers and other class members. You will need a **three-ring notebook** for readings and handouts.

Course Overview: This course provides prospective educators information regarding special needs learners in secondary Career Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) settings. Topics covered include legal provisions, vocational assessment, placement considerations, transitional Individual Education Programs, curricular modifications and intervention strategies which may maximize the benefits of secondary CTAE programs for students who may be at risk for failure in school.

Activities and Projects: Possible methods of teaching and evaluation for this course include:

- ★ Exam(s) - both objective and essay-type
- ★ Lecture and large group discussion
- ★ Individual or small group projects
- ★ Readings*
- ★ Outside activities
- ★ Speakers, videotapes, field trips, etc.

Observations: We will be observing and working with students from Oglethorpe County High. Ms. Bonnie Simmons, CTI Coordinator, is our contact person. Her e-mail is bsimmons@oglethorpe.k12.ga.us and the school phone number is 706-743-8124. Ms. Simmons will be working closely with me in the planning and evaluation of the overall project. You will be responsible for setting up times for observation visits with teachers, signing in at the school, and calling ahead if you are unable to meet a scheduled visitation. Specific information about the school/student you are observing will be detailed after the first meeting.

Each person will observe a specific student no less than 6 hours during the semester. You will collect information on and prepare a teaching technique (intervention strategy) for that student. Observations will be made primarily in a special education classroom or CTAE classroom. Work sites, assemblies, cafeteria, etc. are also good observation sources.

During your observation or volunteer periods, keep anecdotal records. Include information such as the type of class, student-teacher ratio, physical classroom layout, particular teaching techniques used, behavior management

strategies, or other issues that are of interest to you. *You must make connections between class information and your observations* and provide specific explanations and interpretations of your observations. Also, note any questions or comments you have that we could discuss during class. Your observations should be written up in a journal or “log” format including the date and time of each observation, and turned in after each observation. You will develop a final summary describing the student you observe from these written observations. (See the *Observation Write-ups* handout). Additional instructions will be given for visitations during the semester.

If you teach, you may choose a student in your classroom who has a disability or is academically disadvantaged. If you work with youth but do not teach, we will set up observations in your work environment, or in a community-based, youth apprenticeship or work-based learning program. If you are NOT observing at Oglethorpe County High, you must obtain written permission from an administrator. *By the second week of the semester, tell the instructor, in writing, the category of the student you have selected to observe.*

***Note:** Students are responsible for assigned readings and handouts even if they are not discussed in class. Attendance is *vital* to successful completion of the course due to group work, discussion, and assessment activities related to observations. Absences may result in lower grades or failure of the course.

Grading System:

Assignment	Due Date	Points
Legislation Activity	8/27 – 9/10/07	40
**Class Assessments and Activities	Unannounced	75
Student Observations and Write-ups	8/27/07-11/05/07	25
Specific Populations Presentation	TBA	75
Intervention Strategy	11/26/07	50
Final Exam Activity	12/03/07	<u>25</u>
Total Points		290

Class assessments and activities are conducted throughout the semester. They are unannounced and **cannot be made up or turned in late.

Accommodations: Any student who needs an accommodation or other assistance in this course should make an appointment with the instructor within the first week of class.

Honor Code and Academic Honesty Policy: UGA student honor code: “I will be academically honest in all of my academic work and will not tolerate dishonesty of others”. *A Culture of Honesty*, the University’s policy and procedures for handling cases of suspected dishonesty, can be found at www.uga.edu/ovpi