

**DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION
SPED 3030
ASSESSMENT OF EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS
FALL 2006**

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REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Pierangelo, R. & Guiliana, G.A. (2006). *Assessment in special education: A practical approach*. Allyn and Bacon: Boston, MA.

Bel-Jean Packet – Fall 2006.

TEST PROTOCOLS: Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scale Wide Range Achievement Test – Revision 3 Kaufman Brief Intelligence Test ; Test of Written Language 3 University book store – Tate Center

COURSE DESCRIPTION: SPED 3030 is an introductory overview of the assessment process for students with special needs in which special educators play a significant role. This course is the first of a series of assessment courses offered by the Department of Special Education. As such, it provides the foundation of basic measurement concepts as well as hands-on experience with assessment tools. The use of standardized, informal, and curriculum-based procedures for the diagnosis and program planning of students with mild disabilities is the primary focus of the course. This course also provides information that links it to the College of Education's Conceptual Framework. That is, this course aspires to prepare exemplary, reflective practitioners to serve a global community.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The following topics that provide a structure for this course are identified by the Council for Exceptional Children as critical content knowledge and skills for pre-service special education teachers.

- Gaining an understanding for program planning and placement for students with mild disabilities.
 1. Basic terminology used in assessment. (CC3:K1)
 2. Legal provisions and ethical principals regarding assessment of individuals. (CC3:K2)
 3. Understand typical procedures used for screening, pre-referral, referral, and classification. (CC3: K3)
 4. Use and limitations of assessment instruments. (CC3: K4)
 5. Create and maintain records. (CC3: S2)
 6. Gather relevant background information. (CC3: S3)
 7. Use performance data and information from all stakeholders to make or suggest modifications in learning environments. (CC3:S8)

- Gaining an understanding about the influence of diversity on assessment.
 8. Using assessment information in making eligibility, program, and placement decisions for individuals with exceptional learning needs, including those from culturally and/ or linguistically diverse backgrounds. (CC3: S10)
- Gaining an understanding of legal provisions relating to assessment.
 9. Legal provisions, regulations, and guidelines regarding assessment of individuals with exceptional learning needs. (CC3: K2)
- Gaining an understanding of various assessment instruments.
 10. Appropriate use and limitations of each type of assessment instrument. (CC3: K4)
 11. Develop and administer nonbiased, informal assessment procedures. CC3: S4)
 12. Uses formal and informal assessments. (CC3: S5)
 13. Interpret information from formal and informal assessment instruments and procedures. (CC3: S6)
 14. Develop or modify individualized assessment strategies. (CC3: S9)
- Gaining an understanding of basic terminology used in assessment.
 15. Basic terminology used in assessment. (CC3: K1)
 16. Report assessment results to all stakeholders using effective communication skills. (CC3: S7)
- Gaining an understanding of ethical concerns relating to assessment.
 17. Ethical concerns related to assessment. (CC3: K2)

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

The University of Georgia seeks to promote and ensure academic honesty and personal integrity among students and other members of the University Community. A policy on academic honesty has been developed to serve these goals. All members of the academic community are responsible for knowing the policy and procedures on academic honesty. Please see the following web site for complete details.

<http://www.uga.edu/vpaa/polproc/ahpol/main.html>

DISABILITY ISSUES:

The Department of Special Education supports equal access and support for all individuals with disabilities. We also support the policies and procedures of the University of Georgia relating to students who have disabilities. Disability Services, a part of the Office of the vice President of Student Affairs, provides academic and support services to qualified students with disabilities to ensure equal access to all programs and activities at the University of Georgia. The mission of Disability Services is to create an accessible academic social and physical environment for students with disabilities at the University of Georgia. Any student with a documented disability should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester so recommended modifications in the course work can be implemented.

Competencies	Activities	Evaluation
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16,17	Web Site Presentations Current article presentation	Evaluation for this project will depend on thoroughness and thoughtfulness of the presentation.
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16. 17	Complete assigned readings.	Knowledge of assigned reading evaluated by participation in class discussions and by successful completion of various assignments and periodic examinations.
1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17	Development of assessment portfolio containing examples of student produced curriculum-based instruments, information relating to various web-sites, and current assessment information drawn from media sources.	Evaluation will be judged on correctness and completeness of the various components of the portfolio.
1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 13, 15, 16	Final project: Analyze individually administered CBA assessment information for the purpose of developing appropriate present level of performance and relevant IEP goals and objectives that correlate with QCC objectives.	Evaluation will be judged on appropriateness and the use of correct format for <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Present level of performance 2. IEP goals and objectives 3. Georgia Performance Learning Standards

Specific activities addressing competencies:

- Web site and current article presentations: Students will choose from a list of professionally relevant web-sites and from a variety of popular media sources for individual presentations during the semester. The focus of the presentations should be related to assessment in special education.
- Complete assigned readings: Students are expected to complete readings prior to corresponding class lecture.
- Development of an assessment portfolio: Students will develop an assessment portfolio that contains a variety of assessment tools including protocols for Curriculum Based Assessment in five academic subjects that will be useful for future assessment. The students will also gather information relating to assessment using professional educational web-sites, and also information relating to assessment that is presented in popular media sources.

- Final Project: Students will analyze the results of individually administered CBAs in 5 academic subjects, (reading, math, written expression, phonemic awareness, and independent CBA) and will use that information to describe present level of functioning and related IEP goals and objectives for a particular student. The student will also be required to correlate IEP objectives with the state of Georgia's Performance Learning Standards

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Students are required to attend class / lab and be present for every discussion and activity. Each unexcused absence will result in a 5% reduction in final grade for the course. Excused absences will be considered on a case by case basis and include documented illnesses, funerals, court appearances and possibly other events of a serious nature. In case of an absence, the student is responsible for information covered in assigned reading, class lectures, handouts, and in-class discussions and activities.
- The formats of the tests will vary. Students are expected to be on time for all tests. No one will be admitted to a test after the first person has finished and left the room. If students are late, no extra time will be allotted for completion of the exam.
- There will be no make up exams given for any reason other than a documented illness or an event of a serious nature. Missing an exam for an illness requires a verified medical excuse from the doctor that includes the date and the reason for missing an exam.
- All assignments are to be typed using Ariel font. Products that are to be presented to students as part of the assessment process should be Ariel 16. Products that are to be turned into the instructor should be Ariel 12. Assignments must be turned in during or before the class meeting on the assigned due date. Failure to turn in assignments when due will result in an automatic 20 % penalty per day for points earned on any given assignment.
- The assignment of incomplete ("I") is discouraged and will be assigned only in cases of extreme emergencies and only in cases where a passing grade can be earned. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor when such circumstances exist. Upon notification a contract between the student and the instructor will be developed before the last week of school.
- Readings from the packet and select articles will be assigned prior to a given lecture. Class participants will be responsible for completing the readings prior to the lecture and are responsible for any questions about the readings presented by the instructor. Periodic "Quick Writes" covering assigned readings will be administered during the semester.
- 10 Points will be assigned for professional behavior. This category of behaviors requires a subjective judgement on the part of the instructor. As a guide during this ongoing evaluative process, your work ethic will be evaluated throughout the semester by observing the following behaviors. Indicators of professional behavior on the part of the student are, **but are not limited to:**
 1. Attendance in class
 2. Participation in class discussions
 3. Punctuality in turning in assignments
 4. Accepting constructive criticism in a positive manner
 5. Willingness to work hard
 6. Following guidelines for the development of written products
 7. Putting the same amount of effort into ungraded activities as ones that are graded.

8. Completion of readings prior to the lecture.
9. Meticulous editing of written work prior to turning in.
10. Communicating with instructor if having difficulty with course content or course assignments.

GRADING SCALE: A – 90-100, B-80-89, C-70-79, D- 65-69, F- below 65

Reading CBA	5 points
Math CBA	5 points
Phonemic Awareness CBA	5 points
Independent CBA	5 points
Test 1 over related readings	10 points
Test 2 over related readings	10 points
Test 3 over related readings	10 points
Five periodic “quick writes”	10 points total
Web Site Presentation	5 points
Current Article Presentation	5 points
Professional Behavior	10 points
Final project	20 points

“Quick Writes” Periodically during the semester, there will be a series of “Quick Writes.” These mini tests will be composed of short discussion questions over required reading material. On the basis of the response, the student may accrue up to 2 points with a total of 10 possible points for the semester. The purpose of these “Quick Writes” is to emphasize the importance of completing the required readings prior to the lecture presentation.

This schedule is tentative and subject to change.

Week	Class	Lab
Aug. 21-23	P&G 1	Get Bel-Jean packet
Aug. 28-30	P&G 2: Legal Issues BJ: Laws	CBA: Reading
Sept. 4-6 Sept. 4 Labor Day	P&G 3: Methods of Assess. Recent Changes to Ass.	CBA: Math
Sept. 11-13	P&G 4 and 5: Basic Concepts; Validity/Reliability	CBA: Phonemic Awareness
Sept. 18-20	P&G 6: Terminology BJ: Including students with disabilities in assessment federal and state guidelines	CBA: Written Expression
Sept. 25-27	P&G 7 and 8: Prereferral/Parental Issues	CBA: Independent Teacher-Made Tests (BJ)
Oct. 2-4 TEST 1	P&G 9: Academic Achievement	Placement Have conduct form signed
Oct. 9-11 Mid – point	P&G 10: Intelligence	Administer CBA in Placement
Oct. 16-18	P&G 11: Behavior	Administer CBA in Placement
Oct 23-25 TEST 2	P&G 12: Perceptual	Administer CBA in Placement
Oct. 30 – Nov. 1	P&G 16: Determination of Disability/Eligibilities; BJ: Assessment Requirements for Various Disabilities	Administer CBA in Placement
Nov. 6-8	P&G 18: Placement Procedures	Administer CBA in Placement
Nov. 13-15	P&G 19: Developing an IEP BJ : What must be Included in an IEP	Develop Present Level
Nov. 20	Film	Develop Goals and Objectives
Nov. 27-29	Presentations	Correlate objectives to GPS
Dec. 4-6	Presentations P&G 20: Special Topics	