



## **EDUC 2301-311C3**

### **Introduction to Special Population**

**Spring 2025**

**Monday - Friday 9:30-11:05 AM**

**Instructor:** Annlyn Gunn, M.Ed., [agunn@com.edu](mailto:agunn@com.edu), 281-229-6589

**Communicating with your instructor:** ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means.

**Office (Student) Hours & Location:**

Tuesday-Friday 8:55-9:25 AM or by appointment.

**Optional Textbook:** Cushner, K; McClelland, A.; and Safford, P. *Human diversity in education: An integrative approach. 10th Edition Boston: McGraw Hill, 2022.*

**Textbook Purchasing Statement:** A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

**Course Description:** An enriched, integrated pre-service course and content experience that provides an overview of schooling and classrooms from the perspectives of language, gender, socioeconomic status, ethnic and academic diversity, and equity with an emphasis on factors that facilitate learning. The course provides students with opportunities to participate in early field observations of P-12 special populations and should be aligned as applicable with State Board for Educator Certification Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities standards. To earn credit for the course, students must complete a minimum of 16 contact hours of field experience in P-12 classrooms with special populations.

**Course Prerequisite:**

Students must have:

- Successfully completed EDUC 1301: Introduction to the Teaching Profession

**Course requirements (including description of any special projects or assignments):**

- **Log into Brightspace at least twice a week** to check for Announcements and e-mail, to complete the weekly quiz, to review the Module Content, and to retrieve tools needed to complete course assignments and observations. You must monitor and respond to any and all assignments specified in the Semester Outline/Course Calendar available in D2L, and at the end of this document, within prescribed timelines, and you must monitor and respond to instructor initiated D2L e-mail within 3 calendar days. The instructor will likewise monitor and respond to D2L student-initiated e-mail within 3 calendar days. (This does not apply to weekends or during periods when COM is officially closed.)
- **Participate in all Brightspace** activities in a professional manner (see Guidelines for Professionalism portion of this document and the Participation & Professionalism Grading Rubric located in the D2L Menu in the Course Forms folder.)
- **Complete with satisfactory evaluation and submit all assignments within the time limit prescribed by the instructor. Due to the online format for this course, assignments are to be submitted as electronic copies.** Detailed descriptions of assignments and associated grading rubrics can be found in your D2L Course Menu in the "Assignments" link. Assignments and their due dates are indicated in the Semester Outline toward the end of this document but are subject to revision if circumstances dictate or if there is consensus among instructor and students. **See Makeup, Late Work, and Extra Credit Policies that follow.**
- **Maintain a quiz average of 50% or better.** Weekly quizzes will be administered through Blackboard, and students are responsible for taking quizzes within the date/time parameters indicated on the Semester Outline (at the end of this document). **Brightspace quizzes will not be re-opened once the availability parameter has elapsed.**
- **COMPLETE A MINIMUM OF 16 DOCUMENTED HOURS OF "LAB/FIELD EXPERIENCE" AS SPECIFIED BELOW.**

#### **Lab/Field Experience Requirements:**

Lab/Field experience will be completed online using videos this semester. To earn credit for this course, students will be **required** to complete a **minimum of 16** documented hours of "lab/field experience". School personnel are required to meet standards designed to assure the safety of the learner population; because this course will have students observing in a variety of classroom settings, they will be required to submit an application for a criminal background check. If a student has a felony **conviction** for certain offenses against children and families, **they may not be eligible to work or volunteer in the public schools or childcare facilities at which these "labs/field experiences" will take place.**

If you have questions about this requirement, consult with your instructor. Future "Lab/field experiences" for this course will require that you make arrangements with appropriate school administrators to schedule the 16 hours as specified in each of the assignments. All course assignments, assignment descriptions, grading rubrics, and assignment-related resources can be found in the D2L "Assignments" link. The timeline for accomplishment of these observations is delineated in the Semester Outline (found at the end of this document).

#### **Observation Guidelines:**

Because the primary objective of this course is to introduce you as a student to the teaching profession, it is imperative that you gain some initial first-hand exposure to the profession. All instructions and forms related to these observations can be found in D2L under the "Assignments" link.

#### **Classroom Conduct Policy:**

College of the Mainland requires that students enrolled at COM be familiar with the Standards of Student Conduct, which can be found in the on-line Student Handbook. <https://www.com.edu/student->

services/student-handbook.. Students are expected to be familiar with and abide by the Student Code of Conduct. Any violations of the Code of Conduct will result in a referral to the Dean of Students and may result in dismissal from this class.

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula (methods of evaluation to be employed to include a variety of means to evaluate student performance):**

D2L Quizzes	10%
Course Assignments and Observations	50%
Class Participation/Professionalism:	40%

**Assignments and Special Projects:**

Each major assignment and project have a detailed description that is in the "Assignment" and "Content" tab on the Top Menu. Students should use the associated grading rubric for each assignment for specific content/format requirements.

**Assessment Methods:**

Participation and Professionalism will be assessed using the Class Participation Record Keeping Form.

Detailed Assignment/Project descriptions and associated grading rubrics for all other major assignments and projects are located in the "Assignment" folder on the D2L Course Menu as well.

**Extra Credit:**

Extra credit for the course may be earned by:

- Completing the online course evaluation at the end of the course for bonus points toward your Portfolio score which is 50% of your course grade.
- Completing all online quizzes by the due dates indicated on the Semester Outline, which will earn an additional 5 percentage points toward your quiz average (10% of your course grade).

- Completing all observations by the last due date indicated on the Semester Outline which will earn an additional 5 percentage points toward your portfolio average (50% of your course grade.)

### Grading Scale:

College of the Mainland's grading system is as follows:

A (90 - 100%)	Superior achievement of course objectives
B (80- 89%)	Outstanding achievement of course objectives
C (70 - 79%)	Achievement of minimum objectives
D (60 - 69%)	Marginal achievement of course objectives
F (Below 60%)	Failure to achieve course objectives
I	A temporary grade given to indicate that,  in the instructor's judgment, the student  can complete the course objectives within  a specified extension of time.

### Make-Up Policy:

If a student misses an assignment or test due to an **emergency absence, or illness**, it is the student's responsibility to promptly arrange for make-up work. Parameters for make-up work will be made at the discretion of the instructor and may not be an option, depending on the circumstances. **Keep in mind, if you have not spoken to me and made arrangements for submission, the assignment, project, or quiz *WILL NOT be accepted.*** Do not expect the instructor to remind you.

### Rewed or Resubmitted Work:

Assignments and projects submitted on time may be revised and resubmitted if resubmitted within one week of the date the graded assignment/project was returned to the student.

**For Field Experiences (if necessary):** If for any reason you are unable to show up on an agreed upon date/time, contact the school in advance. Remember that the making and keeping of these arrangements is an indication of how you would perform as an employee of the school, so do not miss a scheduled observation except under emergency circumstances. Make alternative arrangements to complete the Field Experience as soon as possible.

**Attendance Policy:**

College of the Mainland does not allow a certain number of "cuts"; therefore, you must log in to this course at least once a week. An absence from online session is the responsibility of the student and the student will receive a Participation Grade of O for that session. (This will negatively impact the participation and professionalism portion of the student's final course grade.) Excessive absenteeism from online sessions and/or failure to keep up with D2L content/assignments will result in the student's failure to accomplish the course learning outcomes and will result in a grade of "F" for the course.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Describe the characteristics of exceptional learners (e.g. Learning Disabilities, Gifted and Talented), including legal implications.	6. Personal Responsibility	1. Teaching Philosophy Project
2. Describe and analyze characteristics of diverse learners (e.g. language, gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity) and how diversity impacts learning.	1. Critical Thinking Skills	1. Teaching Philosophy Project
3. Describe the impact of socio-economic status on learning and creating equitable classrooms.	5. Social Responsibility	1. Annotated Bibliography Project
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the benefits and challenges of racial, ethnic, and other types of cultural diversity in the classroom.	2. Communication Skills (written, oral & visual)	1. Lesson Plan Project
5. Recognize the various multiple intelligences/learning styles in order to be able to implement instructional practices that meet the needs of all students;	5. Social Responsibility	1. Field Experiences 1-4

**Academic Dishonesty:**

Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty - such as cheating on exams - is an extremely serious offense and will result in a grade of zero on the exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

**Student Concerns:** If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Shinya Wakao at [swakao@com.edu](mailto:swakao@com.edu).

**Course outline:**

SESSION	Blackboard Content	ASSIGNMENTS/ASSESSMENTS DUE (B=Brightspace, H=Homework, & F=Face-to-face)
<b>Week1 (Orientation)</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In Brightspace, see "Read Me First" and complete all of the "Getting Started" tasks (B)</li> <li>● Post Response to Journal (B)</li> </ul>
<b>Week2 Module 1 (Ch.1)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introductions/Ice Breaker</li> <li>● Criminal Background Letters/ Documentation</li> <li>● Course overview/goals for the course - "KWL"</li> <li>● Expectations for "Annotated Bibliography" Presentations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read Ch. 1 (H)</li> <li>● Quiz #1 (Ch. 1) due to be taken (B)</li> </ul>
<b>Week3 Module 1 (Ch. 3)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Education in a changing society ●</li> <li>What is multicultural education? ●</li> <li>Rethinking schools and learning ●</li> <li>Difficulty of change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quiz #2 (Ch. 2) due to be taken (B)</li> </ul> <div style="background-color: #fce4d6; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Submit "Ann. Bibliography" title selection (B)</b></p> <p><b>Submit F. E. Observation #1 (B)</b></p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read Ch. 3 (H)</li> <li>● Prepare "Ann. Bibliography" (H)</li> <li>● Group work scores begin</li> </ul>
<b>Week4 Module 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Historical perspective on U.S. pluralism legislative &amp; judicial landmarks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quiz #3 (Ch. 3) due to be taken (B)</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read Ch. 4 (H)</li> </ul>

(Ch. 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Theoretical perspective to multicultural education</li> <li>● Legislative and judicial landmarks</li> <li>● Outcomes for today's learners/programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prepare for "Ann. Bibliography" Presentation (H)</li> <li>● Complete Field Experience Observation #1 (H)</li> </ul>
<p>Week5</p> <p>Module 2</p> <p>(Ch. 4)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Exploring &amp; defining culture</li> <li>● Applying the concept of culture</li> <li>● The culture learning process</li> <li>● Socializing agents, &amp; understanding cultural differences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quiz #4 (Ch.4) due to be taken (B)</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read Ch. 5 (H)</li> </ul>
<p>Week6</p> <p>Module 2</p> <p>(Ch. 5)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Today's schools: where cultures intersect</li> <li>● Cross-cultural psychology and interactions</li> <li>● Applying the culture-general model</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quiz #5 (Ch. 5) due to be taken (B)</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Submit F. E. Observation #2 (B)</b></p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Complete Field Experience Observation #2 (H)</li> <li>● Read Ch. 6 (H)</li> </ul>
<p>Week7</p> <p>Module3</p> <p>(Ch. 6)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Developmental models of ethnic &amp; racial identity</li> <li>● Intercultural competence</li> <li>● Developing intercultural sensitivity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quiz #6 (Ch. 6) due to be taken (B)</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Submit "Ann. Bibliography" project due</b></p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read Ch. 7 (H)</li> </ul>
<p>Week8</p> <p>Module 3</p> <p>(Ch. 7)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Understanding race, ethnicity, and prejudice</li> <li>● Strategies for reducing prejudice</li> <li>● Improving intergroup relations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quiz #7 (Ch. 7) due to be taken (B)</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read Ch. 8 (H)</li> </ul>



## SPRING BREAK

<b>Week9</b> <b>Module 4</b> <b>(Ch. 8)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Education in a global society</li> <li>● Curriculum development with a global purpose</li> <li>● What students should study/how teachers should teach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quiz #8 (Ch. 8) due to be taken (B)</li> </ul>
		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Submit F. E. Observation #3 (B) due</b></p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read Ch. 9(H)</li> <li>● Begin work on Classroom Management Project (H)</li> <li>● Complete Field Experience Observation #3 (H)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 10</b> <b>Module 4</b> <b>(Ch. 9)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What are learning communities</li> <li>● Characteristic of learning communities</li> <li>● Variations in culture, language, and learning style</li> <li>● Perspectives on second-language acquisition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quiz #9 (Ch. 9) due to be taken (B)</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read Ch. 10 (H)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 11 Module4</b> <b>(Ch.10)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Religious pluralism in the U.S.</li> <li>● Perspectives on religion &amp; schooling in the U.S.</li> <li>● Classrooms that attend to religious pluralism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quiz #10 (Ch. 10) due to be taken (B)</li> </ul>
		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Submit Teaching Philosophy (B) due</b></p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read Ch. 11(H)</li> <li>● Prepare Teaching Philosophy for submission (H)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Rationale for collaborative teaching &amp; learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quiz #11 (Ch. 11) due to be taken (B)</li> </ul>

<b>(Ch.11)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Characteristics of a collaborative classroom</li> <li>● How do gender equity and ethical issues related to gender &amp; sexuality fit into collaborative classrooms?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Submit F. E. Observation #4 (B) due</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read Ch. 12 (H)</li> <li>● Prepare Lesson Plans for submission.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Week13</b></p> <p><b>Module 5</b></p> <p><b>(Ch.12)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What does developmentally appropriate mean/not mean and why is it important?</li> <li>● Characteristics of developmentally appropriate classrooms</li> <li>● Perspectives on age and development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quiz #12 (Ch. 12) due to be taken (B)</li> </ul> <p><b>Submit Annotated Bibliography Review due</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read Ch. 13 (H)</li> <li>● Complete Field Experience Observation #4 (H)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Week 14</b></p> <p><b>Module 5</b></p> <p><b>(Ch.13)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What is exceptionality?</li> <li>● Characteristics of inclusive classrooms</li> <li>● Making inclusive teaching work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quiz #13 (Ch. 13) due to be taken (B)</li> <li>● Do online course evaluation &amp; earn bonus points for Portfolio score (H)</li> </ul> <p><b>Submit Lesson Plan Online</b></p>
<p><b>Week15</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Equitable education for all: impact of social class and social status</li> <li>● Perspectives on assessment &amp; educational equity</li> <li>● Teachers and the "self-fulfilling prophecy"</li> <li>● Where are we today and where do we need to go?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Week16</b></p>	<p><b>Final Week of Class</b></p>	<p><b>Submit F. E. Observation #5 due</b></p> <p><b>Final Week all items due on (B) Thursday, May 8th</b></p>

## Institutional Policies and Guidelines

**Grade Appeal Process:** Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook [https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student\\_Handbook\\_2024-2025\\_v6.pdf](https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v6.pdf). *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

**Academic Success & Support Services:** College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

**ADA Statement:** Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: [AccessibilityServices@com.edu](mailto:AccessibilityServices@com.edu)

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

**Textbook Purchasing Statement:** A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is February 26. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 21. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is April 30.

**FN Grading:** The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

**Early Alert Program:** The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

### Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at [deanofstudents@com.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@com.edu) or [communityresources@com.edu](mailto:communityresources@com.edu).

### Nondiscrimination Statement:

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender

