

**VIRGINIA CONSORTIUM FOR TEACHER PREPARATION
IN SEVERE DISABILITIES AND AUTISM**

Fall 2014

Positioning and Handling (3 Credits)

Consortium Courses:

- VCU: SEDP 658 Educating Students with Severe Disabilities
- RU: EDSP 665 Positioning and Handling
- UVA: EDIS 5058 Positioning, Handling, and Self Care
- NSU: SPE 641A Physical and Occupational Therapy Procedures Adapted
- GMU: EDSE 669 Interdisciplinary Approach for Children with Sensory and Motor Disabilities
 - EDSE 669 001, CRN: 72098
 - EDSE 669 6U1, CRN 82112

Instructor: Melissa Ainsworth	Meeting Dates: 8/25/2014 - 12/3/2014
Phone: 703-380-9833 text please	Meeting Day(s): Wednesdays
E-Mail: mainswor@gmu.edu	Meeting Time(s): 7:20 pm-10:00 pm
Office Hours: As needed	Instructing University: GMU

***Note:** This syllabus may change according to class needs. Students will be advised of any changes immediately through George Mason e-mail and/or through Blackboard.*

Course Description

Emphasizes positioning, handling, and adaptive strategies. Focuses on understanding the roles of related disciplines in collaborative planning and service delivery.

Prerequisite(s): None

Co-requisite(s): None

Advising Contact Information

Please make sure that you are being advised on a regular basis as to your status and progress through your program. Mason M.Ed. and Certificate students should contact the Special Education Advising Office at (703) 993-3670 for assistance. All other students should refer to their faculty advisor.

Nature of Course Delivery

Learning activities include the following:

1. Class lecture and discussion

2. Application activities
3. Small group activities and assignments
4. Video and other media supports
5. Research and presentation activities
6. Electronic supplements and activities via Blackboard

Learner Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe typical physical development of children and apply this knowledge in guiding learning experiences.
- Have a basic understanding of the most common medical diagnoses associated with students with severe disabilities and the impact on their functioning in school and community settings.
- Understand the role muscle tone plays in the positioning and handling of students.
- Be familiar with common positioning equipment used in the classroom.
- Be able to identify the physical, sensory, and/or health/medical needs of students with severe disabilities and understand how these needs impact the educational program.
- Be familiar with common medical terms used in conjunction with a variety of medical diagnosis.
- Understand the roles and responsibilities of related and support staff working in a collaborative setting.
- Be able to write educationally relevant IEP goals and objectives that address self-care and/or self-management of student physical, sensory, and/or medical needs that also enhances academic success.
- Given an IEP, be able to develop lesson plans incorporating the goals and objectives, integrating positioning programs into the lessons.
- Know where to go for help in the school system for related services, and how and when to initiate requests for assistance.
- Know how to establish self-help, feeding, grooming, sensory, and toileting programs.

Required Textbooks

Orelove, F. P., Sobsey, D., & Silberman, R. K. (2004). *Educating Children with Multiple Disabilities: A collaborative Approach*. 4th Edition. Baltimore, MD: Paul Brookes. ISBN: 9781557667106

Additional readings as provided and assigned.

(GMU Students) Digital Library Option

The Pearson textbook(s) for this course **may be** available as part of the **George Mason University Division of Special Education and disAbility Research Digital Library**. Please note that not all textbooks are available through this option. Visit the links below before purchasing the digital library to ensure that your course(s) text(s) are available in this format. The division and Pearson have partnered to bring you the Digital Library; a convenient, digital solution that can save you money on your course materials. The Digital Library offers you access to a complete digital library of **all Pearson textbooks** and MyEducationLabs used across the Division of Special Education and disAbility Research curriculum at a low 1-year or 3-year subscription price. Access codes are available in the school bookstore. Please visit <http://gmu.bncollege.com> and search the ISBN. To register your access code or purchase the Digital Library, visit:

<http://www.pearsoncustom.com/va/gmu/digitallibrary/education/index.html>

- 1 year subscription \$200 ISBN-13: 9781269541411
- 3 years subscription \$525 ISBN-13: 9781269541381
- Individual e-book(s) also available at the bookstore link above or at <http://www.pearsoncustom.com/va/gmu/digitallibrary/education/index.html>

Recommended Textbooks

Batshaw, M., Roizen, N. J., Lotrecchiano, G. R. (2013). Children With Disabilities. 7th Edition. Baltimore, MD: Paul Brookes Publishing. ISBN: 13: 9781598571943

Required Resources

Access to blackboard

Additional Readings

As assigned and posted in blackboard

Course Relationships to Program Goals and Professional Organizations

This course is part of The Virginia Consortium for Teacher Preparation in Severe Disabilities, a grant from the Virginia Department of Education that includes George Mason University, Virginia Commonwealth University, the University of Virginia, Radford University, and Norfolk State University. Through the completion of the SD Consortium program, students are eligible for teacher licensure in the Commonwealth of Virginia in the area of Special Education – Adapted Curriculum K-12. This program complies with the standards for teacher licensure established by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), the major special education professional organization. The CEC standards that will be addressed in this class include Standard 1: Learner Differences, Standard 3: Curricular Content Knowledge, Standard 4:

Assessment, & Standard 5: Instructional Planning and Strategies. (Updated Fall 2014 to align with the revised CEC Standards)

PROFESSIONAL DISPOSITIONS

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

Course Policies & Expectations

Attendance

This class is designed to be interactive and rigorous. This is so your learning is optimized. Your attendance in class is important and *required*. You need to make every effort to attend class. If you are absent, your class activity grade for that date will be 0. **In class Activities may NOT be made up.** Please contact the instructor if you know ahead of time that you will not be in class on a particular day due to illness or an emergency.

Late Work.

All assignments are due **in class** by 7:00pm on the dates listed in the course schedule in this syllabus. *Five percent of the available points* for the assignment will be deducted each day for late submissions during the first week after the due date. *After one week* from the due date, assignments will not be accepted. Thus an assignment that is three days late is able to obtain only 85% of the points for the assignment regardless of the quality of the work. After one week, the assignment will no longer be accepted and a score of zero will be entered into the grade book for the assignment.

The point deduction will be made after the grading is complete. The date that the assignment was received by the instructor in hand will be considered the date submitted. Submitting an assignment late does not alter the due dates of the other assignments and prevents timely feedback to students regarding their work may be of value in later assignments. Strive to keep up with the assignment schedule so that you will be able to have appropriate formative evaluation and feedback from your instructor across the semester.

TaskStream Submission

Every student registered for any Special Education course with a required performance-based assessment is required to submit this assessment, *Physical Management Plan with Assistive Technology* to TaskStream (regardless of whether a course is an elective, a onetime course or part of an undergraduate minor). Evaluation of the performance-based assessment by the course instructor will also be completed in TaskStream. Failure to submit the assessment to TaskStream will result in the course instructor reporting the course grade as Incomplete(IN). Unless the IN grade is changed upon completion of the required TaskStream submission, the IN will convert to an F nine weeks into the following semester.

If you have never used TaskStream before, you MUST use the login and password information that has been created for you. (GMU students: this information is distributed to students through GMU email, so it is very important that you set up your GMU email.) For more TaskStream information, go to <http://cehd.gmu.edu/api/taskstream>.

Grading Scale

Graduate Students:

95-100% = A

90-94% = A-

87-89% = B+

80-86% = B

70-79% = C

<70% - F

Assignments

Performance-based Assessment (TaskStream submission required).

The NCATE/TaskStream assignment for this course is the *Physical Management Plan with Assistive Technology*. Please see the *Other Assignments* section for assignment description.

Other Assignments.

NCATE/TaskStream Assignments : 100 points possible.

Physical Management Plan with Assistive Technology (Instructional Program): For this assignment, students are to identify a student within an educational setting who has a severe and/or multiple disabilities as well as physical, sensor, and /or medical needs. For those without access to a student who meets this description, the instructor will provide you with a student or a case study will be provided if no student is available. You will

1. Write a detailed description of this student based on records available and observation of the student
2. Determine a functional goal
3. Discuss relevant laws and policies as they pertain to the education of your student
4. Plan an instructional strategy to teach this goal.

Common Assignments.

There are no common assignments at this time.

In Class Assignments: 10 points each for a total of 100 points possible

There will be a total of 11 (eleven) in class assignments throughout the course. They may be writing assignments, reading checks, an in class group “project” or other assignment. Each of the assignments are worth up to 10 points. This equals 110 points. The lowest in class assignment grade will be dropped for a possible 100 points total. **In class assignments can NOT be made up**. The highest 10 in class assignments will be added up to equal one grade worth up to 100 points.

Research Reviews: 50 points each for a total of 100 points possible.

As a teacher, you should be able to read and apply research in your field. You will be assigned one article to critique outside of class which is worth up to 50 points. You will choose a second article to critique on your own as well which is worth up to 50 points. The two scores will be added to equal one grade of up to 100 points possible.

Schedule of readings and class lectures is available on the last page of the syllabus.

SD CONSORTIUM SYLLABUS STATEMENTS AND POLICIES

Honor Code

Each university has its own honor code and it is important for you to review the honor code at your university. However, all students taking this course, regardless of the university they are enrolled in, are expected to follow this honor code and also to pledge all assignments and their exam to indicate that they have followed the honor code. A pledge means that you have not cheated or plagiarized, nor have you given or received assistance that violated the description of how assignments are to be completed for this course. The shortened version may be used: “Pledged” followed by the date and your full name (typed “signatures” will be OK for assignments/tests submitted electronically).

A complete copy of each university’s Honor System document is available through

GMU: <http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/plagiarism.htm>

VCU: www.students.vcu.edu/rg/policies/rg7honor.html.

UVA: <http://www.virginia.edu/honor/>

Radford: http://www.radford.edu/~dos-web/handbook02-03/Honor_Code.pdf

NSU: http://www.nsu.edu/student_judicial/policy.html

Accommodations for Disability

At all the participating universities, accommodations can be made with the instructor if a student has a disability. If this is relevant to you, please contact me on the first night of class (can be through email) and indicate both what the disability is and how your university has made

accommodations for you in the past. I will discuss (via email) this further with you until we reach consensus. University specific information regarding eligibility, services and accommodations can be found at:

GMU: <http://www.gmu.edu/student/drc/>

VCU: <http://www.students.vcu.edu/dss/index.html>

UVA: <http://www.virginia.edu/vpsa/services.html>

Radford: <http://www.radford.edu/~dro/>

NSU: <http://www.nsu.edu/disabilityservices/index.html>

Inclement Weather

If classes are cancelled at George Mason University, a message will be posted on the class Blackboard site and all class members will receive an email. Because such cancellations are often at the last minute, it may be difficult to get this message prior to leaving for class. If in doubt, dial the University phone number (703-993-1000) or visit the university website (www.gmu.edu). Do not email us; I will email you regarding weather as soon as it is announced. Please note, the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather is determined by the decision of the instructing university only. If the instructing university is open and operational then you are expected to attend class.

Cell Phones and Weapons

All cell phones and beepers should be deactivated while in the classroom. Also, University rules at all participating universities prohibit the possession any firearm, other weapon, or explosive. Please consult the student handbook and your university for specific information concerning this policy at your university.

Course Materials

This course gives you access to PowerPoint files, class lecture notes, handouts, and copyrighted articles. For the articles (available both on Blackboard and on a class CD), copyright laws must be followed: print only one copy per student. The PowerPoint presentations, notes, and handouts are provided on Blackboard for your convenience and to facilitate your mastery of concepts presented in this course; PowerPoints should be available on Blackboard by noon of the class day or sooner. If you plan to print copies of PowerPoint slides, this must be done before class begins (before 4 pm or 7:20 pm) and using a 3 or more slides per page handout format (do not print full slide pages). All of these materials should be regarded as authored materials, which if used or referred to must be fully credited through reference to the author, the class, and date. If used beyond citation, permission of the instructor/author is required.

Technology Proficiencies

All students participating in this course are expected to be proficient in several technology skills. Students are expected to be proficient in using the Internet and have reliable and consistent Internet access. Students are also expected to have an active email account and to check email regularly. This course requires students to use Blackboard, which is our online course management system located at <http://mymason.gmu.edu>

NON GMU Students: Your login for Blackboard Organizations is: *x_first name.last name* For example John Smith's username would be: *x_john.smith* Your password is: *bbcommunity*

Students are expected to login to this system frequently and be proficient in using its features. Students are expected to be proficient in using the computer, which includes downloading and saving files, typing, and word processing skills. Students participating in this course are expected to use Microsoft Word for all written assignments. Furthermore, students are expected to use Microsoft PowerPoint and Adobe Acrobat Reader for class documents located on the Blackboard website.

TaskStream Submission

TaskStream (www.taskstream.com) is an electronic portfolio and assessment management tool that the SD Consortium is utilizing in part to meet accreditation requirements for the National Council of Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) as well as for student portfolio evaluation purposes. **EVERY student taking this course at EVERY university IS REQUIRED to upload and submit the signature assignment for this course to TaskStream for evaluation by the end of the semester. Directions for submitting assignments are available on Blackboard in the *TaskStream* folder within the *Syllabus* section.**

The signature assignment(s) for this class is: *Literacy Case Study*

Remote Site Student

It is the policy of the consortium that students attending classes at university sites are expected to be present at those university sites during class time. However, there are situations in which students are unable to attend classes at the university sites and may be permitted to take a course as a “remote site” student. To be considered, students must meet the **requirement of more than 90 minutes of one-way travel time to the closest participating university (under normal circumstance). OR have a documented medical need.** In addition, there are several technology and procedural requirements that are detailed on the Consortium website:

<http://kihd.gmu.edu/sdc/> and posted on Blackboard. Students must obtain permission from both the course instructor and the consortium coordinator to be considered a remote site student. Students’ continued participation as a remote site will be re-assessed each semester.

In *special* circumstances where students would otherwise miss class (in accordance to the attendance policy) students may request to participate as a remote site if they (a) have met all of technical and procedural requirements, (b) have received permission from the instructor at least *one week* prior to class, and (c) have had a successful test session with GMU tech support personnel.

Course Facilitators

Each class will have a facilitator or assistant who will assist with the class. Learn who that person is as they will be taking role and keeping track of class participation and reporting it to me weekly. However, if you think you must miss a class, please email me ahead if at all possible (or later if need be). Because of the potential of confusion caused by people speaking at the same time in this multi-site course, it will be important to raise hands before asking questions or making comments. Along with the facilitators, I will try hard to enforce this rule and to be alert to questions from the distance sites. Facilitators will also FAX in-class written tasks following class or early the next day to me. When in class assignment forms or handouts are send the day of the class, facilitators will need to download and copy them for class members.

Blackboard Assistance

This course requires that you be a regular email user and be able to use various features of Blackboard (sign on, download materials, hand in completed assignments electronically in the drop box). You may direct your questions about Blackboard to the facilitator at the class site as well as to email Marci Kinas Jerome (mkinas@gmu.edu). She will be the best resource. We are all learning this system together and some of us will be faster than others. Expect some snafus along the way, but please help each other out as you can. You will want to download all the required materials early in the semester or as soon as they are posted. Please note that some handouts/readings may be given to you in class that are not posted on Blackboard. Also check Blackboard for announcements. Sometimes I will place handouts for class on Blackboard and will alert you by email or in the previous class; in these cases please download and bring them to class.

All Consortium courses are recorded and archived on a video-streaming server. Students and faculty are welcome to view previous classes at <http://torrent.gmu.edu> and click on the link for specific class.

Student may also view the PowerPoints, communicate with the instructor, and interact with other at home students using Adobe Connect. Each consortium class has their own Adobe Connect website. To get to your Adobe Connect course site go to:

- Positive Behavior Supports: <http://webcon.gmu.edu/pbs>
- Curriculum and Assessment: <http://webcon.gmu.edu/assessment>
- Positioning and Handling: <http://webcon.gmu.edu/positioning>
- Characteristics: <http://webcon.gmu.edu/characteristics/>

You will login with the guest username (sdcguest@gmu.edu) and password (sdcsite). The first time you use Adobe Connect you may be prompted to download a plug in, it only takes a few seconds to install.

(GMU ONLY) POLICIES AND RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS:

- a. Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/>].
- b. Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>].
- c. Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- d. The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a

wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu/>].

e. Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See <http://ods.gmu.edu/>].

f. Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

g. The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>].

CORE VALUES COMMITMENT

The College of Education & Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles. [See <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>]

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, Graduate School of Education, please visit our website [See <http://gse.gmu.edu/>]

Schedule: Additional readings may be added

Session #	Date	Topic	Reading Assignments to be completed before class (<i>Articles are posted in Blackboard</i>)	Assignments due
1	8-27-14	Course Overview: Quality of Life & using Research		
2	9-3-14	Teaching into the future & The Law	Chapter 1: Orelove, Obringer & Coffey (2010)	
3	9-10-14	Typical Development And The law	Chapter 6: Orelove	
4	9-17-14	Common Causes and Medical Terms	Hoon & Tolley (2013) Gage (1991) Zelleke et al. (2013)	
5	9-24-14	Equipment & Related Services	Barnes & Whinnery (2002)	1 st research article due
6	10-1-14	Positioning	Chapter 5: Orelove	
7	10-8-14	Sensory Impairments/	Chapter 10: Orelove	
8	10-15-14	AT / Communication	Chapter 11: Orelove Desch (2013) Lanconia et al. (2002)	2 nd research article due
9	10-22-14	Writing IEP goals; working it into the classroom	Chapter 3 & 7 Orelove	
10	10-29-14	Positioning Lab	Chapter 9: Orelove	
11	11-5-14	Family Life	Chapter 2: Orelove	
12	11-12-14	Feeding lab	Chapter 12: Orelove Meier, Fryling & Wallace (2012) Vaz et al. (2012)	
13	11-19-14	SIB/Abuse		Instructional Plan due
	11-26-14	Thanksgiving Break		
14	12-3-14	Transitions	Dosa, et al. (2013) Available in Batshaw	

**This schedule is subject to change. If changes occur the instructor will provide you with an updated schedule.