

**Louisiana Delta Community College**  
**Academic Affairs Master Syllabus**  
**Date Approved or Revised: January 31, 2007**

**Course Name: Introduction to Special Education**

Course Number: EDUC 131

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 3

**Textbook, Author, and Publisher:** Hardman, M., Drew, C., & Egan, M. (2004). Human exceptionality: Society, school, and family (8th ed.). Needham Heights, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

**Course Description:** This course focuses on the foundations of special education. The purpose of the course is to examine historical background information related to the field of special education (legislation and litigation); review components necessary for effective collaboration and consultation with parents, school personnel and other professionals, examine the nature and characteristics of various disabilities; and discuss services and programs to help meet the educational, social, and/or personal goals for students with disabilities.

**Prerequisites:** EDUC 131

**Co-requisites:** none

**Learning Outcomes:**

On completion of this course, the student will be able:

1. to examine the historical trends in special education, as well as related litigation and legislation, by completing a review of literature
2. to review current terminology and issues in the field of special education, including inclusion practices, as well as family and multicultural issues by attending classes which feature special guests in various roles in the special education realm and by participating in field trips.
3. to examine diagnosis, identification, and characteristics of various disabilities by completing a Disability Awareness Project.
4. to review service delivery options for students with disabilities and families by attending classes which feature special guests in various roles in the special education realm and by participating in field trips.
5. to discuss general methods and strategies for meeting the social and educational needs of students with various disabilities by answering a series of discussion questions dealing with special education issues.

<b>Assessment Measures:</b>		
<b>Type of Assessment</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Approximate % of Grade</b>
<b>Two Tests</b>		<b>10%</b>
<b>Final</b>		<b>10%</b>
<b>Literature Review</b>		<b>20%</b>
<b>Disability Awareness Project</b>		<b>20%</b>
<b>Discussion Questions</b>		<b>20%</b>
<b>Participation Points</b>		<b>20%</b>