

McLennan
C O M M U N I T Y
COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

**COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**Intro to Special Population
EDUC 2301 F1**

Ms. Kayla Willis

NOTE: This is an 8-week, online course.

COVID 19 Notice:

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals including your safety. We will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID 19 and adjust our safety guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. Please make sure to consult your faculty and the MCC website at <https://www.mclennan.edu/crisis-management/coronavirus-updates/index.html> on any changes to these guidelines.

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Course Description:

EDUC 2301 Introduction to Special Populations: 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. Provides students with opportunities to participate in field observations of EC-12 special populations. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec/lab).

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

No prerequisites

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

This course will provide foundational and occupational insight into field of education, especially within the various groups considered special populations. Students will be provided opportunities to observe teaching in action with the mandated 16 hours of observation/laboratory experience, case studies via text and website supplemental assignments. Students will gain an understanding of the various groups that compose a school's culture and climate among a multitude of distinct populations-cultural diverse, learning diverse and socio-economically diverse.

Please check email and Brightspace daily. I will use these methods to communicate with you often. Please sign up for MyAlert (information on MCC main page). The college uses this system to communicate important information to students.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Ms. Kayla Willis
MCC Email: kwillis@mclennan.edu
Office Phone Number: (254) 299-8788
Office Location: CSC Building, Child Development Center
Office/Conference Hours: T/TH 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm (via Zoom); evenings or other times available with appointment Zoom meeting ID#: 254 299 8786
You will use this number every time you enter our virtual Zoom conferencing room.

Zoom meeting password: Orange

Required Text & Materials:

Title: Human Exceptionality; School, Community and Family (12th Edition)
Author: Michael L. Hardman, M. Winston Egan and Clifford J. Drew
Edition: 12th Edition
Publisher: Cengage
ISBN: 978-1-305-50097-6 (Hardcover) or 978-1-305-63956-0 (Looseleaf)

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MCC Bookstore Website: <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Lectures
Reading assignments
Online discussion boards
Individual and group assignments
Quizzes
Small and large group collaboration
Review of relevant research
Research presentation

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

By the end of the course, the student will:

1. Describe public laws and their significance to individuals with exceptionalities.
2. Identify characteristics of individuals with special needs.
3. Identify appropriate interventions and services for children with exceptionalities.
4. Explain the professional characteristics of an educator working with children with exceptionalities.
5. Understand appropriate communication when working with children and families with special needs.
6. Discuss the significance of perception and its role in attitude and adjustment of life skills.
7. Discuss ethical and legal issues facing educators.
8. Identify current trends and issues in special education with application.
9. Assess their own feelings concerning persons with special needs by gaining a better understanding of them through participation in class and outside activities.
10. Complete 16 hours of field observations/laboratory experiences specific to EC-12 with various and diverse populations.

Course Outline or Schedule:

The course is arranged in learning units based on the chapters of the textbook. The following is a TENTATIVE schedule of these chapters and the primary topic for each. Circumstances may cause the schedule to be changed. If changes are necessary, they will be announced in Brightspace.

Units	Chapters/Topic	Assignments Due
Unit 1 Due Friday,	Special Education: History and Laws Chapter 1 Chapter 2	Read Chapters 1 & 2 Discussion Board 1 Quiz 1 Lab 1 Journal
Unit 2 Due Friday,	Special Education in Schools Chapter 3 Chapter 4	Read Chapters 3 & 4 Discussion Board 2 Quiz 2

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		Library Orientation
Unit 3 Due Friday,	Diversity and the Family Chapter 5 Chapter 6	Read Chapters 5 & 6 Discussion Board 3 Quiz 3 Lab 2 Journal
Unit 4 Due Friday,	Exploring Exceptionalities, Part 1 Chapter 7 – Learning Disabilities Chapter 8 – Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	Read Chapters 7 & 8 <i>Begin Conducting Research for Disability Presentation</i> Discussion Board 4 Quiz 4
Unit 5 Due Friday,	Exploring Exceptionalities, Part 2 Chapter 9 – Intellectual & Developmental Disorders Chapter 10 – Communication Disorders	Read Chapters 9 & 10 Discussion Board 5 Quiz 5 Disability Research Slideshow
Unit 6 Due Friday,	Exploring Exceptionalities, Part 3 Chapter 11 – The Autism Spectrum Chapter 12 – Severe & Multiple Disabilities	Read Chapters 11 & 12 NO DISCUSSION BOARD Quiz 6 Lab Journal 3
Unit 7 Due Friday,	Exploring Exceptionalities, Part 4 Chapter 13 – Sensory Disabilities Chapter 14 – Physical Disabilities & Other Health Disorders	Read Chapters 13 & 14 Discussion Board 7 Quiz 7 Lab 4 Journal Due
UNIT 8 DUE FRIDAY,	Exploring Exceptionalities, Part 5 Chapter 15 – Gifted, Creative and Talented Individuals	Read Chapter 15 Discussion Board 8 Quiz 8

Course Grading Information:

Unit Quizzes	25 %	
Discussion Board Posts	25%	
Lab Journal Submission	25%	
Disability Research Slideshow	25%	
Total Points	100%	

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	A	B	C	D	F
Total Points	100 – 90	89 – 80	79 – 70	69 – 60	59 or Below

Late Work Policies:

Late work is typically not accepted. However, I am not unreasonable. Under certain, documented circumstances (example: documented serious illness/injury of self or immediate relative), I will consider accepting late work. Communication is very important – if you are experiencing

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extenuating circumstances, please reach out to me so we can develop a plan for you to be successful in spite of your circumstances.

Attendance

Discussion board posts on Brightspace will be used to take attendance for online classes. Therefore, it is very important that you complete your discussion board assignments on time and thoroughly. These posts should be respectful and appropriately address the topic of the prompt. Please pay attention to normal conventions of writing – use capitalization, punctuation and spelling so your thoughts are clear to the professor and your classmates.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

In both the face-to-face and online environments, students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the instructor, prompt and regular attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the education opportunity.

While honest discussion and debate of topics is expected and encouraged, such interactions should not involve aggressive, derogatory, or involve hostile behaviors (verbal or otherwise). The instructor reserves the right to act to protect the decorum of the learning environment and the image of MCC.

If you are using Zoom to meet with the professor and/or other students, please ensure that you are dressed appropriately and are in a location where you can focus on your responsibilities as a student. Example: it is not appropriate to attend a Zoom class while laying in bed and/or half dressed. Please be respectful of others and mute yourself if background noise will be a problem.

Ethics

Cheating will not be tolerated. Any student found cheating will be subject to grade reduction, receiving a zero on assignments that involve cheating/plagiarism, and/or dismissal from the course.

Examples of cheating include but are not limited to:

- Copying the work of another student
- Seeking excused absences/tardiness under false pretenses
- Plagiarism (claiming as your own work the work of another)

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)

(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

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ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

Accommodations/ADA Statement:

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit www.mclennan.edu/disability.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

Title IX:

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Chief of Staff for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) at (254) 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>.

Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at www.mclennan.edu/titleix/. It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

Student Support/Resources:

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Students may visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule a meeting with a Success Coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff based on household size. Text (254) 870-7573 to schedule a pantry appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf.

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Go to www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Minimum Technical Skills:

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

Email Policy:

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to www.mclennan.edu/student-email.

Instructional Uses of Email:

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/set-up-an-outlook-account-in-the-ios-mail-app-b2de2161-cc1d-49ef-9ef9-81acd1c8e234?ui=en-us&rs=en-us&ad=us) (https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/set-up-an-outlook-account-in-the-ios-mail-app-b2de2161-cc1d-49ef-9ef9-81acd1c8e234?ui=en-us&rs=en-us&ad=us)
- [Email Setup for Androids](https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/set-up-email-in-android-email-app-71147974-7aca-491b-978a-ab15e360434c?ui=en-us&rs=en-us&ad=us) (https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/set-up-email-in-android-email-app-71147974-7aca-491b-978a-ab15e360434c?ui=en-us&rs=en-us&ad=us)

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support Cheat Sheet](#) or email helpdesk@mclennan.edu.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.