EDS 501
Setting Up a Special Education Classroom

NASET Study Hours Awarded for this Course: 8

Course Overview

Setting up a Special Education Classroom is aimed at providing educators with very practical advice on a variety of topics faced by special educators every day. This course will provide new teachers with practical guidelines for beginning the school year as a special education teacher, and experienced teachers with supportive information which may help improve their classroom. There are a variety of settings in which you may be hired in the field of special education including a resource room, self-contained special class or an inclusion setting. This course focuses on various steps that should be taken to insure the welfare of the children, the appropriate educational setting, information that should be gathered, communicating with related service providers, parents, paraprofessionals, assistant teachers, and other areas to make your job easier and more rewarding. This course assumes nothing and provides important information for all three settings. When noted, certain information is best suited for a specific type of setting. If not noted, then assume that the information being presented applies to all three settings.

This course is formatted to provide a very practical, experienced based body of knowledge that assumes nothing and allows you to "hit the floor running" if you are placed in a job as a special education teacher at the beginning of the school year.

The focus of this professional development course will be to teach you the following material:

- What to do before the school term begins
- Getting to know your students
- Assessment terminology
- Parts of the IEP
- Related services
- Transition goals and services
- Measuring progress on an IEP
- IQ scores and ranges
- Designing and setting up your classroom
- Station oriented models
- Teacher centered models
- Child oriented models
- School policy considerations
- Evaluating existing materials
- Meeting with parents
- Meeting with staff members
- Effective parent conferences
- Types of Inclusion delivery systems

Terminology you will learn in this course includes:
- Educational enrollment
- Primary record folder
- Age equivalent
- Grade equivalent
- Local percentile
- National percentile
- Raw score
- Scaled scores
- Mean
- Range
- Standard deviation
- Standard scores
- Stanines
- T-scores
- Z-scores
- Annual goals
- Health alerts
- Modifications
- Accommodations
- Assistive technology
- Station oriented classroom arrangement
- Teacher centered classroom arrangement
- Station teaching
- Parallel teaching
- Alternate teaching
- Team teaching