

Course Descriptions

SERP 556

Research Methods in Education

(3 units)

Basic concepts essential to the comprehension of research in education, including measurement principles and descriptive statistics.

SERP 503

Special Services in Schools (3 units)

Provides a theoretical base and practical approach to the study of special needs of students with language and cultural differences; basic premises of bilingual special education and the interface of the two fields. Graduate-level requirements include in-depth paper(s) on aspects of current issues in the field.

SERP 504

Cultural and Linguistic Diversity in Exceptional Learners (3 units)

Provides a theoretical base and practical approach to the study of special needs of students with language and cultural differences; basic premises of bilingual special education and the interface of the two fields. Graduate-level requirements include in-depth paper(s) on aspects of current issues in the field.

SERP 519b

Assistive Technology for People with Visual Impairments (2 units)

Assessment/instruction of assistive technology for people with visual impairments. Students will use, analyze, and apply hardware and software for blind and low vision users, including those with multiple disabilities. Lesson planning and curricular applications are included.

SERP 519c

Advanced Low Vision Assessment and Instruction (2 units)

Course two in low vision. Emphasis on application of basic principles learned in first low vision course. Assessment and development of instructional low vision programs with and without optical devices are content areas. *Prerequisite:* SERP 520.

SERP 520

Low Vision and Visual Functioning (3 units)

Anatomy and physiology of the eye; implications of visual disorders including visual field losses; introduction to optics; use of optical and non-optical aids in classroom settings. Graduate-level requirements include writing at least one paper and one additional item. *Prerequisite:* SERP 521.

SERP 521

Introduction to Visual Impairments and Deaf-Blindness (3 units)

An overview of educational services for the student with visual impairments and multiple sensory impairments. An emphasis is placed on the psychosocial effects of visual impairments on the individual

and means of compensating for those effects. Graduate-level requirements include writing a grant proposal to obtain monies to enhance service delivery.

SERP 522

Orientation & Mobility for Teachers of Individuals with Visual Impairments (3 units)

Methods of teaching orientation and mobility skills to visually impaired and blind students. Emphasis on the school-aged child, with particular attention to concept development, orientation skills, pre-cane skills, personal safety, and independent ambulation, including an introduction to long-cane techniques. Graduate-level requirements include completion of an additional research paper and presentation.

SERP 523a

Braille I (3 units)

Fundamentals of Braille reading and writing, methods of teaching Braille and preparation of materials. Graduate-level requirements include in-depth paper(s) on aspects of current issues and class presentations.

SERP 523b

Braille II (3 units)

Advanced braille codes, including Nemeth (mathematical), music, foreign language, and computer; includes instruction in the use of the abacus for mathematics and instructional methods including materials preparation.

SERP 524

Methods of Teaching the Visually Impaired (3 units)

Curriculum development and adaptation in various educational programs; adaptation of classroom materials; procedures for use with blind/partially sighted children and youth; emphasizes teaching academic and non-academic skills and in educating students with non-disabled peers. Graduate-level requirements include a short review of the literature using APA style about their chosen topic. *Course Requisites:* SERP 521; concurrent registration, SERP 593.

SERP 526

Principles and Assessments of O & M (3 units)

In-depth study of the principles supporting orientation and mobility instruction; assessment principles and strategies specific to O & M. *Prerequisite:* SERP 520 or equivalent.

SERP 527

Advanced O & M Practice and Procedures (4 units)

Prepares orientation and mobility (O & M) specialists in methods, techniques and approaches using the long cane and other mobility devices essential in the development of travel skills of persons with visual impairments. *Prerequisite:* SERP 520 or equivalent.

SERP 575

Observation and Participation in Special Education Programs (1-3 units)

Practical experiences with individuals having special needs with focus on psychological, educational and service-related implications and practices. Field trips, class observations and seminars. May be repeated for a total of 6 units of credit.

SERP 587**Psychosocial, Cultural, and Familial Aspects of Disability** (3 units)

Exploration of the psychological, sociological, cultural, and familial aspects of disability throughout the lifespan and implications; foundations for empowerment and enhancing self-esteem. Graduate-level requirements include submitting an additional experiential paper (focusing on culture) plus a project, as delineated in syllabus. Open to SERP majors only.

SERP 593**Internship** (1-12 units)

Specialized work on an individual basis, consisting of training and practice in actual service in a technical, business, or governmental establishment. May be repeated: an unlimited number of times; consult your department for details and possible restrictions.

SERP 594**Practicum** (1-3 units)

The practical application, on an individual basis, of previously studied theory and the collection of data for future theoretical interpretation. May be repeated an unlimited number of times; consult your department for details and possible restrictions.

SERP 595g**Orientation and Mobility** (3 units)

The exchange of scholarly information and/or secondary research, usually in a small group setting. Instruction often includes lectures by several different persons. Research projects may or may not be required of course registrants. *Prerequisites:* SERP 520, SERP 526.