UNC
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

Extended Campus

College of Education and Behavioral Studies
School of Special Education
Summer 2024

COURSE TITLE: EDSE 508: Fostering Dignity and Equality for Every Child
INSTRUCTOR: Hasan Zaghlawan
OFFICE: McKee Hall 044 D
CONTACT: hasan.zaghlawan@unco.edu/ 970 35l-1648
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment
CREDITS: 1 credit hour
DATES: 05/13/24 - 06/26/24; On-Site dates: 5-7 June, Breckenridge, CO

PREREQUISITES: None

The faculty of the School of Special Education believe:
Students with disabilities and students with gifts and talents are part of a larger community of diverse learners; all students can learn when provided with effective **specially designed** instruction, advocacy, and supports; all students can excel when they are held to high standards and expectations; and, the larger mission of education is best served when educators collaborate with students, families, and related services professionals.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Guiding the student through what it means to know that respecting the dignity and worth of all children is a fundamental commitment that goes beyond ethical considerations. It is a recognition of every child's inherent value and rights, regardless of their abilities, background, or circumstances. However, many of our systems need to be designed to do so. The students will be provided specific strategies for supporting the dignity of children with disabilities or children who might have disabilities and their families within early childhood programs; birth through kindergarten entry. The students will be provided a rationale for the equal worth of every child through inclusive placements, curricula, and instruction while describing what that looks like in practice using specific indicators.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Course participants will learn about:

1. Participants will identify the importance of inclusivity, respect, and dignity in early childhood education.

2. Participants will identify components of curricula that are tailored to meet the diverse needs of all children and foster an environment
that celebrates individual differences and promotes belongingness.
3. Participants will identify evidence-based strategies and interventions that promote inclusivity and address diverse learning needs.
4. Participants will identify practices that foster respectful interactions, collaboration, and advocacy within early childhood programs.

COURSE CONTENT: Participants will explore key topics that focus on:
- Naturally Occurring Inclusive Placements
- Designing Inclusive Curricula
- Evidence-based Strategies
- Professionalism

REQUIRED READINGS:

ADDITIONAL READINGS/ACTIVITIES AS ASSIGNED

ASSIGNMENTS:
- **Attendance/Participation (50%):** You must participate and engage with the presenters and other participants during the 2 days of the meeting.
- **On-Site Action Plan Assignments (25%): Complete and submit the activities provided over the two days. Email a copy or pictures of the completed Action Plan and Back Home Plan to the course instructor** by 6/26/2024.
- **Reflection Paper (25%):** Write a 200-300 words reflection paper that discusses (a) what you learned from the Summit? (b) how would you implement the learning from the Summit in your work? (c) what challenges do you anticipate during implementation? and (d) what are you plant to overcome those challenges? Submit the reflection paper to course instructor via email by 6/26/2024.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:
Grades are based on the following scale: 100- 91 A; 90-81 B; 80-71 C; 70-61 D; 60 and below F.

WORKLOAD EXPECTATIONS: In compliance with the guidelines laid out by the Higher Learning Commission, students should expect to spend roughly 12 hours during (in preparation for and after) this course. This amount is regarded as a minimum and does not include additional time for on-site research and studying, if needed; however, the exact time requirements of this course will vary according to individual student needs and abilities.

A rough breakdown of the hours follows: (* = contact hours with Instructor)

On-Site Lectures*	10 hrs
On-Site Group Discussion*	2.5 hrs

COURSE COST: $75/credit hour.

Syllabus Statements

In keeping with UNC's institutional values, the School of Special Education believes children and youth with exceptionalities, their families, and those who work to support them, inclusive of university faculty, are part of a larger diverse community. These views on diversity include race, ethnicity, culture, language, age, (dis)abilities, family status/composition, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, religious and spiritual values, geographic location, country of origin and professional role (CEC, 2021).
https://www.unco.edu/center-enhancement-teaching-learning/teaching-resources/syllabus_statements.aspx

Liability Statement Pertaining to Field Experiences:
UNC purchases insurance that provides liability coverage to teacher candidates (subject coverage limitations and deductibles of the applicable insurance policy) for claims made against the teacher candidate while s/he is acting in the course and scope of her/his responsibilities in field experience. Such coverage is subject to limitations and exclusions for, among other things, alleged intentional acts and other uncovered claims.
In addition, the teacher candidate, during her/his practice teaching in a school is deemed an employee of the school district for the purposes of workers' compensation and liability insurance as provided for other school employees.

Personal Liability
It is each teacher candidate's choice to determine if s/he wishes to purchase additional liability coverage. Several professional organizations, including but not limited to the Colorado Education Association, the Council for Exceptional Children, and the National Education Association, offer personal – professional liability insurance that can be purchased by the teacher candidate at her/his expense.

AI Usage
While AI tools such as CHatGPT can be useful for many tasks and for detecting plagiarism, it is important to use them responsibly and ethically in university and K12 settings. The use of AI tools is neither encouraged nor prohibited from use on assignments in this course.

The following are some guidelines to follow, should you choose to use AI tools on your assignments:

1. Do not rely solely on AI tools to complete assignments. It is important to understand the content and complete assignments on your own. AI tools should be viewed as a supplement rather than a replacement for your own work.
2. AI programs should not be used as a way to produce first and only drafts.
3. Do not use AI tools to plagiarize. Using AI to generate or modify content to evade plagiarism detection is unethical and violates academic integrity.
4. Text directly copied from AI sites must be treated as any other direct quote and properly cited. Other uses of AI must be clearly described at the end of each assignment.

5. Do not assume that AI responses are always correct. It has been found that AI generates fake and inaccurate results including citations and references.
6. AI tools are owned by independent companies and are not part of the university system. This means that they have their own privacy regulations and data rules. Any information submitted to the AI program should not contain confidential information.

Withdrawal process

The process to withdraw from the University must begin in the Office of the Registrar. You may notify the Registrar by mail, email, or phone. The date you notify the Office of the Registrar of your intent to withdraw will be used as the official withdrawal date from UNC. For more information on your official notification of intent to withdraw, please see the UNC catalog.

Withdrawal deadlines

Withdrawals must be completed by the complete schedule withdrawal deadline of the semester. See the Short Course Calendar for withdrawal deadlines of courses that do not meet the entire semester.