I. Course Description:
A survey of the field of special education. Emphasis is on techniques for integrating students with intellectual, emotional, social, and physical handicaps into the least restrictive educational environment. Students will review legal aspects that include an understanding/application of regulatory requirements and expectations associated with identification, education, and evaluation of students with disabilities. This course requires 30 hours observation in an elementary and/or secondary setting.

After completing the course, the student will:

1. Identify past and present practices when serving students with disabilities in the classroom. These will include current issues and trends in the field of special education.
2. Gain an understanding of basic characteristics associated with a variety of disabilities served in the classroom as required by law.
3. Define inclusion and collaboration as it is used in today’s schools.
4. Identify team(s) and roles of each member that are involved in the referral, assessment, identification, and services provided for students with disabilities.
5. Develop strategies for adapting instruction, managing classroom behaviors, and promoting social acceptance in the classroom.
6. Using technology in the classroom.
7. Identify researched based methods for teaching students with the identified disabilities recognized by law in the classroom.
8. Identify methods for teaching students who are identified as gifted and talented, culturally and linguistically diverse, and are at high risk for drop out or failure.