

SPEC 2999
Entry to the Education Profession
0 Semester Hours

Dewar College of Education and Human Services
Valdosta State University
Department of Early Childhood & Special Education
Conceptual Framework: Guiding Principles
(adapted from the Georgia Systemic Teacher Education Program Accomplished Teacher Framework)

Dispositions Principle: Productive dispositions positively affect learners, professional growth, and the learning environment.

Equity Principle: All learners deserve high expectations and support.

Process Principle: Learning is a lifelong process of development and growth.

Ownership Principle: Professionals are committed to, and assume responsibility for, the future of their disciplines.

Support Principle: Successful engagement in the process of learning requires collaboration among multiple partners.

Impact Principle: Effective practice yields evidence of learning.

Technology Principle: Technology facilitates teaching, learning, community-building, and resource acquisition.

Standards Principle: Evidence-based standards systematically guide professional preparation and development.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

In lieu of a textbook, all students are required to purchase access to the Dewar College of Education and Human Services technology-driven assessment system. The LiveText software will be used throughout your professional program and is introduced in this course. (<http://www.college.livetext.com>)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A required non-credit course for all teacher education candidates that must be successfully completed prior to admission to teacher education. Candidates are required to establish an electronic portfolio and provide evidence that all teacher education admission requirements have been satisfactorily met. If an unsatisfactory grade is earned, the candidate may not take additional classes and must repeat SPEC 2999 until a satisfactory grade is earned.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK STANDARDS (CFS)

- I. **CONTENT AND CURRICULUM:** Teachers demonstrate a strong content knowledge of content area(s) that are appropriate for their certification levels.
- II. **KNOWLEDGE OF STUDENTS AND THEIR LEARNING:** Teachers support the intellectual, social, physical, and personal development of all students.
- III. **LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS:** Teachers create learning environments that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.
- IV. **ASSESSMENT:** Teachers understand and use a range of formal and informal assessment strategies to evaluate and ensure the continuous development of all learners.
- V. **PLANNING AND INSTRUCTION:** Teachers design and create instructional experiences based on their knowledge of content and curriculum, students, learning environments, and assessment.
- VI. **PROFESSIONALISM:** Teachers recognize, participate in, and contribute to teaching as a profession.

COURSE ACTIVITIES / ASSIGNMENTS / REQUIREMENTS & CHECKLIST

To continue in this program you must pass SPEC 2999 with an “S” for satisfactory. You will receive a satisfactory if all of the following criteria have been met by the end of the course:

1. Purchase LiveText.
2. Download the portfolio for your program of study in LiveText (i.e., Special Education Adapted Curriculum Online Program or Special Education General Curriculum Online Program).
3. Complete the online Disposition form and Candidate information form in LiveText. These forms will be sent in LiveText for you to complete. You will be notified when the forms are available.
4. Write your philosophy of education and upload it into your Livetext portfolio.
5. Complete a criminal background check.
6. Have proof of current educational liability insurance.
7. Complete a quiz related to the Georgia Code of Ethics for Educators and sign a statement of affirmation.

PROFESSIONALISM

Students are expected to correspond and interact with fellow classmates and course instructors in a professional manner at all times. As participants in VSU’s MAT program in Special Education, students are further expected to demonstrate professionalism outside of the university setting, e.g., in their classroom, schools, and communities.

POLICY STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM

Below is information directly quoted from the Academic Honesty Policies and Procedures:

Academic integrity is the responsibility of all VSU faculty and candidates. Faculty members should promote academic integrity by including clear instruction on the components of academic integrity and clearly defining the penalties for cheating and plagiarism in their course syllabi. Candidates are responsible for knowing and abiding by the Academic Integrity Policy as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct and the faculty members' syllabi. All candidates are expected to do their own work and to uphold a high standard of academic ethics.

The full text of Academic Honesty Policies and Procedures is available in the on the Academic Affairs website

(<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyatVSU.shtml>).

The consequences for acts of academic dishonesty in the Dewar College of Education are:

FIRST OFFENSE:

1. The faculty member will administer an academic response (e.g. resubmit / retake assignment, failure of the assignment, failure of the course).
2. The faculty member will complete a Level Two Dewar College of Education Concern form (<http://www.valdosta.edu/coe/candidatesinfo.shtml>).
3. The faculty member will complete a Valdosta State University Report of Academic Dishonesty (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyatVSU.shtml>).

SECOND OFFENSE:

1. The faculty member will administer an academic response (e.g. resubmit / retake assignment, failure of the assignment, failure of the course).
2. The faculty member will complete a Level Two Dewar College of Education Concern form (<http://www.valdosta.edu/coe/candidatesinfo.shtml>). According to the Dewar College of Education Concern Form Policy, "a second level two concern form will result in the student being dismissed from his/her program of study. This dismissal will result in an automatic review by the COE Undergraduate Policies Committee."
3. The faculty member will complete a Valdosta State University Report of Academic Dishonesty (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyatVSU.shtml>). According to the Academic Honesty Policies and Procedures document, "after a second Conduct Office in the Dean of Candidates Office, official charges will be drawn up and the disciplinary matter will be referred to the Valdosta State University Judicial Committee."

SPECIAL NEEDS STATEMENT

Valdosta State University is an equal opportunity educational institution. It is not the intent of the institution to discriminate against any applicant for admission or any student or employee of the institution based on the sex, race, religion, color, national origin or handicap of the individual. It is the intent of the institution to comply with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and subsequent executive orders as well as Title XI in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Candidates requesting classroom accommodations or modifications due to a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Candidates with Disabilities located in the Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498 (V/VP) and 219-1348 (TTY).

STUDENT OPINION OF INSTRUCTION

At the end of the term, all students will be expected to complete an online Student Opinion of Instruction survey (SOI) that will be available on BANNER. Students will receive an email notification through their VSU email address when the SOI is available (generally at least one week before the end of the term). SOI responses are anonymous, and instructors will be able to view only a summary of all responses two weeks after they have submitted final grades. While instructors will not be able to view individual responses or to access any of the responses until after final grade submission, they will be able to see which students have or have not completed their SOIs. These compliance and non-compliance reports will not be available once instructors are able to access the results. Complete information about the SOIs, including how to access the survey and a timetable for this term is available at <http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/OnlineSOIPilotProject.shtml>.

INSTRUCTOR

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