SYLLABUS  
Special Education  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
Preparing professional for changing educational contexts

I. Course Prefix & Number: ESP 773 1001

II. Course Title: Assessment of Young Children with Disabilities

1 Academic Misconduct – Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s function as an educational institution. An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the Student Academic Misconduct Policy (approved December 9, 2005) located at: http://studentconduct.unlv.edu/misconduct/policy.html.

Copyright – The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright.

Disability Resource Center (DRC) – The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, http://drc.unlv.edu/, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Religious Holidays Policy – Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excepting modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531.

Transparency in Learning and Teaching—The University encourages application of the transparency method of constructing assignments for student success. Please see these two links for further information:

https://www.unlv.edu/provost/teachingandlearning

https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency

Incomplete Grades - The grade of I – Incomplete – can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester for undergraduate courses. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

Tutoring and Coaching—The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, visit http://www.unlv.edu/asc or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of the SSC (ASC Coaching Spot). Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and College of Engineering TEB second floor.

UNLV Writing Center – One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student’s Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/

Rebelmail – By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV’s official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students’ e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu

Final Examinations – The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. However we will meet for the final exam at the regularly scheduled class time unless otherwise notified.
III. **Course Credit Hours:** 3 hours

IV. **Semester:** Fall 2017

V. **Instructor:** Dr. John Filler

VI. **Office Location:** CEB 154

Class Location: CEB 133

VII. **Office Hours:**
- Monday: 2:00-4:00pm
- Thursday: 2:00-4:00pm
- Others available by appointment

VIII. **Telephone:**
- 895-1105 (Voice Mail)
- jfiller@unlv.nevada.edu (email)

IX. **Prerequisite(s):**

Students must have completed ESP 771-Perspectives on Early Childhood Special Education or consent of instructor.

X. **Course Description:**

Course focuses upon subjective, objective, unstructured and structured observations of young children with physical disorders, communication disorders and disorders of behavior, learning and development. Survey, review and critique of standardized and non-standardized tests as well as the use of test data in planning instruction.

**CEC Standards Addressed:**
- Standard 5: Learning Environments and Social Interactions
- Standard 7: Instructional Planning
- Standard 8: Assessment

**NAEYC Standards Addressed:**
- Standard 2: Building Family and Community Relationships
- Standard 3: Observing, Documenting, and Assessing to Support Young Children and Families
- Standard 4: Teaching and Learning

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Course focuses upon subjective, objective, unstructured and structured observations of young children with physical disorders, communication disorders and disorders of behavior, learning and development. Survey, review and critique of standardized and non-standardized tests as well as the use of test data in planning instruction.

**InTASC Standards Addressed:**
- Standard 1.0 Learner Development
- Standard 3.0 Learning Environments
- Standard 6.0 Assessment
- Standard 9.0 Professional Learning and Ethical Practice

**CEC/DEC Standards Addressed:**
- Standard 5: Learning Environments and Social Interactions
- Standard 7: Instructional Planning
- Standard 8: Assessment
- Standard 10: Collaboration

**NAEYC Standards Addressed:**
- Standard 2: Building Family and Community Relationships
- Standard 3: Observing, Documenting, and Assessing to Support Young Children and Families
- Standard 4: Teaching and Learning

**XI. Course Objectives:** (InTASC; ICC= Common Core CEC; ECSE= CEC Early Childhood Special Ed; NAEYC= NAEYC)

**Knowledge:**
(The ways students demonstrate what they know and how they are able to put skills in to practice to make a difference in child learning).

1. Each student will demonstrate knowledge of how to conduct environmental inventories to evaluate developmental and functional appropriateness. INTASC6(p), ICC5K1, NAEYC2a
   **Measurement/Evaluation:** Exams

2. Each candidate will demonstrate knowledge of basic terminology, various assessment activities and the roles of different professionals and family including child find, screening/diagnostic assessment, educational assessment and monitoring of progress. INTASC6(j), InTASC6(k), ICC8K1, ICC8K3, NAEYC3d
   **Measurement/Evaluation:** Exams and Assessment Critiques

3. Each student will demonstrate knowledge of the legal and ethical foundations and local and state guidelines for the assessment of young children including limitations of assessment instruments. ICC8K2, ICC8K4, ECSE8K2, ICC8K5, ECSE9K1, NAEYC3c
   **Measurement/Evaluation:** Exams and Assessment Critiques

4. Each candidate will demonstrate knowledge of typical approaches to the assessment of cognitive, social/adaptive, communication/language, and motor skills. InTASC6(n), ICC7KI, ICC8K4, NAEYC3b
   **Measurement/Evaluation:** Exams and Assessment Critiques

5. Each candidate will demonstrate knowledge of the roles that families play in assessment. ICC8K4, NAEYC3d
   **Measurement/Evaluation:** Exams and Assessment Critiques
6. Each candidate will demonstrate knowledge of assessment adaptations necessary for specific sensory, motor impairments and language differences. ICC8K4
   Measurement/Evaluation: Exams and Assessment Critiques

7. Each candidate will demonstrate knowledge of techniques for assessment of both family strengths and family needs. InTASC6(m), ICC10K2, ICC10K3
   Measurement/Evaluation: Exams

8. Each candidate will demonstrate knowledge of how to use baseline data for the determination of the appropriateness of content and instructional strategy. InTASC6(l), InTASC6(m), ICC8K3, NAEYC3a
   Measurement/Evaluation: Exams

9. Each candidate will demonstrate knowledge of the alignment of assessment with curriculum, content standards, and local, state, and federal regulations. InTASC6(o), ICC8K5, ECSE8K3
   Measurement/Evaluation: Exams and Assessment Critiques

Performances (Skills):
(The ability to use content, professional and pedagogical knowledge effectively and readily in diverse teaching settings in a manner that ensures that all students are learning.)

1. Each student will demonstrate the ability to identify the characteristics of assessment procedures designed to result in information relevant to the determination of educational/intervention; content, sequence and strategy and how to interpret the results of various assessment instruments/procedures. InTASC6(a), InTASC6(g), InTASC6(h), InTASC9(c), ICC8S1, CC8S4, CC8S5, CC8S6, CC8S7, ICC8S8, ECSE8S1, NAEYC4d
   Measurement/Evaluation: Assessment Critiques

2. Each student will demonstrate both knowledge of and ability to perform task analyses and collect baseline data for important skills as essential components of the observation and assessment of performances of young children for development of appropriate outcomes, benchmarks, goals and objectives. InTASC3(e), InTASC6(c), InTASC6(e), ICC7S5, ICC7S6, ICC7S4, ECSE7S1
   Measurement/Evaluation: Exams and Assessment Critiques

Disposition(s):
(Values, commitments, and professional ethics that influence behaviors toward students, families, colleagues, and communities and affect student learning, motivation, and development as well as the educator’s own professional growth—guided by beliefs and attitudes related to values such as caring, fairness, honesty, responsibility and social justice.)

1. Each candidate will demonstrate an appreciation for the limitations of assessment data for young children as imposed by cultural diversity and linguistic difference and by age and/or culturally inappropriate standards. InTASC1(i), InTASC6(q), InTASC6(r), InTASC6(s), ICC7K1, ICC8K4, ICC8K2 CC10, K1, NAEYC3a
   Measurement/Evaluation: Exams and Assessment Critiques
2. Each candidate is committed to using multiple sources for assessment purposes and to making necessary accommodations for learner age, culture and disability within a context of ethical practice. InTASC6(t), InTASC6(u), InTASC6(v), InTASC9(l).

Measurement/Evaluation: Exams and Assessment Critiques

Results:
(The ways students demonstrate what they know and how they are able to put skills into practice to make a difference in child learning).

Each candidate will be able to conduct critical analyses of assessment instruments demonstrating an ability to identify appropriate characteristics of each for selection of content, sequence and instructional strategy.

XII. Resources:

Required Text(s):


Optional Text(s):


Current and Classical References:


Blackorby, J., Schiller, E., Mallik, S., Hebbeler, K., Huang, T., Javitz, H., et al. (2010). Patterns in


Federal Register, Volume 54, Number 80, Thursday, April 27, 1989, Pp. 18248-18256.


Federal Register, Volume 57, Number 85, Friday, May 1, 1992, Pp. 18986-19012.

Federal Register, Volume 57, Number 189, Tuesday, September 29, 1992, Pp. 44794-44840.


Research Librarian:

Students may consult with a librarian on research needs. For this class the Subject Librarian for Education is Samantha Godbey ([https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject](https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject)). UNLV Libraries provides resources to support students’ access to information. Discovery, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at [https://www.library.unlv.edu/](https://www.library.unlv.edu/)

Internet Resources:

The Division for Early Childhood (CEC):

National Early Childhood Technical Assistance System:
[http://www.nectas.unc.edu/](http://www.nectas.unc.edu/)

National Association for the Education of Young Children

XIII. Course Requirements and Grading Policy:

**Course Requirements:**

1. **Examinations**: Two tests are required. One will be given mid-session and the other at the end of the session. Each will be taken in class and consist of 10 to 15 short-answer questions which cover material presented in class and in the assigned readings.

2. **Assessment Critiques**: Each student must do at least two critiques of assessment/evaluation instruments, procedures or systems utilized for curriculum
planning with young children either suspected to be or confirmed to be eligible for preschool special education or early intervention. However, more than two may be done and, if so, the two with the highest grades will be the ones figured in to the final grade average. Each critique should consist of a cover page with the complete reference of the test etc. in APA style and be followed by as many as necessary typed double spaced pages to answer the following questions:

1. How were the developmental sequences (or task sequences) derived?

2. Does it measure what it intends to measure? (How do you know?)

3. Does it have the ability to make the discriminations you want as an interventionist? Why?

4. Are the items clearly specified and are the criteria for pass/fail clearly delineated? (Give some examples.)

5. Can it be used to determine annual goals and short-term objectives? (Why or why not?)

6. Does it focus on some areas better than others and, if so, what are they?

7. On what population was the assessment normed?

8. Is the assessment "adaptable" ... that is, does it allow for changes in criteria for passing, materials, or presentation based upon the obvious limitations of the student.

The form that your critiques take should be as simple as a restatement of each question followed by your answer. Both critiques must be turned in by the beginning of class on Thursday, Dec. 7. If you elect to do more than two, all must be turned in by the beginning of class on Dec 7. None will be accepted after that date and time and a 0 score for the missed assignment will be entered into the computation of final grade.

Please note that you are responsible for finding the tests, instruments etc. to review. Some good sources include the Lynn Bennett ECE Center on campus and the UNLV library. However, remember that the LBECEC is under no obligation to assist you. They do so only as a favor to students taking this class, so act accordingly.

Grading Policy:

Final grade for the course will be determined by the simple arithmetic average of the two tests plus the points earned for the two best critiques. Each test is worth a max of 100 points and each critique is worth 50 points (total possible equal 300; 300/3 or 100 max average for course). Grades with associated average point ranges are:

- A = 95-100
- A- = 90-94
- B+ = 87-89
NOTE: STUDENTS TAKING THIS CLASS AS PART OF A DOCTORAL PROGRAM OF STUDIES MAY HAVE DIFFERENT REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED. IF THIS APPLIES TO YOU MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE INSTRUCTOR, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, TO DISCUSS WHAT THOSE REQUIREMENTS WILL INVOLVE.

XIV. Course Outline:

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<th>Session</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic &amp; Readings / Assignments</th>
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<td>Aug. 31</td>
<td>I. Introductions (Why this class?)</td>
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<td>II. ECSE Eligibility Requirements</td>
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<td>Sept. 7</td>
<td>III. Term Definitions</td>
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<td>IV. Assessment in Part C of 108-446 (McClean et al., Chapter 1)</td>
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<td>Sept. 14</td>
<td>V. Assessment in Part B of 108-446</td>
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<td>VI. Purpose of Evaluation &amp; Assessment &amp; Baseline/Intervention (McClean et al., Chapter 2)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sept. 21</td>
<td>VII. Assessment Models</td>
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<td>VIII. Norm Referenced Testing</td>
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<td>- The Battelle Inventory</td>
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<td>- The Bayley Scales</td>
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<td>(McClean et al., Chapter 3)</td>
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<td>IX. Criterion Referenced Testing</td>
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<td>X. Child Find &amp; Screening</td>
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<td>(McClean et al., Chapter 5)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>XI. Dishabituation</td>
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<td>Review for Midterm Exam</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>(McClean et al., Chapter 7)</td>
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<td>8*</td>
<td>Oct. 19</td>
<td>MIDTERM EXAM</td>
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<td>(All notes and readings to date)</td>
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Defining "Content"
(Language and Social Skills, Motor and Cognition)
(McClean et al., Chapter 10)

Assessing to Determine Content
- Brigance
- HOME

(McClean et al., Chapter 12 &13)

Assessing for Content & Strategy
- AEPS
- Carolina

Assessing Parent/Child Interactions
(McLean et al., Chapter16)

Introduction to Family Assessment (34 CFR PART 303)

Assessing Concerns, Priorities & Resources
(McClean et al., Chapter 8 & 17)

THANKSGIVING RECESS

Formative Program Evaluation
(McClean et al., Chapter 4)

Assessment & Cultural Diversity
Review for Final Exam

ALL CRITIQUES DUE BY 4:15 PM

Exams and the assessment critiques are to be taken (or handed in) no later than the date and the time indicated (failure to do so will result in a 0 score without exception); however, you are encouraged to turn in your critique as soon as possible. The final will be held at the scheduled time (4:15 PM) unless otherwise noted in class. REMEMBER you are responsible for all material, including announcements re schedule changes, handouts, and material presented in class whether or not you are present.
## RUBRIC FOR ESP 773 EXAMS

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<tr>
<th>TARGET</th>
<th>ACCEPTABLE</th>
<th>UNACCEPTABLE</th>
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| - Consistent organization  
- Consistent use of APA style  
- Correct spelling and grammar  
- Includes information from text, notes or outside readings | - Answered at least 95% of total # of questions correctly  
- Uses a variety of sources  
- Presents comprehensive perspective  
- Synthesizes information and reaches conclusions  
- Answers all parts of each question | - Disorganized and difficult to follow  
- Minimal use of APA style  
- Many spelling errors  
- No references or incorrect references  
- Did not answer all questions | - Answered fewer than 80% of questions correctly  
- No reference to text or outside reading  
- No synthesis of information from different sources  
- Numerous incomplete answers |

### 48 – 50 POINTS

### 40 – 47 POINTS

### < 40 POINTS
### RUBRIC FOR ESP 773 ASSESSMENT CRITIQUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TARGET</th>
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<th>Unacceptable</th>
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| - Consistent and clear organization & thought  
- Consistent use of APA style  
- Correct spelling & grammar  
- Cited all references in text & in references correctly  
- Answered the required questions completely | - Fair organization but with occasional lapses in clarity  
- APA style with minor discrepancies  
- One or two spelling or grammar errors  
- Not all references cited in text & in references correctly  
- Answered the required questions | - Disorganized & difficult to follow  
- Minimal use of APA style with major discrepancies  
- Many spelling or grammar errors  
- References in text & reference list not cited correctly  
- Did not answer the required questions completely |
| 20-25 POINTS | 15-19 POINTS | < 15 POINTS |
| - Contained at least 5 references  
- Used a variety of references  
- Presented original perspective about test or instrument and fully addressed each question  
- Current Information  
- Is consistent in position taken across questions | - Contains at least 3 references  
- No more than 1 reference came from the Internet  
- Variety of references not well represented  
- Information presented was only partially representative of new & current information  
- Is consistent in opinions or views across questions/answers | - Did not contain at least 3 references  
- No references were from the Internet  
- Poor variety of references  
- Information not current  
- No indication of consistency in opinions or views across answers/questions |