

<p style="text-align: center;">Grand Valley State University PSY 304-01: Psychology and Education of the Exceptional Child Winter 2017</p>

Instructor:	Amy Campbell , Ph.D. Psychology Department	Course Time:	Tu/Th – 10:00–11:15
Office:	1309 Au Sable Hall	Course Location:	205 LHH
Phone:	(616) 331-2409 (But E-mail is the preferred way to reach me)		
E-mail:	campbeam@gvsu.edu		
Office Hours:	Tuesday and Thursday, 12:00 – 1:00 or by appointment		
Prerequisites:	PSY 101; PSY 301		

Course Summary

Psychology 304 is a survey course in the broad field of exceptionality. This course will introduce both a psychological and educational perspective to the study of exceptionality in children, and will cover topics ranging from disabilities to giftedness. Over the course of the semester, you will be exposed to various terminology and approaches used when working with exceptional children. In addition to reviewing different disabilities, this course will emphasize evidence-based practices, school-wide prevention models, and other current issues in the field of exceptionality.

Readings

Required Text:

Heward, W. L., Alber-Morgan, S., & Konrad, M. (2016). *Exceptional children: An introduction to special education*, 11th Edition. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson

Additional Required Readings:

Selected additional readings will be placed on Blackboard.

Course Website

Many course materials (e.g., syllabus, presentation slides, readings, assignment rubrics, and additional supplemental materials) will be made available through Blackboard, an online course management system. You can access the materials by going to the following website: <https://mybb.gvsu.edu/>, and providing your GVSU username and password. If you have problems accessing materials through this system, you can call the IT Help Desk at 855-435-7488 or E-mail badmin@gvsu.edu for assistance.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you need academic accommodations because of a learning, physical, or other disability, please contact Disability Support Resources (DSR) at 331-2490. Although students with disabilities are held to the same academic standards as all other students, accommodations will be provided for you, as appropriate. Furthermore, if you have a physical disability and think you will need assistance evacuating the

classroom and/or building in an emergency situation, please contact me so I can develop a plan to assist you.

Canceled Classes

If classes are canceled at the university, any exam or activity missed due to cancellation will take place at the next class meeting.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

It is your responsibility as a student to maintain academic integrity and not give *any* appearance of a violation. You will do original work and will not take or receive the efforts of another person on any test or assignment, use unauthorized resources on quizzes or tests, plagiarize, or give/sell other students papers or assignments not authorized by me. You are responsible for making yourself aware of and for understanding the policies and procedures that pertain to academic integrity. To that end, be sure to familiarize yourself with the GVSU Student Code [Section 223.01] related to academic integrity. Furthermore, be sure to reference sources in all assignments. If you are uncertain about such an issue prior to submission of an assignment, project, or test, please see me as soon as possible so we can eliminate any uncertainty. There *is no harm* in asking if you are not sure if you are plagiarizing. There *is harm* in plagiarizing and then telling me afterwards that you did not know you did anything wrong.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance at lectures is *highly* recommended, but not required. Since not all material covered during lectures is in your text, your exam performance is very likely to improve if you attend, pay attention, take notes, and actively participate during class sessions. Please come to class prepared to fully attend and participate. As course attendance is not mandatory, please do NOT e-mail me to explain absences or ask what was missed. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to download the class presentation slides, obtain notes from a classmate, and then meet with me during office hours if you have any questions about content you missed. Even if you have a valid excuse for why you missed class, you will not be allowed to make up any in-class activities points. When course grades are within one percentage point of the next higher grade, at my discretion, the higher grade will be awarded to students who showed active participation in class (i.e., participation in discussions, attentiveness during lectures, and engagement in group activities).

Exceptions: Student absences due to participation in university athletics will be accommodated. Please let me know within the first two weeks of the semester so arrangements can be made. Student absences due to religious holidays will be accommodated per the GVSU policies on inclusion. If a conflict exists between the course and a religious observance, you must request a religious accommodation from the instructor within the first two weeks of the semester or as soon as possible so alternative arrangements can be made.

Technology Use

You are welcome to use computers/tablets during class to take notes and to follow along with me. However, the use of technology for personal reasons (e.g., checking E-mail or using Facebook) during class is highly inappropriate and disrespectful to other students and myself. Please silence and put away

all cell-phones during class. I will use my discretion in reducing grades for those students who are using computers or other technology in a disrespectful manner when class is in session.

Grading/Coursework

<u>Coursework:</u>	<u>Points:</u>	<u>Grading Scale</u>	
Exam #1	100	93 above	A
Exam #2	100	90-92	A-
Exam #3	100	87-89	B+
Critical Issue Group Presentation	50	83-86	B
Research Summaries (2 @ 20 points each)	40	80-82	B-
In-Class Activities	<u>30</u>	77-79	C+
Total Points:	420	73-76	C
		70-72	C-
		67-69	D+
		60-66	D
		59 & below	F

To calculate your final grade, add up the points you have earned (and those you expect to earn), divide by total points, multiply by 100, and compare to the grading scale.

Exams (3 exams, 100 points each = 300 points)

- Exam format - There will be three exams for this course. The final exam will be cumulative, however the majority of material will be selected from the final weeks of lectures. Exams will consist of a combination of multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, true/false, and short-answer questions drawn from the textbook, other readings, and from information provided during lectures. Lecture material is meant to supplement your understanding of concepts presented in the textbook; therefore some questions on the exams will be drawn specifically from lectures, even if those concepts are not covered in your text. As well, exams may include material from the textbook that has not been discussed during lectures. A study guide will be provided prior to each exam to provide students with more information and help them prepare.
- Make-up exams – All students are expected to take exams at the scheduled times. If you miss an exam due to illness, you must provide a doctor's excuse within 24 hours following the scheduled exam time. If you must miss an exam for any reason other than illness, you MUST email me with a valid excuse at least 24 hours in advance to schedule a make-up exam. Failure to notify me in advance will result in a zero on the exam. Please note that make-up exams must be completed outside of regular class time. Because make-up exams are difficult to schedule, and administer, at my discretion, the student's score for the make-up exam may be reduced by up to 10%.

Intervention Group Presentation (50 points)

- Description – The intervention assignment requires that groups of students work together to choose a topic (from a selection of topics that I provide or an alternative topic that is approved) and provide a 15-minute presentation and handout to the class. As a group, you will be required to identify and integrate two internet-based resources and two research articles on the topic you choose and present this information to the class. More information about this assignment will be made available to you in class and via Blackboard.
- Plagiarism – Please refer to the “Academic Integrity” section summarized previously in the syllabus.
- Submitting Assignments – A copy of the presentation (electronic via Blackboard) and handout (hard copy) are due at the start of class on the day of the presentation. One group member should be responsible for turning in the group’s materials via Blackboard.

Research Summaries (2 @ 20 points each = 40 points)

- Description – There will be two research summary assignments for this course. If you receive 17 or more points out of 20 on the first of these assignments, you do not need to complete the second research summary assignment, and I will double the score you received on the first summary. These research summaries will be based on articles related to various topics in the field of exceptionality. Summaries will be approximately 3 pages in length, and due dates are listed in the course schedule. Further details about these assignments will be made available to you in class and via Blackboard.
- Plagiarism – Please refer to the “Academic Integrity and Plagiarism” section summarized previously in the syllabus. I have the right to fail you on an assignment or fail you for the course for plagiarism.
- Submitting Assignments – Papers MUST be double-spaced and typed in 12-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins on all sides. For all papers, references should follow APA style, 6th edition. Assignments are due at the start of class on the due date. Assignments should be turned in as hard copies in class AND electronically via Blackboard. Assignments turned in after the start of class will be considered late. Late assignments will be accepted up to 3 days beyond the due date with a 25% deduction in points (i.e., if the deadline is Tuesday, work will be accepted through Friday). Late assignments should also be submitted via hard copy AND Blackboard.

In-Class Activities (30 points)

- Description – Throughout the semester I will offer a number of in-class activities to reward class attendance, stimulate class discussion, and to clarify information related to course topics. These may include brief written responses to introduce an issue or encourage critical thinking, video follow-up questions, or small group activities that will be completed during the class period. There will be NO makeup points for these activities. Sometimes the dates of these activities are announced in advance, and other times they are not. If you are not in class on the day of an activity, you will NOT receive credit. These points are meant to reward students who attend and participate in class activities. Even if you have a valid excuse for why you missed class, you will not be allowed to make up these points. There will be more than 30 in-class activity points

available during the semester to allow you to earn extra credit during the semester or earn the full 30 points even if you miss a couple classes.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Reading	Test/Assignment Due
1	1/10	Syllabus; Course Introduction	Ch. 1	
	1/12	Foundations		
2	1/17	Foundations	Ch. 2	
	1/19	Foundations		
3	1/24	Assessment and Identification	On BB	
	1/26	Assessment and Identification		
4	1/31	RTI and MTSS	On BB	
	2/2	RTI and MTSS: Online Module		No Class: Online Module
5	2/7	Early Childhood Special Education	Ch. 14	
	2/9	Early Childhood Special Education		
6	2/14	Catch up and Exam Review		
	2/16	Exam 1		Exam 1
7	2/21	Autism Spectrum Disorders	Ch. 8	No Lecture: Online Module: ASD 1
	2/23	Autism Spectrum Disorders		No Lecture: Online Module: ASD 2
8	2/28	Learning Problems	Ch. 5	Group Presentations
	3/2	Learning Problems		Research Summary 1 due
		SPRING BREAK		
9	3/14	Learning Problems	On BB	
	3/16	Learning Problems		Group Presentations
10	3/21	Communication Problems	Ch. 6	
	3/23	Communication Problem		
11	3/28	Emotional Impairments	Ch. 8	
	3/30	Emotional Impairments		
12	4/4	Emotional Impairments	On BB	
	4/6	Emotional Impairments		Group Presentations
13	4/11	Catch-up and Review		
	4/13	Exam 2		Exam 2
14	4/18	Gifted and Talented	Ch. 13	Research Summary 2 due
	4/20	Review		
15	4/26	Final Exam: Wednesday 4/26, 8:00-9:50		

