Course Description (from catalog):
An overview of historical perspectives, current practices, and lifespan issues for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The course covers diagnostic and assessment practices, etiology, prevention and intervention strategies.

Required Text:

Additional required readings will be placed on Blackboard

Grading:
Final grades are calculated by dividing your total number of points by 650. I typically round up to the next percentage point at .6 and above. I utilize the following grading scale to determine the final grade. Please note: I do NOT offer extra credit on an individual basis, nor do I negotiate final grades.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Controversial Issues</td>
<td>A 93 and above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A- 90 - 92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>B+ 87 - 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Assignment</td>
<td>B 83 - 86</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application Assignments</td>
<td>B- 80 - 82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Examination</td>
<td>C+ 77 – 79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>C 73 – 76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total: 400</td>
<td>C- 70 – 72</td>
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<td>D+ 67 – 69</td>
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<td>D 60 – 66</td>
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<td>F 59 and below</td>
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Course Requirements:
Midterm and Final Examination (100 pts. each):
A midterm and final examination are required for this course. These exams will consist of approximately 50 questions that will assess your knowledge of content across the entire term. The midterm is scheduled for October 6. The final examination is scheduled for December 8 at 6:00.

**Exam Policies:** Make-up exams are only allowed in the case of an unavoidable emergency. An unavoidable emergency may include the following: serious illness, funeral, or unexpected car trouble. In order to make up an exam you MUST have documentation. Documentation can include: doctors note, towing or car repair receipt, program from funeral, etc. You must provide this documentation within 24 hours of the missed exam. Please note that make-up exams must be completed within 1-week of the scheduled exam date. **Failure to notify me in advance, provide documentation, or complete the exam within the time frame, will result in a zero on the exam.**

During exams, you will be required to turn off all digital devices, such as cell phones, pagers, MP3 players, iPods and hand-held computers. Any student identified with such a device powered on during an exam will receive an F on the test at the instructor’s discretion.

**Disabilities in Media Assignment (20 points):**
For this assignment, you will be asked to watch a movie or TV show episodes that feature a character with a developmental disability. Based on what we have learned in class readings and discussions, you will write a 1-2 page paper on if the character’s disability was accurately portrayed. More detailed information on what is expected will be provided.

**Controversial Issues Assignment (30 point):**
The focus of this assignment is to research a controversial issue in the field of developmental disabilities (I will provide topics), evaluate the issue, and the quality of your sources. More detailed information will be provided later in the term.

**Group Project (100 points):**
A major portion of your grade will come from the group project. You will be paired in groups of three people to complete this project and come up with a presentation. The purpose of this project is to research the efficacy of an intervention for strategy that relevant to children with disabilities. You will be required to: read and summarize empirical research, synthesize information, and prepare a handout for practitioners. Although you may choose your own topic, I will provide a list of suggested topics. Any topic that is not on the list must be approved by me.

The project is due in three parts.
- List of references 9/22/14
- Article Summary 1 10/13/14
- Final Project 12/1/14

**Application Assignments (50 points):**
During the semester, I will assign small assignments during class. Typically, assignments will be worth about 5 points. These assignments may include: in-class group activities, article responses, or case studies. The assignments will be announced in-class. Late assignments will not be accepted under any circumstances. If you miss an in-class activity, you will not be able to make it up (even if the absence is excused). In addition, because assignments will typically be given out in class, and may not be posted on blackboard, it is your responsibility to talk to classmates to determine if an assignment was given.
Course Policies

**Attendance:** Lecture attendance is essential for earning a satisfactory grade in this class. Attendance will not be taken during lectures. If you do need to miss a class period, please be aware of the following: (1) I will not go over the lecture with you or help you complete the lecture notes (you must consult with a peer in this class), (2) I present a significant amount of content that is not in the textbook and this content is often on the exams, and (3) I often provide time in-class to work on your group project. Group members often get frustrated with individuals who are not in class to assist.

**Lecture note:** Typically, I will post my lecture notes on blackboard prior to lecture. These notes typically outline the lecture, and do not contain all important information. Therefore, it is recommended that you take notes during lecture, as you will be held accountable for the lecture content, including information that is not posted on the slides. Although I will make every effort to post slides prior to lecture, it is not guaranteed. It is likely that there will be days that slides are not posted prior to class. Please do not email me and ask when the slides will be posted. In addition, some slides may be changed/added after I post.

**Preparation for lecture:** I expect that all students will be fully prepared for lecture. This is defined as reading the assigned text prior to the lecture and identifying any questions for clarification. I often plan small group activities/discussions for during lecture, and it is essential that you are prepared to fully participate/benefit from these activities.

**Electronic Devices:** All electronic devices (cell phones, i-pods, etc.) are to be TURNED OFF and PUT AWAY during lecture. There will be exceptions. For example, when conducting polls, I may ask you to use your phones or laptop computers to answer. Please refrain from text messaging, emailing, surfing the web, etc. during lecture. This is very disruptive to other students. Laptop computers are permitted for taking course notes only. If it becomes apparent during the term that laptops are being used for other purposes (emailing, instant messaging, surfing the web, etc.) I reserve the right to institute a “no laptop policy.”

**Canceled Classes:** If classes are canceled at the university, any exam or assignment missed due to the cancellation will take place at the next scheduled class meeting time. If I cancel a class, I will notify the class via email.

**Assignment Submissions:** Assignments must be turned in at the beginning of class on the due date. You may turn in a hard copy OR submit the assignment on blackboard. Emailed submissions WILL NOT be accepted under ANY circumstances. If an assignment is not turned in at the beginning of class, late penalties will apply. Please see the individual assignment descriptions for specific late penalties.

University Policies
**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** If there is any student in this class who has special needs because of a learning, physical, or other disability, please contact me or Disability Support Services (DSS) 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. Where warranted, accommodations will also be provided to students without a diagnosed disability if that student discusses the specific need with me and the accommodation appears to be justified. Furthermore, if you have a disability and think you will need assistance evacuating this classroom and/or building in an emergency situation, please make me aware so I can develop a plan to assist you.

**Academic Integrity:** Students are expected to adhere to the university’s policies on Academic Honesty. These policies are described in the catalog and in the Student Code. Cheating and plagiarism will be dealt with as per the procedures described in the Student Code.

**Plagiarism:** As described in Section 223.01 of the Student Code, “any ideas or material taken from another source for either written or oral presentation must be fully acknowledged. Offering the work of someone else as one's own is plagiarism. The language or ideas taken from another may range from isolated formulas, sentences, or paragraphs to entire articles copied from books, periodicals, speeches or the writings of other students … Any student who fails to give credit in written or oral work for the ideas or materials that have been taken from another is guilty of plagiarism.” In sum, copying the work of any other individual, whether that of another student, researcher, author or editor is considered plagiarism. This is not acceptable and will be dealt with according to the policies set forth in the Student Code, which may include receiving a 0 on the assignment, failing the course, and/or other university consequences. If you have questions regarding the appropriate use of citations and plagiarism, please contact the instructor BEFORE turning the assignment in. Please note that taking extensive content word-for-word from a journal, book or website is considered plagiarism.

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**Course Schedule**
Readings are due the date of the lecture topic. It is possible that this schedule will change, as some weeks we will move more rapidly, and some more slowly. However, general deadlines will remain the same unless otherwise indicated by the professor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic and Activities</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| Week 1 | August 25 | • Syllabus and class introduction  
• Lecture: Introduction to developmental disabilities  
• Group work/initial meeting for project | • Review Syllabus  
• Review Assignment Descriptions |                                  |
|       | September 1 | • NO CLASS- Labor Day                                                               |                                                      | Enjoy!-                          |
| Week 2 | September 8 | • Lecture: History  
• Video: 25 Years After Willowbrook | • Chapter 1  
• Review Syllabus Again |                                  |
| Week 3 | September 15 | • Lecture: Definitions and Terminology  
• Examples from the field (Case Studies)  
• Discuss Multi-Media Assignment |                                                      | • Chapter 2                      |
| Week 4 | September 22 | • Lecture: Assessment and Diagnosis  
• Examples from the field  
• Group Work and Presenting different assessment areas | • List of References Due | • Chapter 3                      |
| Week 5 | September 29 | • Lecture: Psychosocial Causes  
• Chernobyl Heart Video and Discussion  
Examples from the field | • Multi-Media Assignment due | • Chapter 5                      |
| Week 6 | October 6 | • Midterm | • Prepare for Midterm |                                  |
| Week 7 | October 13 | • Continued discussion of Social/Environmental Causes  
• Multi-Media Assignment Presentations  
• Discuss Controversial Issues Assignment | • Article Summary Due | • No Readings: work on Multi-Media assignment |
| Week 8 | October 20 | • Lecture: Biological Causes  
• Video: Monica and David  
• If time, group work for project | • Chapter 6 |                                  |
| Week 9 | October 27 | • Lecture: Characteristics of Mild and Severe | • Chapters 8 and 9 |                                  |
| Week 10 | November 3 | Lectures: Early Intervention for infants and toddlers  
| Controversial Issues discussions  
| Group Presentations |
| Week 11 | November 10 | Lectures: Academic and social interventions  
| Group Presentations |
| Week 12 | November 17 | Lectures: Transition to adulthood  
| Questions for Guest Speaker  
| Guest Speaker  
| Group Presentations |
| November 26 | No Class- Thanksgiving Break |
| Week 13 | December 1 | Autism Spectrum Disorders and Cognitive Impairment  
| Guest Speaker  
| Group Presentations |
| Week 14 | December 8 | Final Exam |

- Group- come up with questions for speaker  
- Guest Speaker Q and A  
- Controversial Issues Due  
- Chapter 10  
- Chapter 11  
- Chapter 12  
- Enjoy!!  
- Final Exam  
- Final Exam  
- Prepare for Final Exam  
- Article Readings on ASD (See Blackboard)