

Adaptive/Assistive Technology for Education ET 640.61

Loyola College of Maryland

Time: Monday 4:30 – 7:00
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DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to introduce educators to assistive technology in the classroom. It will address the various factors associated with providing assistive technology services and devices in the educational setting. Students will be introduced to various technologies ranging from non-electronic solutions to low technology to sophisticated high technology strategies for implementation within any curriculum. Course participants will demonstrate technology competencies through discussions, assignments, tests, and hands-on experience.

RATIONALE

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as reauthorized, promotes and serves to insure that all students with disabilities will be provided access to an appropriate curriculum in the least restrictive environment (LRE). This mandate necessitates that regular and special educators become familiar with multiple solutions necessary for educating students regardless of disability. The state of technology as we enter the new millennium allows for "easy access" in a "user-friendly" environment. This course will enable the participants to problem solve technology strategies and troubleshoot potential classroom difficulties.

OBJECTIVES

1. Students will become familiar with technologies available to meet the mandates designed by IDEA, while maintaining an understanding of human factors within the classroom setting.
2. Students will become familiar with a systematic assessment process for use within the classroom setting.
3. Students will become familiar with a variety of technologies utilized to enhance written and/or spoken communication.
4. Students will become aware of various hardware and software solutions for use in the classroom setting.
5. Students will be able to identify technologies for use across the life span (e.g., home, school, work, and community).

COURSE MATERIALS

Primary Text (Required):

King, Thomas W. (1999). Assistive Technology: Essential Human Factors. Needham Heights, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Secondary Text: (Optional):

Cook, Albert M. & Hussey, Susan M. (2002). Assistive Technologies: Principles and Practice. 2nd Edition. St. Louis, MO: Mosby.

REQUIREMENTS & GRADING: You are expected to:

1. Attend all classes. (10%)
2. Complete all reading assignments and submit weekly, written abstracts. (30%)
3. Actively participate in class discussions. (10%)
4. Complete midterm and final exams (25%)
5. Present one project to the class (25%)

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND GRADING CRITERIA

- ✓ All information and materials must be computer-generated, and presented in a professional manner (e.g., quantity and quality).
- ✓ An abstract of each reading assignment must be submitted to the course instructor on the class following the assigned reading. All absences must be excused with an extension provided for the abstract.
- ✓ Each student will be responsible for one class project that must be presented orally to your class of peers. This project should be a functional activity that can be utilized in everyday life (e.g., education, work, home).
- ✓ Completion of a midterm and final examination will be expected from each student.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are required to attend all classes. Frequent, unexcused lateness and/or absences will impact the final grade. With approval from the instructor, students will be allowed to "make-up" missed classwork towards a grade.

PROJECTED COURSE OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Class	Topics	Assignment(s)
1 09/16/02	Introduction to course An Overview of Assistive Technology: Special Tools Just for Special People?	King: Chapters 1 and 2 ¹
2 09/23/02	The IDEA: What it says, what it does?	Online Resource(s)
3 09/30/02	Essential Human Factors in Assistive Technology	King: Chapters 3, 4 and 5
4 10/07/02	Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC): Components of Assessment and Intervention	Online Resource(s)
5 10/14/02	Hand-on Activity: More AAC!	
6 10/21/02	Adapted Computer Access: Keyboards, Switches and Controls that Enable Literacy and Learning.	King: Chapter 6
7 10/28/02	Midterm Examination	
8 11/04/00	Software based Solutions to Learning	Online Resources
9 11/11/30	Visit to the Maryland Technology Assistance Program (MD TAP) Demonstration Center	
10 11/18/02	Seating and Positioning with Wheeled and Powered Mobility	Online Video Worksheet

¹ King refers to the primary text.

The professor reserves the right to make changes to this schedule. Changes to the schedule and changes in assignments will be announced in class.

11 11/25/02	Seeing Devices: Screens and Screen Readers Prosthetics and Rehabilitation Robotics: Today and the Future	King: Chapter 7 Worksheet
12 12/02/02	Class Project Presentations	King: Chapters 8 and 9 due
13 12/09/02	Class Project Presentations	
14 12/16/02	Final Examination	