Your competence will be assessed as you complete the PX42/X542 objective exam for this assessment. This course of study may take up to 8 weeks to complete.

**Introduction**

**Overview**

Upon completion of this course, you will understand the role of special education in the development of instruction, why this field exists separate from and in conjunction with general education, where it is going, and how you can help coordinate inclusion for students.

You will gain expertise in developing instructional, curricular, and environmental interventions based on assessment data and student need.

More importantly, you will begin to feel confident in your ability to apply this knowledge to students and IEP documents. The area of special education has many laws, regulations, and issues; the key to knowing all of these is to gain a fundamental understanding of each and acquire the knowledge of where to find information specific to each disability and related law.

The material covered in this course is extensive and is designed to prepare you to apply your knowledge as you work with students who have mild to moderate disabilities in a wide variety of possible situations, all with an emphasis on cross-categorical inclusion.

Watch the following introduction video for this course:

**Competencies**

This course provides guidance to help you demonstrate the following 3 competencies:

- **Competency 631.4.1: Instructional Design and Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms**
  The graduate can design, develop, select, and utilize appropriate standards-based instructional strategies and materials for inclusive classrooms.

- **Competency 631.4.2: Instructional Management**
  The graduate utilizes a variety of instructional procedures to effectively manage educational programs and create culturally responsive teaching practices for children with mild/moderate disabilities, PK-12.

- **Competency 631.4.3: Management and Supervision of Paraprofessionals**
  The graduate is prepared to perform responsibilities as directed by, and in a manner consistent with laws and policies in the supervision of paraprofessionals and other staff, utilizing effective supervision and constructive feedback based on frequent interactions.

**Teaching Dispositions Statement**

Please review the [Statement of Teaching Dispositions](#).
Course Mentor Assistance

As you prepare to successfully demonstrate competency in this subject, remember that course mentors stand ready to help you reach your educational goals. As subject matter experts, mentors enjoy and take pride in helping students become reflective learners, problem solvers, and critical thinkers. Course mentors are excited to hear from you and eager to work with you.

Successful students report that working with a course mentor is the key to their success. Course mentors are able to share tips on approaches, tools, and skills that can help you apply the content you're studying. They also provide guidance in assessment preparation strategies and troubleshoot areas of deficiency. Even if things don't work out on your first try, course mentors act as a support system to guide you through the revision process. You should expect to work with course mentors for the duration of your coursework, so you are welcome to contact them as soon as you begin. Course mentors are fully committed to your success!

Preparing for Success

The information in this section is provided to detail the resources available for you to use as you complete this course.

Learning Resources

The learning resources listed in this section are required to complete the activities in this course. For many resources, WGU has provided automatic access through the course. However, you may need to manually enroll in or independently acquire other resources. Read the full instructions provided to ensure that you have access to all of your resources in a timely manner.

Purchase Learning Resources

Listed below are the learning resource materials you will need to obtain.

CD-ROM

Purchase the following resource:


  NOTE: This resource is a CD used in PX52/X352 and PX7X/X371. If you have already purchased this, there is no need to purchase this again.

Note: The WGU Bookstore has these resources available for immediate purchase and delivery. To purchase these from the WGU bookstore, use the “Buy Now” link on the LR tab. You may shop at other online bookstores, but be sure to order early and use the ISBN listed to ensure that you receive the correct edition.

Automatically Enrolled Learning Resources

You will be automatically enrolled at the activity level for the following learning resources. Simply click on the links provided in the activities to access the learning materials.
VitalSource E-Texts

The following textbooks are available to you as e-texts within this course. You will be directly linked to the specific readings required within the activities that follow.


WGU ebrary E-Texts

The following textbooks are available to you as e-texts within this course. You will be directly linked to the specific readings required within the activities that follow.


Note: These e-texts are available to you as part of your program tuition and fees, but you may purchase hard copies at your own expense through a retailer of your choice. If you choose to do so, please use the ISBN listed to ensure that you receive the correct edition.

Enroll in Learning Resources

You will need to enroll in or subscribe to learning resources as a part of this course. You may already have enrolled in these resources for other courses. Please check the “Learning Resources” tab and verify that you have access to the following learning resources. If you do not currently have access, please enroll or renew your enrollment at this time.

Note: For instructions on how to enroll in or subscribe to learning resources through the “Learning Resources” tab, please see the “Acquiring Your Learning Resources” page.

UWillTeach

The UWillTeach courses contain modules, quizzes, assessments, videos and directed questions to help you gain competency throughout the Special Education domain. Enroll for this resource through the Learning Resources tab. You should receive an email from UWillTeach that will have your login information. Keep this email since you may need it in the future for reference.

You will access material from the following courses:

- Course 9: Collaboration and Instructional Planning in the IEP Process

Other Learning Resources

You will use the following learning resources for this course.

Special Education Manual
You should have started this in the Foundations of Special Education, Law and Legal Issues Course. Add sections to this manual to create a complete document.

Suggested Table of Contents:

- Section 1 Overview and Legal History
- Section 2 FAPE (definition, providing FAPE and things to consider)
- Section 3 Child Find and Students With Disabilities
- Section 4 Roles and Responsibilities of Special Educators
- Section 5 Characteristics of Students With Disabilities (great for this course)
- Section 6 Special Education Process
- Section 7 LRE, IEP, and Service Delivery
- Section 8 Curriculum and Instruction Strategies (great for this course)
- Section 9 Behavior and Discipline
- Section 10 Procedural Safeguards and Working With Parents

Glossary

As you come across new terms or acronyms, through your readings or discussions with others, add the terms to your glossary of terms. Make your definitions short but meaningful.

**Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms, Part 1**

In this section, you will be asked to go back to some sections of the UWillTeach modules to look at the material with fresh eyes; you will be looking for curriculum, instruction, assessment, and environmental clues that will help you to make decisions to help meet the needs of students with special needs.

More importantly, you should work at articulating what you know so you can share your knowledge orally or in writing when you are in the classroom, consulting with parents, educators, administrators, or other professionals.

**Structuring and Managing the Learning Environment Inclusion**

Inclusion is a model of service delivery to children and youth with disabilities, including students who are gifted and talented. The basis for inclusion can be found in provision for Least Restrictive Environment in IDEA. The law explains that students with exceptional needs must be educated with non-disabled peers, "to the maximum extent appropriate." However, the law does not call for full inclusion of all students with general education, nor does it state that the least restrictive environment is always the general education classroom. The law clearly indicates that placement and service decisions must be based on the individual needs of each student, not on some general statement designed to fit all students.

**Special Education in Inclusive Schools**

Read the following chapter in Teaching Students Who Are Exceptional, Diverse, and At Risk in the General Education Classroom:

- chapter 1 ("Special Education and Inclusive Schooling")
Access the following web page:

- IRIS Center: IRIS Resource Locator

Select “Collaboration” from the Topics menu and then “Information Briefs”. Read through the available briefs. These tools will help you practice your ability to recall terminology, use concepts in guided questions, and write reflections. This site will supply you with sample answers after you have submitted practice tests. Add new vocabulary to your glossary.

Universal Design

Complete the following module at the Iris Center Website:

- Universal Design for Learning challenge

Collaboration in Inclusion

In this section you will look at the different needs of students with specific disabilities, ways to plan for instruction, use curricula, and promote learning for all students. You will be asked to read about different grouping strategies, plan for accommodations for students, prepare to write IEP goals and instructional plans, and use assessment data to support your decisions.

Curricular, instructional, environmental, and assessment adaptations can and should be made when possible.

Collaboration’s Influence on Policy

Inclusive education demands that teachers collaborate effectively with other teachers, paraprofessionals, and parents. Collaboration enables students with special needs to receive free appropriate public education.

Understanding Collaborative Teaching

Read the following chapters in Teaching Students Who Are Exceptional, Diverse, and At Risk in the General Education Classroom:

- chapter 2 (“Collaborating and Coordinating with Other Professionals and Family”)

As you read through this chapter, look at critical communication skills, concerns about collaborative and co-teaching models, ways to grade students receiving special education services, working with parents, and how to implement IEPS in inclusive settings.

Ask yourself how you see your special education inclusive models. Have you been involved in co-teaching, parallel teaching, or other models? Have they been successful? Share some of your ideas on the message board.

Collaboration and Coordination of Services

Complete the following module on the UWillTeach website:

- module 1 ("Models of Collaboration") in course 9
Work through course 9 and review the information in course 1 if you need it. Think about the concerns and challenges you will have learned about or perhaps have faced as either a teacher, parent, or paraprofessional yourself. Discuss with a peer or course mentor any issues you think warrant further exploration.

Create a graphic organizer or other chart that shows the advantages and disadvantages of the different models of collaboration. Make sure you are thinking like a special educator. Are there financial, time, material, or resource limitations that could hinder specific collaborative models in your local area?

Management and Supervision of Paraprofessionals and Other Staff

Procedures and rules should be established prior to the beginning of the paraprofessional's or volunteer's visit that outline not only duties but also the expectations within the boundaries of the classroom rules. Volunteers need to know their roles very clearly, and it is the job of each teacher to outline these roles.

Consider these questions:

- To whom does the paraprofessional go when there is need of information regarding a student?
- What is the role of a volunteer in an inclusion classroom?
- How does a teacher handle inappropriate actions by a paraprofessional or volunteer?

Paraprofessionals "Working Along Side Professionals"

The development of a team-teacher and paraprofessional starts with the outline of the responsibilities of each. As the complexity of the classroom changes, the role of the paraprofessional will change. The ultimate goal is to support the student in any way that is necessary.

Paraprofessionals can lead small groups or work with a student one on one, adapting lessons under the teacher's guidance and facilitating interactions between those students with special needs and those without.

Paraeducators and Collaboration-Thinking Like a Special Educator

Read the following sections from the Special Connections website. Choose “Collaboration” from the main menu and then view the following sections:

- Cooperative Teaching
- Teams
- Working Efficiently With Paraeducators

After you have finished the readings and looking over the teacher tools, choose some case studies and work them scene by scene, putting yourself in the situation. Answer the questions.
As you review the lessons, focus on definitions in the boxes along the margins. After you read the module, go back and add to your journal or to the "Notes" section of the course any of the vocabulary that is either new to you or that you wish to review again prior to the test.

Pay close attention to the definition of and the philosophy of inclusion described by the author inclusion as well as key concepts. As you review module 1, view the presentation video to introduce the lesson again. Complete these activities in your journal:

- Review the characteristics of an inclusive classroom and add examples to extend the aspects.
- Define and add examples of multilevel instruction, accommodations, and differentiated instruction flexible grouping practices.
- Connect the role of teaching standards to differentiated instruction.

**Managing Learning Environments**

Inclusive classrooms can have a wide variety of students with different needs. Special educators need to know how to manage learning environments for students with any disability.

This section outlines characteristics and strategies for reaching different kinds of student needs. You will want to pay attention to what kinds of things teachers might see in the classroom with each student, assessment issues for each student, and strategies for instruction and accommodations in the classroom.

**Structuring and Managing the Learning Environment**

Students with learning disabilities—the "invisible disability," due to the fact that there are no related physical signs—make up nearly 50% of students with high-incidence disabilities. These students may exhibit specific problems in basic skill areas as well as in areas such as language, attention, memory, and metacognition.

According to the President's Commission on Excellence in Special Education, 90% of the children served under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) fall into the high-incidence category. Because of this, competency in working with and planning for these disability areas is essential.

**Who are the Students We Teach?**

Access the following sections from *The Classroom Teacher's Inclusion Handbook* e-text from WGU eBrary:

- Six Essential Elements for Successful Inclusion / Six Harmful Attitudes That Could Ruin Inclusion,
- Inclusion
- Chapters 3 – 15 that provide characteristics of students with high incidence disabilities

Complete the following module on the UWillTeach website:

- Module 1 & 2 ("Planning & Delivering Effective Instruction") in course 5
Learning Disabilities, ADHD, and Communications Disorders

In this section you will study the definition and types of learning disabilities, learn about the identification of students through both the discrepancy model and response to intervention, and learn about instructional techniques that are used when working with students with learning disabilities.

Teaching Students With SLD, ADHD, and Speech/Language Needs in the Classroom

Read the following chapter in *Teaching Students Who Are Exceptional, Diverse, and At Risk in the General Education Classroom*:

- chapter 6 ("Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder")

See if you can find the list of key strategies for teaching students with LD.

Take note of instructional interventions and treatment options.

Read the following chapter in *Teaching Students Who Are Exceptional, Diverse, and At Risk in the General Education Classroom*:

- chapter 7 ("Teaching Students with Communication Disorders")

Developmental Disabilities, Physical, and Sensory Disabilities

Students who have hearing loss, vision impairments, or other physical disabilities are more likely to need assistive technology or other accommodations to help them access curriculum, instruction, and assessments.

When you have a student with special assessment needs, you will need to find additional resources to support the student. Some helpful resources include: Education Services District or Intermediate Unit; other support offices; veteran general or special education professionals within your school, district, regional, state, or national special education agencies (e.g., DOE, USDOE, NASDE, OSEP); or other national Special Education Technical Assistance Centers.

Special Education Manual?IEP Goal Matrix

Reference the following chapter in *Teaching Students Who Are Exceptional, Diverse, and At Risk in the General Education Classroom*:

- chapter 10 ("Teaching Students with Developmental Disabilities")

Create a matrix like the one in Figure 10.4 to use when writing IEPs for students. You can use it while you are in demonstration teaching. Put a copy in the Special Education Manual you created.

Teaching Students With Developmental-, Physical-, or Sensory-Based Needs in the Classroom

Read the following chapters in *Teaching Students Who Are Exceptional, Diverse, and At Risk in
the General Education Classroom:

- chapter 10 ("Teaching Students with Developmental Disabilities")
- chapter 11 ("Teaching Students with Lower-Incidence Disabilities")

Pay attention to the "Circle of Friends" described in the "Tips for Teachers." Think about how you can use this with a student you know.

Look at figure 10.1, the "Planning Pyramid with Modifications for a Student with Significant Disabilities." Take a lesson plan you have created and create a pyramid for a student with a developmental disability. Create the modification for this student.

Check the "Tech Tips" boxes for important information about ways you can use technology to help with accommodations.

**Management of Behavior, Autism, and Social Issues in the Classroom**

As you learn more about managing behavior and promoting social acceptance, you will learn about developing procedures and rules, using reinforcement, creating a positive classroom environment, and assessing student performance.

Understanding student behavior means assessing the curriculum, instruction, and environment, and providing students with positive behavioral supports to aid their successes.

Take time to review situations you read about or experience and think to yourself:

- How would I explain this to a parent/guardian?
- How would I provide positive behavior supports to this student?
- What is the function of this student's behavior?
- What would I teach this student to do instead of this problem behavior?"

**Teaching Students With Diverse Needs in the Classroom**

Read the following in *Teaching Students Who Are Exceptional, Diverse, and At Risk in the General Education Classroom*:

- chapter 4 ("Teaching Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students")

Pay close attention to the guidelines for teaching students who are culturally and linguistically diverse. Make sure you have a working knowledge of second language students and which characteristics they might exhibit in the classroom, so that you can identify them.

Look at assessment practices and which types of instructional or curricular adaptations work best during different stages of language acquisition.

Using a lesson plan you created or one you have from another source, make adaptations for an ELL student. Prior to writing the adaptations in your lesson plan, go through the following items:
• Review the five standards for effective teaching and learning for ELLs.

Ask yourself the following question:

• How will I know the difference between a student who is a second language learner and one who has a learning disability?

Teaching At-Risk Students

Read the following chapter in Teaching Students Who Are Exceptional, Diverse, and At Risk in the General Education Classroom:

- chapter 2 ("Response to Intervention: Developing Success for All Learners")
- chapter 15 ("Differentiating Instruction and Assessment for Middle and High School Students")

Create a list of school or community resources for at-risk students and their families. Use the focus questions on the first page of the chapter to help you prepare for the reading. Identify conditions that put students at risk. Pay attention to the signs and symptoms of abuse.

Create a "Help List" for yourself outlining all actions that need to be taken with at-risk students. If you work at or visit a school, find out what procedures teachers in your school or district must follow when they suspect abuse. What are the resources in your community for abused children and their families?

If your school has a social worker, ask about all the programs available for students and their families. Consider the current economic situation and how children will be impacted as families lose jobs and homes. Find out what resources schools have for these students and their families as more families struggle with this economic crisis. If there are military families in your community, identify unique issues they may face and then look for resources that may help address their specific needs.

Teaching Students With Neurological or Behavioral Needs in the Classroom

Read the following chapters in Teaching Students Who Are Exceptional, Diverse, and At Risk in the General Education Classroom:

- chapter 8 ("Teaching Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders")
- chapter 9 ("Teaching Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders/Pervasive Developmental Disorders")
- chapter 5 ("Promoting Social Acceptance and Managing Student Behavior")

After you read chapter 8, create an intervention list you might try. Describe behaviors you might expect. Compare those behaviors to emotional and behavioral problems occasionally exhibited by most children. Create a side list of behaviors that are indicators of emotional and behavioral disorders.

Compare and contrast the federal definition of "emotional disturbance" with the definition from
the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

- Read through the "Tips for Teachers" and activities for all learners.
- List some instruction adaptations that could be successful for students with emotional or behavioral disorders.
- List examples of externalizing behaviors and internalizing behaviors.
- Review the criteria considered for interpreting emotional or behavioral problems.

Discuss the definition of autism spectrum disorders (ASD) with a peer or study buddy. Outline the characteristics of students with autism spectrum disorders.

Review the importance of a predictable classroom routine for students with autism spectrum disorder.

Review social stories (see the example in figure 6.2) and think about a situation in a classroom where social stories might be useful. Create a social story that might apply to the situation you have chosen using the instructions in the chapter.

Compare the behavior of a student without ASD to the behavior of one with ASD. What might a general education teacher need to watch for when setting up a seating chart, laying out a classroom, and setting up classroom routines and procedures?

**Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms, Part II-Assessment**

When you are teaching in an inclusive classroom, it can be difficult to accommodate your materials to fit everyone's needs. However, you need to know how to modify materials and instruction to meet the individual needs of the student.

There are a variety of instructional models available (e.g., team teaching, cross-grade grouping, peer tutoring, and teacher assistance teams). You need to understand the power of a cooperative learning environment and how this environment encourages productivity and the promotion of socialization.

**Curriculum and Instruction Assessment**

Learning about standards-based classrooms will help you connect standards to instructional planning. To teach in a standards-based classroom, teachers use multiple teaching methods and many different materials, and they create different small learning groups based on the students' abilities.

In standards-based classrooms, students know how they will be assessed and are assessed frequently. Students are provided with remediation when they do not meet a standard.

**Collecting Data for Diagnostic Teaching**

Read the following chapters in *Assessing Students with Special Needs*:

- chapter 1: Special Education Assessment
- chapter 2: The Assessment Process
Complete the following module on the UWillTeach website

- Module 3 ("Assessing Outcomes of Effective Instruction") in course 5

Ask yourself how you would use the ideas presented in these texts in a classroom with students who different needs. Think about students or children you know and read vignettes about teaching situations. What would you say or do from the point of view of a special educator?

**Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms, Part III-Curriculum and Instruction**

Classrooms that successfully include students with disabilities are designed to welcome diversity and to address the individual needs of all students, whether they have disabilities or not. Teachers need to be very familiar with differentiated instruction and the process of reevaluation after each lesson taught.

**Curriculum and Instruction**

Students need systematic and intensive practice in applying strategies to content-area text with support from both teachers and peers.

In this section you will learn instructional strategies for specific learning problems. You will learn to ask critical questions in unit planning; assess the learning gap; create adjustable lesson plans and tiered assignments; make decisions about flexible groupings of students; teach memory and cognitive strategies, as well as school-related skills like note taking and homework; and also look at strategies for specific disciplines like math, reading, and writing.

**Approaches for Instruction and Curriculum**

Read the following chapters in *Assessing Students with Special Needs*:

- chapter 10: Reading
- chapter 12: Writing

As you read, make a chart of those strategies and ideas that you believe will be most effective for the age/grade in your classroom. Identify any questions you may have, and feel free to contact the course mentor to discuss strategies and ways to implement them in the classroom.

**Lesson Development Considerations**

Go to the message board and respond to the following questions:

- Does a teacher need to have an individual plan for every student in an inclusive classroom?
- What guides the teacher's lesson development for this type of classroom?
How does a teacher handle a student who does not react to any of the strategies planned for student learning?

At the end of your post, ask your peers to respond to your comments.

**Strategies for Teaching Literacy and Math in the Inclusive Classroom**

Comprehensive approaches to literacy and mathematics instruction are essential for successful inclusive classrooms. In this section you will explore non-verbal math difficulties, cognitive, personality, neuropsychological, and educational factors that impact math achievement, and instructional design of math curricula.

A special educator must be able to assess math difficulties to tease out problems from true disabilities, which is not always an easy task. This section studies different problems student may face and possible solutions to resolve or accommodate for them.

**Teaching Math**

Read the following chapter in *Teaching Students Who Are Exceptional, Diverse, and At Risk in the General Education Classroom*:

- chapter 14 ("Helping All Students Succeed in Mathematics")

Read the following chapter in *Assessing Students with Special Needs*:

- chapter 11: Mathematics

Using a math book from your classroom (if you have one), create a simple math problem to use in a curriculum-based assessment. Look over each of the figures; they do a nice job of illustrating math problems and concepts as they relate to teaching students with special needs.

**Strategies for Teaching Literacy**

Review the following chapters in *Assessing Students with Special Needs*:

- chapter 10 ("Reading")
- chapter 12 ("Writing")

Pay attention to factors that influence reading. Take note of the different strategies for decoding, learning sight words, and teaching reading to older students.

Pay close attention to the overview of reading development and the principles it outlines for teaching reading to students with disabilities.

You will want to know the characteristics of proficient readers and be able to identify students who struggle. Make a chart showcasing samples of the levels of intervention for reading as they might occur during the three-tiered response to intervention model.
Tier 1: core curriculum
Tier 2: intervention
Tier 3: intensive intervention

Discuss with a peer or on the message board how you would provide direct strategy instruction in writing and how you could teach the writing process to students with disabilities.

Consider the following questions:

- How do you assess writing?
- How can you use curriculum-based assessment to evaluate writing?
- What is an informal spelling inventory?
- How can you help students with handwriting?

Practice writing rubrics for writing and IEP goals for writing using the customizable IEP forms from the Knowlton CD you have from the other assessments.

**Inclusive Classrooms, Supporting Learners in Core Content Areas**

What people used to think of as strategies for special education are being seen as excellent strategies for all student learning in core content areas. Making adaptations and being intentional with instructional and curricular decisions in those areas, allows students with disabilities to participate and succeed. As you study this section, think carefully about the concept of differentiated instruction and universal design.

Delivering accommodations in core content areas involves selecting age-appropriate material with a logical set of objectives and is adaptable to various learning styles. Considerations for cultural and linguistic diversity, gender, age difference, and varying ability levels are essential for successful teachers in the inclusive classroom.

**Core Content Area Support**

Read the following chapter in *Teaching Students Who Are Exceptional, Diverse, and At Risk in the General Education Classroom*:

- chapter 16 ("Fostering Strategies for Student Independence")

Read the following chapter in *Assessing Students with Special Needs*:

- chapter 7: Intellectual Performance and Adaptive Behavior
- chapter 8: Learning Disabilities
- chapter 9: Classroom Behavior and Behavioral Disorders
- chapter 13: Oral Language and the Assessment of the English Language Learner

Pay attention to focus questions and key concepts in your text. Pay attention to the accessibility of the curriculum, vocabulary, context clues, writing, and study skills. Describe learning strategies to help students understand, store, and retrieve complex information.
Describe the importance of vocabulary development and core content area learning. List examples of how students can be taught to use context clues, morphemic analysis, and graphic organizers.

Provide examples for yourself between differentiation accommodations, modifications, and specially designed instruction.

**Inclusive Secondary Settings and Transition**

Learning about inclusive secondary settings and transitions will help you successfully teach learners with disabilities.

Many secondary special education settings are less inclusive than elementary settings due to the intensity of the core curriculum and the need for more functional curriculum. Also, the transition requirements are not often understood. All special education teachers need to have a clear understanding of the needs of the secondary transition student.

**Managing a Learning Environment**

Reading and analyzing transition related topics will help you understand the various issues involving transition planning.

Visit the Iris Center website

Select “Transition” from the Topics menu. Select the “Information Briefs” to access information on the various issues involved with transition planning.

Consider an elementary student and create an informal plan to address how a current program will prepare a student for successful transition. Create a transition plan for a student leaving high school and going on to either a post-high-school program or to a group home. Identify services that should be included in the transition plan.

**Secondary Transition**

Read the following chapter in Assessing Students with Special Needs:

- chapter 16: Assessment for Transition Education and Planning

Pay attention to focus questions and key concepts. Identify challenges and demands for both students and teachers in secondary settings. Describe the inclusive practices in secondary classrooms. Focus on the different roles of teachers in the secondary setting. Identify how inclusion can be successful for secondary schools. List five challenges students and teachers face in secondary school. What are curricular and social challenges for secondary students? Address literacy instruction and development at this level. Create a vocabulary-building exercise for a secondary student, personalizing the instruction.

**Translating to the IEP**

Competency in this area enables teachers to provide higher-quality student handling and program or lesson designing that will enable students to succeed as well as learn.
This section discusses developing and implementing an IEP that will meet the needs of students.

Create an IEP

Using the sample reports and customizable forms from the CD: Developing Effective Individualized Education Programs OR forms from your own district, take what you have learned here, and practice writing IEPs for different students with different needs.

Make sure you are familiar with writing PLOPS, goals and identifying accommodations for different academic areas, transitions plans, behavior, and functional skills.

Final Steps

Congratulations on completing the activities in this course! This course has prepared you to complete the assessments associated with this course. If you have not already been directed to complete the assessments, schedule and complete your assessments now.

The WGU Library

The WGU Library is available online to WGU students 24 hours a day.

For more information about using the WGU Library, view the following videos on The WGU Channel:

- WGU: Accessing the Library
- WGU Library: Finding Articles, Books, & E-Reserves

Center for Writing Excellence: The WGU Writing Center

If you need help with any part of the writing or revision process, contact the Center for Writing Excellence (CWE). Whatever your needs—writing anxiety, grammar, general college writing concerns, or even ESL language-related writing issues—the CWE is available to help you. The CWE offers personalized individual sessions and weekly group webinars. For an appointment, please e-mail writingcenter@wgu.edu.

Feedback

WGU values your input! If you have comments, concerns, or suggestions for improvement of this course, please submit your feedback using the following form:

- Course Feedback

ADA Requirements

Please review the University ADA Policy.