



George Mason University
Assistive Technology Certificate Program
Kellar Institute for Human disabilities
Summer 2004

**Assistive Technology for Individuals with Sensory Impairments
(EDSE/EDIT 522) (2 Credit Hours)**

Class Meeting Times

- Class Time 1:00 – 4:20
- Class Sessions: July 7 (Wed.), 9 (Fri.), 13 (Tue.), 15 (Thur.)
- Final Session: August 20, (Fri)

Instructor

Annette Carr, M.Ed.

703-993-3670(part -time)

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Central Module 13 (Office Hours: By Appointment)

Course Description

This course is designed for professionals and/or students interested in serving the Visually Impaired/Blind population or Hearing Impaired/Deaf populations. It is designed to heighten the awareness of participants to specific technology and resources available to enhance and improve the ability of individuals with visual and hearing impairments to succeed in school, daily living activities and employment. Knowledge and awareness components of this course may be delivered via distance education.

Relationship of Courses to Program Goals and Professional Organizations

This course is part of the George Mason University, Graduate School of Education, and Special Education Program for teacher licensure in the Commonwealth of Virginia in the special education areas of Emotional Disturbance and Learning Disabilities. This program complies with the standards for teacher licensure established by the Council for Exceptional Children, the major special education professional organization. As such, the learning objectives for this course cover many of the competencies for curriculum and methods for teaching individuals with emotional disturbances and learning disabilities from kindergarten through grade 12.

Council for Exceptional Children's Professional Technology Standards

1S2: Use technology-related terminology in written and oral communication.

4S2: Provide technology support to individuals with exceptional learning needs who are receiving instruction in general settings.

4S3: Arrange for demonstrations and trial periods with potential assistive or instructional technologies prior to making purchase decisions.

5S1: Use technology to foster social acceptance in inclusive settings.

8S1: Match characteristics of individuals with exceptional learning needs with technology product or software features.

10K1: Roles that related services personnel fulfill in providing technology services.

10S4: Instruct others in the operation of technology, maintenance, warranties, and trouble-shooting techniques.

Course Objectives

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Define the issues and or cultural perspectives and background related to the hearing impaired/deaf and visually impaired/blind populations as they relate to technology.
- Describe the technology available for individuals who are visually impaired/blind and hearing impaired/deaf.
- Locate resources available for hearing impaired/deaf and visually impaired/blind populations.
- Identify pros and cons of widely used technology for individuals with sensory impairments.
- Demonstrate competency in utilization of at least one piece of technology designed for individuals with a sensory impairment.

Statements of Expectations

The Graduate School of Education (GSE) expects that all students abide by the following:

- Students are expected to exhibit professional behavior and dispositions. See gse.gmu.edu for a listing of these dispositions.
- Students must follow the guidelines of the University Honor Code. See http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/apolicies/#TOC_H12 for the full honor code.
- Students must agree to abide by the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing. See <http://mail.gmu.edu> and click on Responsible Use of Computing at the bottom of the screen.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the GMU Disability Resource Center (DRC) and inform the instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester. See www.gmu.edu/student/drc or call 703-993-2474 to access the DRC.

Course Assignments

- In-Class Assignments (25 points) due at the end of each class session.
- Product Comparison & Presentation (30 points) due 7/15/04
- Implementation Project & Presentation (45 points) due 8/20/04

Grading Scale

A = 90 - 100 points

B = 80 - 89 points

C = 70 - 79 points

Course Schedule
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Class	Topics	Assignments
7/7 Wed 1:00-4:00	Welcome & Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Syllabus & Course requirements Overview of Visual Impairments Overview of Hearing Impairments Guest speaker - Living with a Hearing Impairment Hands On Activities Deaf-Blindness, a comparison Blackboard	In Class Week #1
7/9 Fri 1:00-4:00	V.I. Devices & technology for Daily Living <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magnifiers • Labeling • Talking devices Computer access V.I. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screen Readers • Refreshable Braille • Organizational tools • Screen magnification • Document readers • Tactile graphics • Braille Translation & embossing • Voice Recognition with screen reading 	In Class Week #2
7/13 Tue 1:00-4:00	H.I. Devices & technology for Daily Living <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Speaker Or Field trip • Hearing aids • Cochlear implants • Amplification devices • Sign language interpreters • Signaling devices • TTY//TDD Computer access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual Beeps • Captioning • Software for children w/ H.I. Deaf-Blind and technology	In Class Week #3
7/15 Thursday 1:00-4:00	Hearing Impairments (cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech to text Visual Impairments (cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation & Mobility – Guest Speaker • White cane VSS Guide Dog • GPS systems • Talking Signs Assessing A.T. Needs Emerging Technology Product Comparison Presentations Discussion of final project	In Class Week #4 Product Comparison
8/20 Fri 2:20-3:40	Final Presentations	Implementation Project