

Diploma in Education (Special Needs) Module Synopses

Module 1: Special Education and Exceptional Children

This module studies the different types of exceptional children, which include intellectual, emotional and physical disabilities. The module will provide students with an understanding of special needs education, the different programmes and specialties as well as the educational support framework.

Module 2: Diagnosis, Assessment and Referral of Exceptional Children

This module will have information on the principles and guidance strategies as applied to the exceptional child. Students will gain knowledge in the diverse range of education and psychological tests applicable to referral, assessment and placement of exceptional children. Students will also be exposed to the roles and responsibilities of the different supporting professionals such as the speech pathologists, psychologists and the occupational pathologists. Emphasis is placed on a unified team approach of differential diagnosis and treatment.

Module 3: Literacy; Numeracy and Adaptive Daily Living Skills

This module will introduce the students to the different theories, research and concepts to educational methods and materials used to help a child develop his literacy, numeracy and daily living skills.

Module 4: Behaviour & Classroom Management

This module focuses on the development of principles and procedures of behavioural change within the conceptual framework of social learning. The course emphasizes practical application of behavioural modification techniques in classroom settings and everyday situations. Variations discussed include the training of parents and teachers to work with children, the introduction of token learning principles into the home and school, and modification of peer and supervisor behaviour.

Module 5: Individual Education Plan (IEP) and Intervention Strategies

This module focuses on the theories, concepts application and implementation of intervention programmes such as mastery learning, peer tutoring, collaborative teaching, multi sensory learning and assistive technology. In addition, the module will also help student understand the purpose and importance of an IEP. The main focus will be to help students to competently design and implement an IEP for individuals in the following domains: Language and communication, cognitive, social and emotional, fine motor, gross motor and adaptive living skills.

1