

DEPARTMENT of Education
COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2022

TA 1237: Autism Spectrum Disorders (2.5-0-0) 15 Hours for 6 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations

INSTRUCTOR:	Melise Sears	PHONE:	N/A
OFFICE:	N/A	E-MAIL:	msears@nwpolytech.ca
OFFICE HOURS:	By request. Contact me by e-mail to set up a Zoom meeting.		

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

The role of an educational assistant involves assisting children who have Autism Spectrum Disorder. This course provides students with a basic understanding of the characteristics associated with Autism Spectrum Disorder and the issues and strategies relevant to supporting these children in the classroom.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

No text required for this course. A variety of resources will be available in myClass.

DELIVERY MODE(S)::

Classes will use a variety of formats. There will be small group work, class discussions, mini-lectures, and a variety of other activities designed to promote active learning of the course content.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course intends to provide students with:

- A basic understanding of characteristics associated with Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Awareness and comprehension of the issues and strategies relevant to supporting children with Autism in the classroom

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be expected to:

1. Understand the background and terminology used in the current medical diagnostic definition of Autism Spectrum Disorders. (ASD)
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the characteristics associated with ASD.
3. Show an understanding of the implications for instruction for students who have ASD.
4. Understand the importance of developing a collaborative parent-school relationship thereby creating a positive and effective outcome for students who have ASD.
5. Exhibit an understanding of how to develop Individualized Program Plans.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the most effective approaches for supporting the learning of students who have ASD.
7. Provide evidence of an understanding of how to manage student behavior and implement a behavior intervention plan.
8. Show their knowledge gained about effective inclusion strategies.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of how to help students cope with changes and adapt to a variety of settings.
10. Recognize the roles and responsibilities of the educational assistant with respect to the learning characteristics of students who have ASD.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

	Due Date	Percentage
Assignment #1 Visual Schedule	November 28, 2022	30%
Assignment #2 Social Media Buzz – In Class Presentation	December 7, 2021	30%
Weekly Quiz – 6 quizzes of 5% each	In class weekly	30%
Class Performance & Participation		10%

The Visual Schedule Assignment is to be submitted electronically in **pdf format** through myClass.

LATE POLICY: Assignments are to be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on the due date. Unless arrangements have been made with the instructor prior to the due date, late documents will be docked 2% per day. If not received within one week of the initial due date, a grade of zero will be given.

GRADING CRITERIA: (The following criteria may be changed to suit the particular course/instructor)

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Note: This schedule is tentative and subject to change.

DATE	TOPIC
November 2 Class	Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorder
November 9 Class	Communication and Social Skills
November 16 Class	Behaviour and Visuals
November 23 Class	Sensory Processing
November 30 Class	Transitions
December 7 Class	Social Media Buzz - Presentations

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

The College expects students' conduct to be in accordance with basic rights and responsibilities. Refer to the College Admission Guide at <http://www.nwpolytech.ca/programs/calendar/> or <http://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/>

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.nwpolytech.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies>

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- ✓ Refer to TA 1237 in myClass for Resources
- ✓ Attendance is more than being physically present in class. Students are expected to engage with the material, which includes but is not limited to: asking questions, making comments, and sharing information based on reading materials, other sources of knowledge, and personal experiences; contributing to class discussion and small group discussion. It also includes prompt arrival to class and refraining from use of technology (cellphones, laptops, tablets) when not required for classroom purposes.