

The University of Arizona
Department of Disability and Psychoeducational Studies

COURSE OUTLINE FOR TEACHERS OF VISUALLY IMPAIRED STUDENTS SPECIALIZATION

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Work Telephone: _____ SID#: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Adviser: _____

Certification Semester Entered _____

Master's degree Semester Entered _____

Core Courses in Special Education

Course	Credits	Semester Plan to Take	Semester Completed	Grade
Prerequisite SERP 400 Survey of Exceptionality	3			
SERP 503 Special Services in Schools	3			
SERP 556 Research Methods in Education	3			
SERP 504 Cultural and Linguistic Diversity in Exceptional Learners (offered Fall only) or LRC 516 and LRC 517 Structured English Immersion	6			

Teacher of the Visually Impaired Core Requirements

SERP 521 Introduction to Visual Impairments and Deaf-Blindness	3			
SERP 520 Low Vision and Visual Functioning	3			
SERP 524 Methods of Teaching the Visually Impaired	3			
SERP 522 Orientation & Mobility for Teachers of Individuals with Visual Impairments	3			
SERP 523a Braille I	3			
SERP 523b Braille II	3			
SERP 575 Observation and Participation (for people without three years of teaching experience and a teaching certificate)	6			
SERP 593 Internship	8			

*May be waived for students with 3 years of teaching experience or at adviser's discretion.

Electives:

4 Elective Courses (10-12 credits) are required and are determined by advisor and student. They must include the following categories:

1. Three (3) credits in Teaching of Reading (if you have no previous course)

Options:

- SERP 508 Teaching Students with High Incidence Disabilities
- LRC 505 Essentials of Reading and Writing
- LRC 507 Teaching of Reading: Decoding and Comprehension
- Any other course in reading approved by adviser

2. Three (3) credits in working with students who have multiple disabilities

Options:

- SERP 513 Educating Students with Mental Retardation and Severe Disabilities
- SERP 515 Foundations of Assessment and Instruction of Learners with Low Incidence Disabilities
- SERP 518 Augmentative Communication for Learners with Severe and Multiple Disabilities
- Any other course in multiple disabilities approved by adviser

3. Three (3) credits in assistive technology, with emphasis on visual impairment

- SERP 519b Assistive Technology for Students with Visual Impairments
- Any other course in assistive technology approved by adviser

4. An additional elective from the following list

- SERP 505 Foundations of Learning Disabilities
- SERP 502 Behavior Principles and Disabilities*
- SERP 519c Advanced Low Vision (Offered every one to two years)
- SERP 534 Language Development for the Exceptional Child*
- Any other course in special education or a related field as approved by adviser

*This is an on-line course taught in fall and spring semesters.

Course	Credits	Semester Taken	Semester Completed	Grade

Teaching certificate requirements

If you are not certified as a teacher in Arizona, you will be required to:

- Complete two courses in Structured English Immersion. If you take LRC 516 and LRC 517 at The University of Arizona, the first course will count as an elective in your Master’s program. You can also take the online SEI courses through UA South (LCEV 508 and 516) to meet this requirement.

- Take an Arizona/U.S. Constitution course within three years of obtaining your initial certificate.
- Take and pass the AEPA Elementary Professional Knowledge exam in Elementary Education (91). If you are earning certification in visual impairment and are not earning a master's degree, you must also take the Special Education Exam in Visually Impaired (32)

Upon completion of your program, you will apply for an Institutional Recommendation. Information on the process and the form for this can be found here: <http://www.coe.arizona.edu/ir>.