

1. **COURSE NAME:** ED 550 Autism & Asperger's Disorders

2. **EDUCATIONAL GOALS FOR THE COURSE:**

This course is designed to help you achieve a better understanding of Autism and Asperger's Disorder and intervention strategies to enhance communication and learning and to teach more conventional behaviors. Introduction to Autism and Asperger's Disorder provides information on the characteristics of the disorder, learning styles associated with the disorder, communication weaknesses, and various intervention strategies that have proven to be successful when working with students with autism spectrum disorders. The course helps you make sense out of why individuals with autism spectrum disorders act the way they do and what you can do to enhance more appropriate behavior. This course also lists resources for educators, related service personnel, and parents who would like more help or information on autism and Asperger's Disorder.

3. **INSTRUCTIONAL LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

- To define the characteristics of Autistic Disorder and Asperger's Disorder for better understanding of these disorders.
- To increase the ability to identify students having these disorders.
- To provide information on how individuals with these disorders are different from other students and how to teach them within these differences.
- To understand their behavior in terms of their differences and communication.
- To develop an understanding of the communication differences and weaknesses in students with autism or Asperger's.
- To provide information on teaching strategies.
- To provide resources for teachers and parents

4. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

- Read and complete all information presented
- Complete all course journal article and essay writing assignments with the minimum word count shown for each writing assignment.
- Complete all the examinations, showing a competent understanding of the material presented in those subsections with 70% accuracy or better

5. **DATES, TIMES AND LOCATION OF PROPOSED COURSE:**

(1 semester credit equals 15 professor contact hours with 30 hours outside work-exceptions upon approval)

Individual home study course, exact times and dates TBD and will meet accreditation standards for a two-semester credit course. Ending date must be specified at the time of registration and must be within 6 months of start date

6. **DUE DATES FOR COMPLETION OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** Within six months as specified.

7. **LEARNING RESOURCES AND REQUIRED TEXT:**

Course Materials

Software Title: *Autism and Asperger's Disorders* (software package)

Author: Dr. Marrea Winnega, Ph. D. & Mary Coughlin, CCC-SLP

Publisher: Virtual Education Software, Inc. ©2001

Technology Requirements:

The software program is designed to be loaded onto the hard drive of your personal computer from a compact disk (CD). The software is designed to operate on Mac OS 9 or OS 10x, 256MB of RAM and 5MB of free hard disk space, 15" or larger color monitor with a minimum resolution of 800x600, CD driver 4x minimum speed and a printer connected to your computer OR Windows 2000 XP Home, Professional, or newer, 256MB of RAM and 5MB of free hard disk space; 15" or larger color monitor with a minimum resolution of 800x600, CD driver 4x minimum speed and a printer connected to your computer. Please contact VESi if you have any questions about the compatibility of these systems.

8. **EVALUATION PROCEDURE:** Graded: 95-100%=A, 90-94=A-, 87-89=B+, 84-86=B, 80-83=B-, 77-79=C+, 74-76=C, 70-73=C- (C- is the lowest possible grade for credit)