

**SYLLABUS: ED 550 Traumatized Children**  
**2 Semester Credits - \$320**  
**Instructor: Halverstadt**

1. **COURSE NAME:** ED 550 Traumatized Children: The Effects of Stress, Trauma and Violence on Student Learning
2. **EDUCATIONAL GOALS FOR THE COURSE:**  
This course is designed to help classroom teachers, school counselors, and other educational personnel gain strategies to reach and teach students who have been affected by stress, trauma, and/or violence. Participants will learn the signs and symptoms of stress and trauma. Participants will explore how stress, violence, and trauma affect a student's learning, cognitive brain development, and social-emotional development. The short and long term consequences of being exposed to stress, trauma, or violence, as well as the social and family causes, will be reviewed. Participants will learn the dynamics of domestic violence and community violence. The educator's role in the intervention and prevention of violence will be discussed.
3. **INSTRUCTIONAL LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**  
Students will:
  - Understand the educator's role in supporting and accommodating students who have special learning needs due to exposure to stress, trauma, or violence in their lives.
  - Understand the educator's role in protecting and supporting vulnerable students
  - Recognize the symptoms of stress, trauma, and violence
  - Understand how stress, trauma, or violence affect brain development and learning
  - Understand the causes of stress, trauma, and violence in families and society
  - Understand the special learning needs these students bring to the classroom
  - Gain techniques for supporting students and families affected by stress, trauma, or violence
  - Learn intervention techniques applicable to the classroom setting
  - Gain a wider knowledge of available outside resources and support systems
  - Understand the educator's role in the intervention and prevention of violence
  - Explore violence prevention resources and curricula
4. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**  
As a student you will be expected to...
  - Complete all 4 information chapters covering The Effects of Stress & Trauma on Student Learning, showing a competent understanding of the material presented in each section.
  - Complete all 4 sectional examinations, showing a competent understanding of the material presented in those modules.
  - Complete a review of any section on which your examination score was below 70%.
  - Retake any section examination, after completing an information review, to increase that section examination score to a minimum of 70% (Maximum 3 attempts).
  - Complete all course journal article and essay writing assignments with the minimum word count shown for each writing assignments.
  - Complete a course evaluation form at the end of the course.
5. **DATES, TIMES AND LOCATION OF PROPOSED COURSE:** TBD – Home study course
6. **DUE DATES FOR COMPLETION OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**  
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
7. **LEARNING RESOURCES AND REQUIRED TEXT:**  
*The Effects of Stress, Trauma, and Violence on Student Learning* (Software package)  
Author: Joan S. Halverstadt, M.Ed., School Counselor Publisher: Virtual Education Software, inc. 2004

### **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.

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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) Your final grade for this course will be determined by calculating an average score of all sectional exams. This score will be printed on your final certificate. As this is a self-paced computerized instruction program, you may review course information as often as necessary. You will not be able to exit any examinations until you have answered all questions. If you try to exit the exam section before you complete all questions your information will be lost. You are expected to complete the entire exam in one sitting.