

Education 422-2

Learning Disabilities

Spring Semester, 1974

Ian McEown - Sessional
Lecturer

General Information:

The aims of the course are to promote understanding of the child with a learning problem and to provide some skill in teaching the youngster with special needs. The course content is addressed to both theoretical and practical considerations. Course sessions involve a variety of activities including lectures, seminars, presentations from individuals working with learning disabled children, and a visit to a learning centre in operation. Provision for the elementary school-aged child is the emphasis of the course.

Course Requirements:

- A. Students are expected to attend a meeting of approximately 4 hours duration once a week.
- B. Either a paper, a project or a field experience in a learning centre will be required of each student. There will also be a take-home examination stressing practical application of the course information.

Course Outline:

- A. What is meant by "learning disability"?
 - consideration of related terminology
 - overview of the development of the concept of learning disability.
 - review of the approaches to learning disability: etiological, diagnostic-remedial, and task analytic.
- B. Learning disabilities: sensorimotor, perceptual and language problems.
- C. Causation; diagnostic identification; corrective procedures, materials, and programs for problems in:
 - 1. Reading
 - 2. Writing
 - 3. Language
 - 4. Arithmetic

- D. Management techniques and children with learning difficulty.
- E. Adjustment of existing classroom programs to provide for learning problems.
- F. Techniques of encouragement.
- G. Special educational settings and the child with learning problems.
 - 1. the open concept classroom
 - 2. The special class
 - 3. the remedial teacher
 - 4. the learning assistance centre.