

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Educ 379-3

**Special Topics: Mainstreaming Students with Special Needs**

Summer Session, 1989  
(August 17 - 26)  
M/T/W/Th/F/Sat  
8:30 - 12:30  
Location: UVIC

Instructor: B. Epanchin

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**Prerequisite:** Educ 401/402 or equivalent teacher training

**Course Description:**

The purpose of this course is to prepare special education teachers to work with other professionals in mainstreamed special education students into regular education classrooms. Class time will be spent discussing current research and examining strategies for dealing with negative attitudes, for training children for mainstream settings, and for collaborating/consulting with mainstream teachers. Audio visual materials and experiential activities will be used to supplement lectures and discussions.

**Course Outlines:**

Days 1 and 2:

Research on the efficiency of mainstreaming. Is special education a chronic condition? What evidence exists for and against? Is special education better for exceptional children than regular education? What evidence exists for and against? Can we reliably distinguish between special education and regular education students?

Day 3:

Barriers that are typically encountered when mainstreaming students and approaches to minimizing these barriers. How do regular education teachers feel about having special education students in their classrooms? What does the research say? What has been done to minimize negative attitudes and to motivate regular education teachers to have special education students in their classrooms?

Day 4, 5, 6 and 7:

Models for mainstreaming students. Consulting teaching models and theories of consultation. Teacher Assistance Teams - How they work and what they accomplish. The Regular Education Initiative - What is it and what evidence exists for and against it? Inservice training models as change agents in systems.

Day 8:

Preparing students to return to the mainstream.

Day 9:

Teaching strategies that work in mainstream settings on both the elementary and secondary level. What do regular education teachers need to do to incorporate special education students in mainstream classes - a focus on specific teaching techniques?

**Course Requirements:**

Journal articles and book chapters will be assigned for each topic. There is no specific text. Students will be tested on the assigned readings. Each student will also be responsible for presenting a project in class.