

**ST: Social & Behavioural Dimensions of  
Learning Disabilities  
E01.00****PREREQUISITE:**

Educ 220 or Educ 401/2

Students will develop individual support programs for children and youth who exhibit challenging behaviours in the school setting. This process will involve conducting a functional assessment of problematic behaviour and providing practical solutions and strategies using a positive behaviour support system. Legal issues related to the management of severe behaviour within a school context will also be examined.

**Objectives**

The course prepares students to (a) operationally define problematic behavior, (b) assess the function of the problematic behavior within the classroom environment, (c) provide interventions to decrease problematic behavior and increase the child's social success in a classroom community.

One of the more challenging aspects of teaching children with severe behaviour disorders is finding ways to ensure that the child remains an active member of an inclusive, accepting and tolerant classroom and school community. To do this, teachers must develop strategies to analyze behaviour and the settings in which behaviour occurs. Also, they are faced with the challenge of creating intervention plans to decrease problem behaviours and increase positive behaviours for the child, not only in the classroom, but in the larger school community (i.e., on the playground at recess, during school sponsored, community events). This approach facilitates the emergence of social competence within the child, however, it also contributes to the development of a school climate in which administrators, teachers, staff and children strive to understand, accept, and embrace diversity in child behaviour. The primary goal of the course is to provide the student with a pragmatic, research based approach for the management of severe behaviour within a school setting.

**Student Assignments:**

Mid-term exam	20%
Final exam	20%
Two think papers	30%
Classroom activity	30%

**Required Text:** Walker, J., Shea, T., & Bauer, A. (2004). *Behavior Management: A Practical Approach for Educators*. New York: Prentice Hall.