

LABETTE COMMUNITY COLLEGE BRIEF SYLLABUS

SPECIAL NOTE:

This brief syllabus is not intended to be a legal contract. A full syllabus will be distributed to students at the first class session.

TEXT AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS USED IN THE COURSE (if any):

Please check with the LCC bookstore <http://www.labette.edu/bookstore> for the required texts for this class.

<u>COURSE NUMBER:</u>	PARA 120
<u>COURSE TITLE:</u>	PARAEDUCATOR I
<u>SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS:</u>	1
<u>DEPARTMENT:</u>	Paraprofessional and Developmental Disabilities
<u>DIVISION:</u>	Workforce Education/Community Service
<u>PREREQUISITES:</u>	Employed by school district or interlocal

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This one credit-hour course is divided into fourteen topical areas: Understanding Inclusion, The First Day on the Job, Confidentiality, Understanding the Many Types of Special Programs, Understanding the Many Areas of Disability and Exceptionality (Part I), Understanding the Many Areas of Disability and Exceptionality (Part II), Individual Student and Program Information, Introduction to Accommodations and Modifications, Supporting Modifications, General Classroom Management, Paraeducator Roles and Responsibilities in Inclusive Classrooms, Working with Official and Immediate Supervisors, Communicating with Student Teams, and Monitoring Student Progress.

COURSE OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES:

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. Realize the impact and importance of their roles and responsibilities as paraeducators.

- Demonstrate an understanding of inclusion in the classroom.
- Demonstrate an understanding of how inclusion has changed special education by serving more students in regular classrooms.
- Demonstrate an understanding of how inclusive education developed.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the philosophy and intent of inclusive education.
- Realize the impact of inclusive education on paraeducators.

2. Become familiar with the school policies, procedures, and duties of a paraeducator

- Understand the importance of school policies and procedures.
- Learn who has access to students' confidential information.
- Identify the duties of a paraeducator in a variety of environments.

3. Appropriately practice and maintain confidentiality

- Be able to define confidentiality and state the legal basis for confidentiality with information on students served by special education.
- Differentiate between persons who can receive student information and those who cannot.
- Describe strategies for practicing and maintaining appropriate confidentiality.
- Describe special situations involving confidentiality issues.

4. Understand the many types of special programs

- Understand what types of services school districts offer.
- Understand the components of Title I services.
- Understand the components of at-risk programs.
- Understand the components of special education.
- Understand the guidelines of the law for educational placement.

5. Identify the many areas of disability and exceptionality (Part I)

- Identify characteristics of a variety of disabilities;
- Identify teaching strategies for a variety of disabilities.

6. Identify the many areas of disability and exceptionality (Part II)

- Identify characteristics of a variety of disabilities.
- Identify teaching strategies for a variety of disabilities.

7. Demonstrate appropriate procedures for gathering student data

- Identify sources for specific student information.
- Know the components of an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
- Demonstrate an awareness of appropriate questions to use when gathering specific information.

8. Understand when and how to provide appropriate modifications for students

- Understand the array of accommodations and modifications for students with disabilities.
- Learn strategies for designing and implementing modifications.

9. Understand when modifications are needed to support a students

- Learn a variety of methods for making appropriate modifications.
- Understand which students a paraeducator can support with modifications.

10. Know and practice proactive approaches to managing student behavior

- Understand who is responsible for classroom management and student discipline.
- Learn how to effectively handle discipline issues.
- Know the importance of established classroom rules.
- Understand why negative behaviors occur.
- Learn how to set limits.

11. Understand the variety of duties that may be required from a paraeducator

- Understand how to support targeted students in the inclusive classroom.
- Identify ways to support the regular teacher in the inclusive classroom.
- Learn effective communication skills for working as a team member.
- Organize information effectively to carry out assigned duties.

12. Understand the role of an official and immediate supervisor

- Identify the various responsibilities of an official supervisor.
- Identify the various responsibilities of an immediate supervisor.

13. Realize the importance of being an effective communicator

- Learn strategies for communicating effectively with the general education teacher.
- Learn strategies for gaining important information regarding students and programs.
- Learn strategies for promoting effective communication between the general education and special education teachers.
- Understand the role of the paraeducator in communicating with parents.

14. Learn strategies/methods for monitoring student progress

- Understand the various components of an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
- Understand the role of the paraeducator in monitoring student progress.