



Course Schedule

Important: **ALL TIMES EASTERN**- Please see the [University Policies](#) section of your Syllabus for details

Week	Module	Readings and Other Assigned Material	Activities and Assignments	Due Dates	Weight (%)
1	Introduction to Special Education and Exceptionalities	Ch. 1 Exceptionality and Special Education			
2	Instructional Approaches	Ch. 2 Current Trends & Issues	Group Introductory Activity	Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 11:59 PM	
3	Intellectual Disabilities	Ch. 5 Learners with Intellectual Disabilities Bennett & Gallagher (2012)	Group Discussion on Inclusion: Summary	Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at 11:59 PM	7%
4	Learning Disabilities Part 1	Ch. 6 Learners with Learning Disabilities			
5	Learning Disabilities Part 2				
6	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	Ch. 7 Learners with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder			
7	Emotional and Behavioural Exceptionalities	Ch. 8 Learners with Emotional or Behavioural Disorders	Group Assignment: Emotional and Behavioural Disorders	Wednesday, June 24, 2015 at 11:59 PM	7%
8	Communication Disorders	Ch. 9 Learners with Communication Disorders			
9	Deaf or Hard of Hearing	Ch. 10 Learners who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing			
10	Autism Spectrum Disorder	Ch. 4 Parents & Families Ch. 12 Learners with Autism Spectrum Disorder	Group Assignment: Autism Spectrum Disorder	Wednesday, July 8, 2015 at 11:59 PM	7%
11	Blind and Low Vision	Ch. 11 Learners with Blindness or Low Vision			
12	Special Gifts and Talents / Physical Disabilities	Ch. 14 Learners with Physical Disabilities and Other Health Impairments Ch. 15 Learners with Special Gifts and Talents	Case Study	Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at 11:59 PM	39%
	Final Exam				40%

Final Examination Arrangement and Schedule

In courses with a final exam, students who are *exclusively* taking online classes must [provide examination arrangement information](#), using [Quest](#), by **Friday, May 22, 2015**. (Students taking one or more on-campus classes in addition to an online class within the same term do not need to provide exam centre information. Those exams will automatically be scheduled to be written at the University of Waterloo.)

Examination schedule details will be available on [Quest](#) approximately four weeks prior to the exam date. For instructions on how to find exam information, go to the [Quest Help](#) page.

Official Grades and Course Access

Official Grades and Academic Standings are available through [Quest](#).

Your access to this course will continue for the duration of the current term. You will not have access to this course once the next term begins.



Contact Information

News

Your instructor uses the **News** widget of the **Course Home** page to make announcements during the term to communicate new or changing information regarding due dates, instructor absence, etc. You are expected to read the **News** on a regular basis.

To ensure you are viewing the complete list of news items, you may need to click **Show All News Items**.

Discussions

A **General Discussion** topic* has also been made available to allow students to communicate with peers in the course. Your instructor may drop in at this discussion topic.

Contact Us

Who and Why

Contact Details

Instructor

- Course-related questions (e.g., course content, deadlines, assignments, etc.)
- Questions of a personal nature

Post your course-related questions to the **Ask the Instructor** discussion topic*. This allows other students to benefit from your question as well.

Questions of a personal nature can be directed to your instructor or your TA.

Instructor: Virginia Nusca
vmnusca@uwaterloo.ca

Your instructor checks email and the **Ask the Instructor** discussion topic* frequently and will make every effort to reply to your questions within 24–48 hours, Monday to Friday.

Technical Support, Centre for Extended Learning

- Technical problems with Waterloo LEARN

learnhelp@uwaterloo.ca

Include your full name, WatIAM user ID, student number, and course name and number.

Learner Support Services, Centre for Extended Learning

- General inquiries
- WatCards (Student ID Cards)
- Examination information

[Useful Information for Students in Online Courses](#)

extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca
 +1 519-888-4002

Include your full name, WatIAM user ID, student number, and course name and number.

*Discussion topics can be accessed by clicking **Connect** and then **Discussions** on the course navigation bar above.



Course Description and Objectives

Description

Exceptional Children is an introduction to current practice in understanding and addressing the needs of students who are identified as exceptional learners, that is, students who receive special education services. The course will discuss important physical, cognitive, academic, behavioural, social, and emotional factors associated with the range of exceptionalities as well as evidence-based classroom practices to address the needs of exceptional learners. A particular emphasis will be given to how special education needs are identified and responded to within the context of the Ontario educational system.

Learning Outcomes

- Develop a critical understanding of how exceptional learners are identified in Ontario (e.g., the difference between diagnosis of a developmental disorder and identification as an exceptional learner)
- Understand the theoretical, research-based, and diagnostic features associated with a range of exceptionalities
- Gain an appreciation of the social and educational barriers faced by exceptional learners (e.g., attitudes about inclusion, perceptions of peers and adults, access to appropriate accommodations and technology, etc.)
- Understand a variety of evidence-based practices (e.g., classroom strategies, use of technology, special education programming, etc.) that address the needs of exceptional learners
- Apply knowledge of exceptional learners and their needs to case studies or examples
- Identify strategies and resources (e.g., organizations, websites, journals, etc.) that PSYCH 213R students can use in their current and future work with exceptional learners or individuals with disabilities

This online course was developed by Virginia Nusca, with instructional design and multimedia development support provided by the Centre for Extended Learning. Further media production was provided by Instructional Technologies and Multimedia Services.



About the Course Author

Course Author — Dr. Virginia Nusca



© University of Waterloo

Dr. Virginia Nusca is a Registered Psychologist with the College of Psychologists of Ontario. She obtained her Ph.D. in Psychology at the University of Waterloo where she conducted research in the area of adults with reading disabilities. Dr. Nusca has worked as a school psychologist at both the elementary/secondary and post-secondary levels. For 10 years, she worked as a Learning Disabilities Specialist for Accessibility Services at the University of Waterloo. For 4 years, she worked as both a Learning Disabilities Specialist and Manager of Disability Services at Mohawk College. Since 2006, Dr. Nusca has worked for the Waterloo Region District School Board, first as a Psychological Services Consultant, and for the last 4 years as Chief Psychologist. She also has a part time private practice with a focus on psychological assessments for post-secondary students.

Dr. Nusca has taught undergraduate and graduate level courses on a sessional or adjunct basis at the University of Waterloo. Courses taught include Educational Psychology, Exceptional Children, Learning Disabilities, and Intellectual Assessment. She has served as an adjunct clinical supervisor to graduate practicum students from the University of Guelph and the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.



Materials and Resources

Textbook

Required

1. Hallahan, D. P., Kauffman, J. M., McIntyre, L. J., & Mykota, D. (2010). *Exceptional Learners: An Introduction to Special Education – Canadian Edition*. Toronto, ON: Pearson Canada.

For textbook ordering information, please contact the [Waterloo Bookstore](#).

For your convenience, you can compile a list of required and optional course materials through [BookLook](#) using your Quest userID and password. If you are having difficulties ordering online and wish to call the Waterloo Bookstore, their phone number is +1 519 888 4673 or toll-free at +1 866 330 7933. Please be aware that textbook orders **CANNOT** be taken over the phone.

Course Reserves

Course Reserves can be accessed using the **Library Resources** widget on the **Course Home** page.

Resources

- [University of Waterloo Library](#) (Services for Students Taking Online Courses)



Grade Breakdown

The following table represents the grade breakdown of this course.

Activities and Assignments	Weight (%)
Group Discussion on Inclusion	7%
Group Assignment: Emotional and Behavioural Disorders	7%
Group Assignment: Autism Spectrum Disorder	7%
Case Study	39%
Final Exam	40%

Late policy: Let the instructor know prior to the due date if an assignment will be late and arrangements can be made on a case-by-case basis. However, medical documentation will need to be provided to submit an assignment after the due date if arrangements were not made prior to the due date.



University Policies

Submission Times

Please be aware that the University of Waterloo is located in the **Eastern Time Zone** (GMT or UTC-5 during standard time and UTC-4 during daylight saving time) and, as such, the time that your activities and/or assignments are due is based on this zone. If you are outside the Eastern Time Zone and require assistance with converting your time, please try the [Ontario, Canada Time Converter](#).

Accommodation Due to Illness

If your instructor has provided specific procedures for you to follow if you miss assignment due dates, term tests, or a final examination, adhere to those instructions. Otherwise:

Missed Assignments/Tests/Quizzes

Contact the instructor as soon as you realize there will be a problem, and preferably within 48 hours, but no more than 72 hours, have a medical practitioner complete a [Verification of Illness Form](#).

Email a scanned copy of the Verification of Illness Form to your instructor. In your email to the instructor, provide your name, student ID number, and exactly what course activity you missed.

Further information regarding Management of Requests for Accommodation Due to Illness can be found on the [Accommodation due to illness](#) page.

Missed Final Examinations

If you are unable to write a final examination due to illness, seek medical treatment and provide confirmation of illness to the Centre for Extended Learning within 48 hours by emailing a scanned copy of the completed University of Waterloo [Verification of Illness Form](#) to support your request for accommodation. In your email, provide your name, student ID number, and the examination(s) missed. You will be **REQUIRED** to hand in the original completed form at the time you write the make-up examination, which should be within a week of having missed your exam. The original completed form must be received before you are able to write a re-scheduled exam.

Further information about [Examination Accommodation Due to Illness](#) regulations is available in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Academic Integrity

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. **If you have not already completed the online tutorial regarding academic integrity you should do so as soon as possible.** Undergraduate students should see the [Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) and graduate students should see the [Graduate Students and Academic Integrity](#) website.

Proper citations are part of academic integrity. Citations in CEL course materials usually follow CEL style, which is based on APA style. Your course may follow a different style. If you are uncertain which style to use for an assignment, please confirm with your instructor or TA.

For further information on academic integrity, please visit the [Office of Academic Integrity](#).

Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes [academic integrity](#) to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration, should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties, check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Appeals

A decision made or penalty imposed under [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#), (other than a petition) or [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#), may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).

Grievance

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4. When in doubt please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Final Grades

In accordance with [Policy 19 - Access To and Release of Student Information](#), the Centre for Extended Learning does not release final examination grades or final course grades to students. Students must go to [Quest](#) to see all final grades. Any grades posted in Waterloo LEARN are unofficial.

AccessAbility Services

[AccessAbility Services](#), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodation to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term and for each course.

Accessibility Statement

The Centre for Extended Learning strives to meet the needs of all our online learners. Our ongoing efforts to become aligned with the [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act \(AODA\)](#) are guided by [University of Waterloo AccessAbility Services Policy](#) and the [World Wide Web Consortium's \(W3C\) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.0](#). The majority of our online courses are currently delivered via the Desire2Learn Learning Environment. Learn more about [Desire2Learn's Accessibility Standards Compliance](#).

Use of Computing and Network Resources

Please see the [Guidelines on Use of Waterloo Computing and Network Resources](#).

Copyright Information

UWaterloo's Web Pages

All rights, including copyright, images, slides, audio, and video components, of the content of this course are owned by the course author, unless otherwise stated. These web pages are owned or controlled by the University of Waterloo, Centre for Extended Learning. By accessing the web pages, you agree that you may only download the content for your own personal, non-commercial use. You are not permitted to copy, broadcast, download, store (in any medium), transmit, show or play in public, adapt, or change in any way the content of these web pages for any other purpose whatsoever without the prior written permission of the course author and the University of Waterloo, Centre for Extended Learning.

Other Sources

Respect the copyright of others and abide by all copyright notices and regulations when using the computing facilities provided for your course of study by the University of Waterloo. No material on the Internet or World Wide Web may be reproduced or distributed in any material form or in any medium, without permission from copyright holders or their assignees. To support your course of study, the University of Waterloo has provided hypertext links to relevant websites, resources, and services on the web. These resources must be used in accordance with any registration requirements or conditions which may be specified. You must be aware that in providing such hypertext links, the University of Waterloo has not authorized any acts (including reproduction or distribution) which, if undertaken without permission of copyright owners or

their assignees, may be infringement of copyright. Permission for such acts can only be granted by copyright owners or their assignees.

If there are any questions about this notice, please contact the University of Waterloo, Centre for Extended Learning, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1 or extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca.