

M.Ed. in Special Education 2016-2017

Program Goals

The SPED Goals for the 2016-17 school year were:

1. Increase the number of SPED candidates who take the SPED Praxis the semester prior to practicum or internship.
2. Continue to align curricula across the SPED programs of of study to the CEC standards and TESS standards
3. Continue to align the comprehensive exam questions to reflect the SPED curricula
4. Develop an assessment cycle across the SPED master programs and the new addition of an undergraduate SPED program.

The following data were collected across the 2016-17 and 2017-18 school years:

- Portfolio Assessment,
- Comprehensive examination,
- Praxis scores, and
- Exit interview summary

Fall 2016											
Portfolio Assessment									Final Practicum	Praxis	Comprehensive Exam (MED Only)
Name	CEC Standard 1	CEC Standard 2	CEC Standard 3	CEC Standard 4	CEC Standard 5	CEC Standard 6	CEC Standard 7	Needs Improvement, meets criteria, distinguished	Grade	Pass or Fail	Needs Improvement, meets criteria, distinguished
1	Product 1 Product 2	Meets Criteria	Pass	Pass	Pass						
2	Product 1 Product 2	Product 1 Product 2	Product 1 Product 2	Product 1 Product 2	Product 1 Product 2	Product 1 Product 2	Product 1 Product 2	Distinguished	Pass	Pass	Distinguished

Spring 2017											
Portfolio Assessment									Final Practicum	Praxis	Comprehensive Exam (MED Only)
Name	CEC Standard 1	CEC Standard 2	CEC Standard 3	CEC Standard 4	CEC Standard 5	CEC Standard 6	CEC Standard 7	Needs Improvement, meets criteria, distinguished	Grade	Pass or Fail	Needs Improvement, meets criteria, distinguished
1	Product 1 Product 2	Distinguished	Pass	Pass	Distinguished Pass						
2	Product 1 Product 2	Product 1 Product 2	Product 1 Product 2	Product 1 Product 2	Product 1 Product 2	Product 1 Product 2	Product 1 Product 2	Distinguished	Pass	Pass	Distinguished Pass
3	Product 1 Product 2	Meets Criteria	Pass	Pass	Meets Criteria Pass						
4	Product 1 Product 2	Meets Criteria	Pass	Pass	Pass						
5	Product 1 Product 2	Meets Criteria	Pass	Pass	Pass						
6	Product 1 Product 2	Meets Criteria	Pass	Pass	Pass						

Results and Recommendations

While the SPED masters students are performing at a high standard based on their performance levels on the SPED Praxis and the comprehensive examinations, there are several areas for program improvement. The following improvement changes are in the process of design and implementation.

First, we have started using Task Stream for our undergraduate students. We are working to move the graduate portfolio from blackboard to TaskStream.

Our students have indicated that writing IEPs continues to be a concern. Furthermore, we have noted in the portfolio assessment that students are struggling with goal writing. Goal Attainment Scaling will be embedded into the course work. Dr. Kucharczyk and Whitby are working on a lesson planning format that can be used in all courses.