



New York Center for Teacher Development, Inc.

In affiliation with the University of Massachusetts Global (Extended Education)

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course: EDZU 9102 **Dyslexia and Dysgraphia: Gain Understanding and Strategies for Success**

Credit Hours: 3.0 credits / 45 hours

Instructor: Kyle Black

Course Description

Students with Dyslexia struggle to learn because of difficulty with reading, writing and spelling. This is a traumatic experience! With the right instruction, classroom strategies, accommodations and understanding teachers can have a role in the success stories of students overcoming these challenges. This course can help your students go from struggling to successful. Be the part of a major turnaround in a student's life! This course will also cover Dysgraphia.

Course Goals

Teachers Enrolled in This Class Will...

1. Know
 - Signs, symptoms and the definition of dyslexia
 - Accommodations that help level the playing field for students with dyslexia
 - Experiences of students with dyslexia overcoming challenges and achieving success
2. Understand
 - Classroom strategies for teaching students with dyslexia
 - Components of effective reading instruction for students with dyslexia
 - The screening, evaluation and diagnosis of dyslexia
3. and Be Able To:
 - Discern between myths and facts about dyslexia
 - Take the perspective of a student with dyslexia
 - Include students with dyslexia in a classroom using strategies, tips, tools and accommodations

Course Outline

1. What is Dyslexia?
 - a. Definition, basics, how widespread
 - b. Assessment
 - c. Facts and Myths
 - d. Dyslexia and the Brain
 - e. Discussion: student connection
2. Social/Emotional Impact of Dyslexia
 - a. Social/Emotional Problems
 - b. Success Stories
 - c. Famous People with Dyslexia
 - d. Simulation to empathize
 - e. Discussion
3. Including Students with Dyslexia
 - a. Accommodations
 - b. Assistive Technology
 - c. Google Read & Write Extension
 - d. Inclusion
 - e. Discussion
4. Teaching Students how to Overcome Dyslexia
 - a. Effective Instruction for Students with Dyslexia
 - b. Morphological Awareness
 - c. Structured Literacy
 - d. Reading Rope
 - e. Discussion
5. Dysgraphia & Support Plan
 - a. What is it?
 - b. Teaching Strategies
 - c. Support Plan Project: Dysgraphia
 - d. Support Plan Project: Dyslexia

Methods of Instruction

Students enrolled in this course will:

- Analyze research and read articles from an international, accredited organization.
- Examine personal accounts to help understand the social/emotional impact of dyslexia from firsthand accounts.
- Watch videos to help open the door to a better understanding of dyslexia and dysgraphia.
- Communicate in discussions with other teachers to share success stories, tips and strategies that worked for students with dyslexia.
- Apply concepts learned to their students and classrooms.

Students will connect with each other throughout the course within forums and various other types of online feedback options built into each class.

Methods of Assessment

In order to earn an A, a student must complete all assigned readings, assignments, and discussion forums. The student must describe a student, list and explain 5 strategies and accommodations to support that student.

In order to earn a B, a student must complete all assigned readings, assignment, and discussion forums. The student must describe a student, list and explain 3 strategies and accommodations to support that student.

Instructors are online each day of the course and correspond with students through the course itself, feedback on assignments, e-mail, and by phone.

Time Validation

Assignment	Time (in hours)
Dyslexia Basics: pull apart the definition, characteristics/symptoms, causes, diagnosis, how widespread, treatment- articles, videos and visual infographic	2.00
Self-assessment, student assessment- interactive assessment tool, teachers will assess themselves and past students	2.00
Facts & Myths- website that debunks many common misunderstandings of dyslexia- teachers will write about new facts they learned	2.00
Dyslexia and the Brain- video, analyze brain images, compare typical vs. dyslexic brains	2.00
Discussion Forum: teachers will share and communicate with other teachers about students they had previously that had reading difficulty, and what characteristics of dyslexia they had	1.00
Social/Emotional impact on people with dyslexia- read article and discuss the vast impact	2.00
Success Stories- read and watch videos of ordinary people that overcame dyslexia, teachers will put on the shoes of someone with dyslexia	2.00
Famous People with Dyslexia- read and watch videos of famous people with dyslexia, teachers will take away powerful quotes from their struggle	2.00
Simulation- interactive website and reading passages, teachers will reflect on how it feels to experience reading difficulty	2.00
Discussion- teachers will share and communicate with other teachers about things they have done or will do to support students with dyslexia socially/emotionally	1.00
Accommodations- read an article and examine several accommodations that can be used to level the playing field for students with dyslexia	2.00
Assistive Technology- read an article and get to know different assistive tech. tools that can be used so students with dyslexia can access their education	2.00
Google Read & Write Extension- teachers will experiment with the features so they can support their students with these tools (word prediction, read-aloud, etc.)	2.00

Inclusion- read an article with strategies to include students with dyslexia in the general ed. class, connect it back to their classrooms	2.00
Discussion- teachers will share and communicate with other teachers about new things they have learned, or strategies that have worked in the past for accommodations, assistive tech. and including students with dyslexia	1.00
Reading and Writing Ropes- teachers will analyze visuals to understand the science of reading and evaluate causes of reading and writing difficulty	2.00
Effective Instruction for Students with Dyslexia- read an article and summarize the factors necessary for effective reading instruction for students with dyslexia	2.00
Morphological Awareness- read an article and connect how to support students with morphology in their classrooms	2.00
Structured Literacy- analyze an infographic and combine structured literacy components into teachers' lessons	2.00
Discussion- teachers will share and communicate with other teachers about new ideas they can incorporate into their classrooms to reinforce students with dyslexia how to read	1.00
Dysgraphia- basics, definition, teachers will pull apart the definition and understand the basics, read an article and explain the key points in their own words	2.00
Strategies to support students with dysgraphia- websites, explain how they can use some of the strategies/tips in their classrooms	2.00
Project- Support Plan for Dyslexia- strategies, tips, instruction, inclusion, accommodations for one of their students, or a hypothetical scenario, teachers will create a visual plan to refer to later	2.00
Project- Support Plan for Dysgraphia- strategies, tips, instruction, inclusion, accommodations for one of their students, or a hypothetical scenario, teachers will create a visual plan to refer to later	2.00
Discussion- teachers will share and communicate their biggest takeaways from the course and how they will use it in their classrooms	1.00
Total Time	45.00