

Knowledgeable and Competent Education Specialists Education MS (Special Education) – College of Education

Step 1: Student Learning Outcome

Graduates will demonstrate their ability to use technology to support teaching and learning.

Step 2: Methods and Measures

Direct: Culminating assignment in SPED 504 Advanced Proficiency in Educational Technology that requires graduates to utilize technology to support their teaching and student learning. The assignment is assessed by a rubric calibrated by Department faculty and each semester by the Course Custodian and course instructors.

Indirect: The College Assessment Office administers various surveys (midpoint, exit, graduate, and employer) electronically. All enrolled candidates (identified at each survey point) are invited via email to complete the survey.

Step 3: Criteria for Success

Direct: 80% of candidates meet the required criteria for passing on the rubric developed for this outcome.

Indirect: 90% of candidates will respond Strongly Agreed / Agreed on survey questions aligned to the outcome.

Step 4: Results

Direct: In fall 2020 and spring 2021, candidates created a Technology Portfolio as a culminating assignment requiring them to create a lesson plan utilizing technology to improve student learning, then present their lesson to peers to promote discussion and feedback. With a 100% pass rate on the assignment, and overall average grade of “A”, students effectively demonstrated their ability to use technology to plan lessons that provide effective interventions for children and adolescents with disabilities.

Indirect: An Exit Survey was administered in fall 2020 (F20) and spring 2021 (Sp21). Overall, scores were lower in Sp21 over F20. Because this was true for assessments in the Initial Program as well, it is theorized that candidates may have been frustrated with a third semester without face-to-face contact with faculty, and the stresses of the pandemic in their personal and teaching lives. Results revealed the following:

- F20, 100% of candidates Strongly Agreed/Agreed that their program prepared them in all areas assessed pertaining to effective practice except for item, “preparation to advance technology integration as it relates to my role in schools/work environment”, however, at 92.5% (n=27), the standard was still exceeded.

- Sp21, on items dealing with effective practices, most areas were between 90-100%, except for item, “preparation to advance technology integration as it relates to my role in schools/work environment”, which barely missed the threshold at 89.5% (n=19).

Step 5: Improvement Actions

Although the outcome was met overall, student achievement specific to advancing technology in their practice could be improved. Faculty will meet to discuss the outcome and plan a revision to coursework and pedagogy that will promote student learning and confidence with their ability to utilize technology for teaching and learning.