

Course Outline – The Exceptional Child – PSYCH 3434E

School of Behavioural and Social Sciences

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course moving away from in-person delivery, course content may be delivered online either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). There may also be changes to any remaining assessments at the discretion of the course instructor. In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence, detailed information about the impact on this course will be communicated by the Office of the Dean and by the course instructor.

General Information

Course #: Psychology 3434E
Section #: 531
Term: FW
Year: 2021-22
Delivery: *online asynchronous*

Instructor Information

Name: Katie McKeown
E-mail: kmckeow6@uwo.ca
Office hours: *Office hours provided by Zoom, please contact instructor for appointment times.*

Course Description

The course covers major areas of exceptionality, such as above-and below-average intelligence, various physical disabilities, learning disabilities, and social and emotional disturbances. The etiology, diagnosis and management of exceptionality are examined.

Antirequisite(s): [Psychology 2041](#), [Psychology 2042A/B](#), [Psychology 2043A/B](#).

Required Course Materials

1. Textbook: Hallahan, Kauffman, Pullen. (2019) Exceptional Learners: An Introduction to Special Education (14th Edition, Toronto Pearson Education)
2. OWL Course Website

Learning Outcomes and Brescia Competencies

By the end of this course, students should:

- Demonstrate a foundational understanding of approaches to defining and identifying “exceptional children”
(Brescia Competencies: Communication, Critical Thinking)
- Understand the range of potential differences and severities among children
(Brescia Competencies: Communication, Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Self Awareness)

and Development)

- Able to recognize a range of prevention and intervention strategies for exceptional children
(Brescia Competencies: Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Inquiry and Analysis)
- Recognize the varying challenges faced by exceptional children, their families and support networks
(Brescia Competencies: Critical Thinking, Social Awareness and Engagement, Valuing)

Students can expect to achieve these outcomes if they honor course policies, attend classes regularly, complete all assigned work on time and meeting other course expectations as required. For a description of the Brescia Competencies, see: www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/brescia-competencies/

Teaching Methodology and Expectations of Students

The purpose of this course is to provide students with theory, research and practical understanding related to exceptional children. The term “exceptional child” refers to a very broad range of children, including those with intellectual differences (gifted, challenged, learning disabled), sensory and physical disabilities, behavioural/emotional disturbances and the effects of child abuse and divorce. Lectures and dialogue will focus on traditional and current issues, as well as management strategies for success.

Lectures and Required Readings:

All chapters are from the required text. Links to any additional readings or supplementary materials will be provided on OWL. Please note that the class schedule and assigned readings are subject to change. Any updates will be communicated in class and on OWL.

Copyright and Intellectual Property

PowerPoint lecture slides and notes, lists of readings, in-class activities, assignment guidelines, and other components of the course materials are typically the intellectual property of the instructor. Unauthorized reproduction through audio-recording, video-recording, photographing, sharing on social media, or posting on course-sharing websites is an infringement of copyright and is prohibited. Such action may be considered a Code of Conduct violation and lead to sanctions.

Evaluation

Exams: There will be 3 exams based on material from lectures, class discussion posts and the textbook. Each exam is non-cumulative and will be presented in multiple choice format. The dates and material covered in each exam can be found in the syllabus.

Essay:

Full-year (1.0) essay courses at Brescia/Western require written assignments that total a minimum of 5000 words. (All students must complete 2.0 essay courses to graduate, with at least one being a senior-level course such as 3434E).

To pass the essay component of this course, 3434E students will write two, 2500 word essays which address evidence-based practice with children with exceptionalities. *Because this is an essay course, as per Senate Regulations, you must pass the essay component to pass the course. That is, the average mark for*

your written assignments must be at least 50%.

Grading of these essays will be based on a rubric that will be shared in seminar. Papers should be written according to American Psychology Association guidelines (www.apastyle.org). Students should be careful to write their essay in their own words and are encouraged to consult with the instructor if they are unsure about how to paraphrase or cite properly.

Students are encouraged to work on their paper throughout the course and to access community organizations and supports in order to complete their assignment. Please note that grades cannot be adjusted on the basis of need. Your mark in the course will be the mark that you earn. Tests and exams cannot be re-written to obtain a higher mark. There are no extra credit assignments.

Late Policy:

Completed essays must be submitted on OWL before 4:30PM on the day they are due. Late essays will be subject to a 10% penalty per day, starting at 4:30PM on the due date. 10% will be deducted each day the essay is late, to a maximum of 4 days. After the fourth day, the essay will not be accepted and will result in a final mark of a 0%.

Tutorial Participation:

The 3434E tutorial is an essential part of creating an advanced learning environment where students can engage in collaborative inquiry and critically discuss, debate, and come to a deeper understanding of course concepts. Student participation will be assessed using a rubric that takes into account attendance, preparation, and participation. Students will be encouraged to self-evaluate their participation throughout the course, with the instructor assigning the final grade.

Evaluation Breakdown:

Component	Weight	Date/Deadline
Exam 1	20%	November 8
Essay 1	15%	December 6
Exam 2	20%	January 24
Essay 2	15%	March 7
Exam 3	20%	TBD in Spring Exam Period
Tutorial Participation	10%	Ongoing

Academic Accommodation

For course components worth 10% or more of the total course grade, please see the Academic Policies and Regulations section at the end of this course outline or consult the Academic Calendar.

Course Content

- Topics will be covered in the order listed and any dates listed are meant as a guideline.

Weekly Organizer: Semester 1

Class/Week	Date	Description	Assignments and/or Readings Due
1	Sep 13	Introduction & Syllabus Review	Syllabus
2	Sep 20	Exceptionality and Special Education	Chapter 1
3	Sep 27	Child Development: Current Issues & Trends	Chapter 2 Ministry of Education Doc
4	Oct 4	Multicultural and Bilingual Aspects	Chapter 3 Discovering Your Culture
5	Oct 11	Assessment Practices	
6	Oct 18	Prevention & Intervention	Ontario Education Amendment Act – Bill 82
7	Oct 25	Parents & Families	Chapter 4
---	Nov 1	Fall Reading Week	--
8	Nov 8	Exam 1 Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities	Exam 1 (Content: Week 1-7, Chapters Covered: 1-4) Chapter 5
9	Nov 15	Social & Emotional Effects of Intellectual Disabilities	
10	Nov 22	Learning Disabilities	Chapter 6
11	Nov 29	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorders	Chapter 7
12	Dec 6	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorders Cont.	Essay 1 Due

Weekly Organizer: Semester 2

Class/Week	Date	Description	Assignments and/or Readings Due
13	Jan 3	Behavioural & Emotional Disorders	Chapter 8
14	Jan 10	Classification of Emotional Disorders	
15	Jan 17	Autism Spectrum Disorders & Schizophrenia	Chapter 9
16	Jan 24	Exam 2 Communication Disorders	Exam 2 (Content: Week 8-15, Chapters Covered: 5-9) Chapter 10
17	Jan 31	Blindness & Low Vision	Chapter 12

18	Feb 7	Deaf & Hard of Hearing	Chapter 11
19	Feb 14	Multiple, Severe & Physical Disabilities	Chapter 13 Chapter 14
--	Feb 21	Spring Reading Week	--
20	Feb 28	Chronic & Terminal Illness	
21	Mar 7	Family Structure, Abuse & Addiction	Essay 2 Due
22	Mar 14	Gifted Children	Chapter 15
23	Mar 21	Career Trends & Prospects	
24	Mar 28	Exam Review	Exam 3 (Content: Week 16-23, Chapters Covered: 10-15) *To be scheduled in Spring Exam Period

2021-22 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

The complete policy regarding [Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students](https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12) can be found at https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12.

Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions which may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities should seek Academic Accommodation through Student Accessibility Services (https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10).

Personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

Students who experience an illness or extenuating circumstance sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

1. Submitting a **Self-Reported Absence** form provided that the conditions for submission are met;
2. For medical absences, submitting a **Student Medical Certificate (SMC)** signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner;
3. For non-medical absences, submitting **appropriate documentation** (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to their Academic Advisor. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Advisor to clarify what documentation is acceptable.

Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Portal

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance of 48 hours or less that is sufficiently severe to render them unable to meet academic requirements should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours. Note that the excused absence includes all courses and academic requirements within the up to 48 hours, it is not intended to provide an excused absence from a single course while students fulfill their academic responsibilities in other courses during that time.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

1. Students will be allowed a **maximum of two self-reported absences** between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August;

2. The duration of the absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;
3. The excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period if the student undertakes significant academic responsibilities (writes a test, submits a paper) during that time;
4. Self-reported absences will **not** be allowed for scheduled final examinations; midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations scheduled during the final week of term;
5. Self-report absences may **not** be used for assessments worth more than 30% of any course;
6. Any absences in excess of 48 hours will require students to present a Student Medical Certificate (SMC), or appropriate documentation;
7. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24** hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation.

Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

The following conditions apply for students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds:

1. Students must submit their Student Medical Certificate (SMC) along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. An SMC can be downloaded from http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf ;
2. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period;
3. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, scheduled tests or examinations, and other academic requirements;
4. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the SMC to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence;
5. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the course instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements, arranging Special Exams (make-ups), re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawal without academic penalty.

The [full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness](#) can be viewed at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor (https://www.brescia.uwo.ca/enrolment_services/academic_advising/index.php). If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please refer to <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates in the Academic Calendar (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>).

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Please note that for asynchronous online courses, attendance or participation requirements may be different than for synchronous or in-person courses.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work, and arrange academic accommodations if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory

(http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68).

4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, they may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, they may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal and if the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the SRBA. For information on academic appeals consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14.

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. PREREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written Special Permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

7. SUPPORT

Support Services

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> . Students can access supports through Brescia's Student Life Centre (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/>) and Learning Skills Services at Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/>)

Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through **Health & Wellness at Brescia** (https://brescia.uwo.ca/student_life/health_and_wellness/index.php) and **Health and Wellness at Western**, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at https://brescia.uwo.ca/safe_campus/sexual_violence/index.php .

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy, and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.
