

**Course Objectives/Course Outline**  
**Spokane Community College**

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**Course Title:** Introduction to Special Education  
**Prefix and Course Number:** EDUC& 204

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Course Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, a student should be able to:

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**Course Outline:**

- I. Purpose and promise of Special Education
  - A. Definitions and terminology
  - B. Disability categories
  - C. Principles of IDEA
  - D. Other Federal laws
- II. Special Education Services, Collaborating with families
  - A. Roles and responsibilities of various IEP team members
  - B. Components of an IEP
  - C. Placement options
  - D. Obstacles to inclusion
  - E. Evaluating and including culturally diverse students
- III. Mental Retardation
  - A. Assessment, causes and characteristics of mental retardation
  - B. Explain the four levels of service intensity
  - C. Curriculum and accommodation
  - D. Transition
- IV. Learning Disabilities
  - A. Definition, assessment and characteristics
  - B. Curriculum and subject areas
  - C. ADD/ADHD
- V. Emotional and Behavioral Disorders
  - A. Definition, assessment and common diagnosis
  - B. Collecting and charting observational data
  - C. Effective methods for prevention and intervention
- VI. Physical Disabilities, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Other Health Impairments
  - A. IDEA definitions and characteristics
  - B. Related services: OT, PT
  - C. Assistive technology
  - D. Epilepsy
- VII. Hearing and Vision Impairments
  - A. Definitions and assessment
  - B. Curricular adaptations

- C. Labeling and sensitivity
- VIII. Communication Disorders
  - A. Distinguish speech and language disorders
  - B. Compare normal and impaired development
  - C. Augmentative and alternative communication
- IX. Severe Disabilities
  - A. Definitions, assessment and characteristics
  - B. Causes of severe disabilities
  - C. Alternative communication
  - D. Functional assessment of behavior
- X. Early Childhood Special Education
  - A. Benefits and models of successful home-school partnerships
  - B. Benefits of early intervention
  - C. Components of an IFSP
  - D. Developmentally Appropriate Practice and Special Education