

**SPECIAL EDUCATION 7030  
DOCTORAL COLLOQUIUM**

**DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH**

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Seminar Dates/Times                      Mondays 5:00 p.m. MBH 201

Seminar Objectives:

The purpose of this seminar is to introduce incoming doctoral students in the Department of Special education to advanced graduate studies at the University of Utah. The seminar will focus on the following areas: 1) the Department of Special Education within the context of higher education; 2) overview of the Ph.D. program in special education, 3) professional socialization to higher education, and 4) current issues in the field of special education.

The Ph.D. Program in Special Education

1. The administrative organization of the Department of Special Education within the framework of higher education
2. Overview of the content and structure of the doctoral program in the Department of Special Education
3. Procedural aspects of a doctoral program (e.g., selecting an advisor and supervisory committee, timelines, candidacy, etc.)
4. Background and interests of your doctoral cohort
5. Background and expertise of faculty in the Department of Special Education

Professional Socialization

1. The reward structure in higher education (scholarship, teaching, and service)
2. Developing professional networks
3. Mentoring

### Current Issues in the Field of Special Education

1. The future of leadership personnel in higher education
2. Issues in Public Policy and Research Methodology

### Readings:

Selected readings related to the above topics will be made available to each student at least two weeks prior to the seminar discussion. Additionally, students are required to purchase and become very familiar with the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the publication manual of the American Psychological Association. A copy of this manual may be purchased through the University of Utah Bookstore.

### Requirements:

Each student will be required to prepare five papers and a PowerPoint presentation for this seminar. The first paper focuses on your personal view of doctoral studies (up to three pages in length double-spaced).

- a. career aspirations
- b. expectations of doctoral work in relationship to career aspirations
- c. how you plan to meet your goals for obtaining the doctoral degree (e.g., selecting an advisor and supervisory committee, course content within and external to the Department of Special education, timelines for achieving your goals)

The second paper is a biography on a current scholar in the field of special education who has had a demonstrable effect on improving educational programs for students with disabilities through research. The biography should focus on someone outside of the University of Utah and within your area of emphasis for the Ph.D. program. The scholar's curriculum vita should be included as an appendix to the paper.

The third paper is a biography on a faculty member/scholar in the Department of Special Education who has expertise in your primary area of emphasis for the Ph.D. program. (up to five pages in length double-spaced). The faculty member's curriculum vita should be included as an appendix to the paper.

The fourth paper is a commentary on the journal articles written for the *JASH Research Exchange* on methodological issues in special education. (Up to six pages in length)

The fifth paper is a review of the literature on a topic of your choice related to a primary or secondary scholarly/research emphasis for your Ph.D. program. (Up to fifteen pages in length double-spaced). This paper will be accompanied by a 30 minute PowerPoint Presentation focuses on the major issues addressed in the paper.

Each paper will be written in APA format. Papers will be evaluated by the instructor, and feedback provided in the following areas: content, writing clarity, and organization.

Accommodations Students with identified disabilities who require accommodations to complete course assignments or activities are encouraged to contact the instructor during the first week of the quarter. Reasonable prior notice is needed to arrange accommodations. Questions regarding whether you may have a disability or requests for reasonable accommodations should be referred to the Center for Disabled Student Services (160 Olpin Union Building, University of Utah).

## **TENTATIVE SEMINAR CALENDAR**

### **August 25th**

- Overview of seminar objectives, activities, and requirements
- Introduction, background, and interests of seminar participants

### *Readings for September 15th:*

- Department of Special Education: Mission and Organization; Strategic Planning; and Retention, Promotion and Tenure Guidelines
- Doctoral Program Overview and Requirements

### **September 8<sup>th</sup>**

- Guest presentation from national scholar: Dr. Ken Howell  
Preparing General and Special Education Teachers: The Future of Dual Licensure Programs

### *Assignments and Readings for September 22nd*

- Complete paper #1: Personal View of Doctoral Studies
- Read: OSEP Report: The Shortages of Faculty in Special Education
- Read: Policy Perspectives: The Federal Role in the Preparation of Leadership Personnel

- Read: Increasing the Number of Special Education Faculty: Policy Implications and Future Directions

### **September 15<sup>th</sup>**

- Department of Special Education mission and organization within the framework of higher education
- The higher education reward structure: Retention, promotion, and tenure
- The content and structure of the doctoral program in the Department of Special Education
- Using the portfolio approach in evaluating performance
- Procedural aspects of the doctoral program (e.g., selecting an advisor and supervisory committee, timelines, candidacy, etc.)

*Assignments and Readings for September 29<sup>th</sup>*

- Read: *The Higher Education Job Search: A Guide for Prospective Faculty Members*
- Complete papers #2 and #3: Biography of Special Education Scholars

**September 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- Discussion: Personal view papers (*Note: Paper #1 Due: Personal view of Ph.D. studies*)
- Discussion: The future of leadership personnel in special education

*Assignment and Readings for October 6<sup>th</sup>*

- Read: Journal articles from the *JASH RSPD* Exchange
- Complete paper #4 Commentary on the *RSPD* Exchange

**September 29<sup>th</sup>**

- Discussion: Biography papers (*Note: Papers # 2 and #3 Due: Biography of Special Education Scholars*)
- Discussion: Seeking positions in higher education: What to do, when to do it, and how to do it successfully

*Assignment for October 13<sup>th</sup>*

- Complete paper #5 Review of Literature on Selected Research Topic in Primary or Secondary Area of Emphasis

**October 6<sup>th</sup>**

- Discussion: The *RSPD* Exchange and Commentary

**October 13<sup>th</sup>**

- PowerPoint presentations and discussion of review of literature
- Course summary and evaluations