Mission / Purpose

The Mission of the M.Ed. Program within the Department of Special Education and Habilitative Services is to train certified educators in an advanced master's degree program in which additional certification is an option, but not a requirement. Educators gain additional skills to become highly quality individuals who work with students with disabilities from birth to 21 years old. The purpose of the program is to improve the quality and quantity of educators to teach students with special education needs using research-based practices. Students become reflective educators who develop, implement, and evaluate effective educational programs and services within classrooms, schools, and communities. The M.Ed. program is an advanced master's degree program and accomplishes the mission through; Interaction of theory and practice, Programs of study leading to the option of additional state certification, Performance- and competency-based programs, Application of current and advanced technology, Inclusive practices among diverse populations, & Advanced applied projects and research.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

SLO 1: Applied project
Demonstrate ability to design and implement an applied project

Related Measures

M 1: Score on rubric
Scores on rubric in course taken within program of study (e.g., EDSP 6060 or 6981)
Source of Evidence: Comprehensive/end-of-program subject matter exam

Target:
80% or more of students will score "acceptable" or above on the applied project rubric.

Finding (2013-14) - Target: Met
All students (100%) earned a score of "acceptable" with a score of "2" or above in their applied project.

Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):

Applied Project
Continue supporting students in EDSP 6060 to complete an applied project with an acceptable score on the rubric

Established in Cycle: 2013-14
Implementation Status: Planned
Priority: Hgh

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Score on rubric | Outcome/Objective: Applied project

SLO 2: Articulate a philosophy statement
Demonstrate ability to articulate a philosophy statement related to their area of special education

Related Measures

M 2: Philosophy statement rubric
Scores on philosophy statement rubric completed during their program of study
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Target:
80% or more of students will score "acceptable" or above on the philosophy statement rubric

Finding (2013-14) - Target: Met
The assignment and rubric was implemented in the spring 2014 semester for the first time. 100% of students earned a score of acceptable or above on the Philosophy Statement

Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):

Applied Project
Data will be analyzed at the end of the spring semester when students complete the course.

Established in Cycle: 2013-14
Implementation Status: Planned
Priority: Hgh

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Philosophy statement rubric | Outcome/Objective: Articulate a philosophy statement

Philosophy Statement
Data will be gathered at the end of the spring 2014 semester

Established in Cycle: 2013-14
Implementation Status: Planned
Priority: Hgh
SLO 3: Articulate evidence-based practices
Demonstrate ability to articulate evidence-based practices

Related Measures

M 3: Comprehensive Exam
Comprehensive Exam
Source of Evidence: Comprehensive/end-of-program subject matter exam

Target:
95% of students will earn a passing grade and a score of 2 or above on their first attempt at comprehensive exam

Finding (2013-14) - Target: Met
In the Fall of 2013, our department developed and implemented a rubric to grade the Comprehensive Examination. Previously, students only received a Pass or Fail grade. During Fall 2013 semester, three students scored at the Acceptable level with a score of "2" or at the Target level with a score of "3" in their first attempt. During the Spring 2014 semester, two students scored at the Acceptable level with a score of "2" or at the Target level with a score of "3" in their first attempt.

Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):

Comprehensive Exam
Students complete the comprehensive exam at the end of their program of study, thus, additional data will be added at the end of the spring 2014 semester.

Established in Cycle: 2013-14
Implementation Status: Planned
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Comprehensive Exam | Outcome/Objective: Articulate evidence-based practices

Details of Action Plans for This Cycle (by Established cycle, then alpha)

Applied Project
Continue supporting students in EDSP 6060 to complete an applied project with an acceptable score on the rubric

Established in Cycle: 2013-14
Implementation Status: Planned
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Score on rubric | Outcome/Objective: Applied project

Applied Project
Data will be analyzed at the end of the spring semester when students complete the course.

Established in Cycle: 2013-14
Implementation Status: Planned
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Philosophy statement rubric | Outcome/Objective: Articulate a philosophy statement

Comprehensive Exam
Students complete the comprehensive exam at the end of their program of study, thus, additional data will be added at the end of the spring 2014 semester.

Established in Cycle: 2013-14
Implementation Status: Planned
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Comprehensive Exam | Outcome/Objective: Articulate evidence-based practices

Philosophy Statement
Data will be gathered at the end of the spring 2014 semester

Established in Cycle: 2013-14
Implementation Status: Planned
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Philosophy statement rubric | Outcome/Objective: Articulate a philosophy statement