

Texas A&M University- San Antonio Department of Educator and Leadership Preparation  
EDSE 4356 Life Skills Curriculum and Intervention

**A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT**

Life Skills Curriculum and Intervention is a comprehensive course designed to prepare educators with the knowledge and skills needed to assess, plan, and implement teaching/intervention strategies for individuals requiring life skills development. Life skills instruction will focus on teaching skill domains such as feeding, self-help, adaptive behavior, career management, functional academics, independent living, parent and family relations, and leisure activities, with a goal of increasing exceptional individuals' overall quality of life. This course will discuss principles of a life skills curriculum, strategies for embedding life skills teaching in classroom, community and natural learning environments. Further, pre-service teachers will be prepared to support the generalization and maintenance of these life skills with consistent and effective person-centered planning.

**B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- Describe the rationale for life skills curriculum within the classroom.
- Identify various life skills curriculum assessments, progress monitoring, and data collection strategies.
- Analyze student level data to develop proper strategies for remediation in life skills.
- Identify and implement interventions to remediate motor needs.
- Identify and implement interventions to remediate self-care and adaptive daily living needs.
- Identify and implement interventions to remediate functional academics.
- Identify and implement interventions to remediate peer relationships.
- Create lesson plans and strategies to teach daily living skills.
- Describe proactive strategies for successful peer interactions.
- Describe proactive strategies for successful post-secondary transition.
- Analyze the importance of parent and family relationships in addressing life skills curriculum.

**C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS**

Subject matter addressed in this course represents a continuum of rationale, assessments, and interventions for life skills curriculum and development for students with exceptionalities.

- Foundational Concepts of Life Skills Curriculum
- Developmental Domains and Functional Academics
- Parent and Family Partnerships
- Motor Skills and Physical Abilities
- Medical Needs and Food Management
- Self-Care and Adaptive Daily Living Skills
- Independent Living and Economic Management
- Peer and Community Interactions and Relationships

- Functional Academics
- Transition Strategies and Quality of Life Supports

#### D.REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS

Students will study course content provided through selected textbooks, and Blackboard postings of supplemental material. These resources include:

Brown, F., McDonnell, J., & Snell, M. E. (2020). *Instruction of students with severe disabilities*. New York: Pearson Education.

Supplemental readings: There will be material posted on Blackboard for your review and will contribute directly to the course objectives.