EDU 251
INTRODUCTION TO SPECIAL EDUCATION
OBSERVATION TASK LIST

You are required to carry out 15 hours of observation with a focus on special education. The observation report is due on the date shown on your class schedule. This report task list is made up of two sections.

1. The first section covers your observation of teacher and student activities in the classroom.
2. The second section covers your interview with the classroom and/or special education teacher(s). Your response must follow the outline provided below.

When you are writing your report, list the question and follow it with your response. In addition, you are responsible for the correct use of all terminology listed in this task list. For example, the proper application of the term “IEP.” When writing, follow the “Writing Rubric” for this and all papers. When you turn in your report, please:

1. Provide a cover sheet with your name, course, group number
2. Follow the cover sheet with your report
3. Place a draft of your thank you letter after you report
4. Place you “Observation Confirmation Form” last
5. Staple the package together
6. Do not include materials other than what is requested above
7. Please do not use folders, covers, etc. to enclose your report.

Section 1: Student Observation;

Shadow/observe a student with special education needs in either a general or special education setting. Determine/identify the following:

1. Observe a student with a disability.
   a. Describe the exceptionality that the student had.
   b. Describe the accommodations that were made for the student
   c. What was your opinion of the accommodation. Explain
2. How are students in special education grouped?
3. Identify the ways in which curriculum and tests are modified for students with disabilities.
4. Examine instructional materials specifically designed to accommodate a student with a disability.
   a. Describe them.
   b. How did they differ from the materials used for other students?
5. Review an IEP.
   a. Describe it and the objectives
   b. Was it in use
   c. If so, observe and describe how it is being implemented
d. If not, why?

6. How are students referred and evaluated to receive special education services?

7. How are medication and special assistive devices handled for students with disabilities?

Section 2: Teacher Interview:

1. Does your school use inclusive practices?

2. Does your school have a mission statement expressing the belief that the professionals and other staff members strive to meet the needs of all students? Is it
   a. displayed,
   b. discussed,
   c. used to guide instructional practices?

3. Have expectations been clarified for students with disabilities who are integrated into classrooms? Expectations include those relate to instruction, discipline, student evaluations and grading?

4. Is there a means of evaluating the impact of inclusive education on students?

5. What do you see as the advantages of inclusive education?

6. What do you see as some of the challenges of inclusive education?

Section 3. Describe your experience and how it has impacted on your views of special education.
**OBSERVATION CONFIRMATION**

Student Name: _______________________________________
Course: EDU 251 INTRODUCTION TO SPECIAL ED
Observation School Name: ________________________________

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<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIMES</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
<th>TEACHERS INITIALS</th>
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Dear Teacher,

Thank you for providing your support to the Wor-Wic Community College education program. Opportunities for students to carry out classroom observations are vital to an effective teacher education program. Your assistance in providing this observation opportunity and student evaluation information is greatly appreciated.

Please certify that the above student carried out 15 hours of observation in your classroom.

Classroom Teacher’s Signature: ________________________________
Dear Teacher,

Please take a few minutes to evaluate ________________________ performance in your classroom. We will greatly appreciate any comments you may wish to add to this evaluation.

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<th>Fair (1)</th>
<th>Poor (0.5)</th>
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Comments:

I recommend this student to be allowed to continue in Teacher Education. ______ Yes    No ______

Teacher’s Signature: ____________________________ Date: ________