

Curriculum and Strategies for Children with Special Needs

Course Information

- Semester and Year: Fall 2025
- Course ID and Section number: ECE-34-V9158
- Instructor's name: Dr. Susan Rosen
- Course units: 3.0

Instructor Contact Information

- Office location: Virtual
- Office hours: Flexible/On Request
- Phone number: 707-267-4933 (please text and I will respond ASAP)
- Email address: susan-rosen@redwoods.edu
- Communication notes: I will check email often, at least daily. Please allow 24 hours for a response, unless otherwise noted (i.e. holidays...).

Required Materials:

- Textbook **Adapting Early Childhood Curricula for Children with Disabilities and Special Needs** by Ruth E. Cook, M. Diane Klein, and Deborah Chen, Tenth Edition

Catalog Description

Covers curriculum and intervention strategies for working with children with special needs in partnership with their families. Focuses on the use of observation and assessment in meeting the individualized needs of children in inclusive and natural environments. Includes the role of the teacher as a professional working with families, collaboration with interdisciplinary teams, and cultural competence. Note: This course may be used to partially fulfill ECE unit requirements for the Master Teacher Child Development Permit 6-unit Specialization.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Evaluate program, educational, and professional policies, based on special education laws and evidence-based practices.
- Design curriculum techniques based on children's individualized needs in inclusive and natural environments.
- Identify strategies to establish and maintain effective partnerships with families, interdisciplinary team members, and community resource specialists.

Course Calendar

This course meets in Canvas and is asynchronous. It begins September 9, 2025 and concludes December 19, 2025.

Assignment Calendar is available on Canvas.

Evaluation and Grading Policy

Course grades, and specific comments about assignments, may be accessed at any time during the semester by clicking on the *Grades* link in the navigation bar. Accuracy, clarity, and appropriateness of the work completed determine the grade for all assessments. Grades are based on the points you earn and all points in the class contribute toward your total percentage, which can be viewed at any time during the course in the *Grades* link.

The following policies apply to late work during our time together:

- 1) One missed discussion will be accepted for 50% of the original value and should be emailed to the professor.
- 2) You may request that 1 missing quiz be reopened the final week of class.
- 3) Assignments (other than discussions posts and quizzes) will receive a 5% reduction per day it is late.
- 4) If you know of an upcoming major life event that will create havoc with your schedule (i.e. you're about to give birth), please contact me at the beginning of the semester so we can discuss potential solutions before the assignment due dates. The late policies still apply, but we can discuss how you can complete your work in advance.

Important – please communicate concerns and questions with the instructor as soon as possible. We can work together to create a plan forward for almost any situation.

Prerequisites/corequisites/ recommended preparation

None – ECE 2 Child Development, recommended.

Educational Accessibility and Support

College of the Redwoods is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified students who could benefit from additional educational support and services. You may qualify if you have a physical, mental, sensory, or intellectual condition which causes you to struggle academically, including but not limited to:

- Mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, or bipolar disorder

- Common ailments such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, and diseases
- Temporary impairments such as a broken bone, recovery from significant surgery, or a pregnancy-related disability
- Neurodevelopmental disorders such as a learning disability, intellectual disability, autism, acquired brain injury, or ADHD
- Vision, hearing, or mobility conditions

Available services include extended test time, quiet testing environments, academic assistance and tutoring through the [LIGHT Center](#), counseling and advising, alternate formats of course materials (e.g., audio books, braille, E-texts), assistive technology, learning disability assessments, approval for personal attendants, interpreters, priority registration, on-campus transportation, adaptive physical education and living skills courses, and more. If you believe you might benefit from disability- or health-related services and accommodations, please contact [Student Accessibility Support Services \(SASS\)](#). If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact Student Accessibility Support Services (SASS) for a consultation: sass@redwoods.edu.

SASS office locations and phone numbers

Eureka campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280
- Location: Learning Resource Center (Library)

Del Norte campus

- Phone: 707-465-2353
- Location: main building, near the Library

Klamath-Trinity campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280

Academic Integrity

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic integrity, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated a lack of academic integrity, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [2025-2026 College Catalog](#) and [CR Board and Administrative Policies](#).

AI Use Class Policy

Recent advancements in generative artificial intelligence (AI) have made large language models such as ChatGPT and Google's Bard widely available. However, overuse of these tools in this class can

undermine your learning and curtail the development of your critical and creative thinking skills. In addition, AI outputs are often unreliable and frequently subject to bias. For these reasons, the policy of this class is that AI cannot be used at any point in the completion of class assignments, including discussion posts. Any or all of your assignment submissions and discussion posts may be screened by AI detection software, but the real penalty for AI misuse is that you will miss out on an opportunity to learn.

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.