COURSE TITLE: Disability Issues
COURSE NUMBER: PSY 364

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a comprehensive overview of the barriers faced by people with physical and mental disabilities. The focus is on sensitivity training, awareness of community resources, and recent civil rights legislation as means of surmounting stereotypical attitudes.

As Psychology professionals, we recognize that reactions to trauma come in many forms. The content of this course, and discussions about trauma from different perspectives, may bring about unexpected and unsettling reactions. Responses to trauma are often strategies that survivors have developed to keep themselves safe, and therefore really reflect strength and resiliency. Recognizing how trauma impacts anyone is an important part of skill building for creating trauma-informed services and systems. Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor at any time during the course if you would like to discuss, privately, your reactions to the content we are reviewing and/or the discussions we are having.

II. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A:
The student will demonstrate an understanding of Federal and State legislation related to disabilities.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

A-1 Identify pertinent disability laws
A-2 Evaluate how these laws pertain to various settings

GOAL B:
The student will demonstrate an understanding of appropriate terms, including medical terms.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

B-1 Define terms, e.g., vocational rehabilitation, independent learning, supported employment
B-2 Define medical terms, such as spinal cord injuries, head injuries, functional limitations.
GOAL C:
The student will demonstrate an understanding of the process of rehabilitation.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

C-1 Describe key processes such as counseling, vocational assessment, and job placement
C-2 Identify the examples of these processes.

GOAL D:
The student will understand a rehabilitation team.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

D-1 List the roles of individuals comprising a rehabilitation team.
D-2 Describe the roles of individuals comprising a rehabilitation team

GOAL E:
The student will demonstrate an understanding of community resources.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

E-1 List community resources
E-2 Identify some key individuals associated with these resources
E-3 Identify assistance - technology

GOAL F:
The student will demonstrate sensitivity to situations involving disabled persons.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

F-1 Identify psychological, sociological dimensions of disabilities and how they impact the person and the family.
F-2 Identify personal responses into a disabling situation.

GOAL G:
The student will use appropriate written and oral communication skills.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

G-1 Communicate information orally in a logical and a grammatical manner.
G-2 Present written information using standard APA style.