March 15, 2016

RE: Recoding Special Education Courses into licensure tracks

Dear Dr. Warnick:

The Department of Educational Studies is putting forward a group of courses for the special education program that will allow students to be easily followed within their licensure track. In special education we have three intervention specialist licensure tracks: early childhood (EC, .01), mild/moderate disabilities (M/M, .02), and moderate/intensive disabilities (M/I, .03). These students take many of the same special education courses together, but we have no quick and easy way to identify which student is in which specialty or track. Consequently, we are creating a separate “course” for each track. The students will still be in the same classroom at the same time and doing many of the same activities (allowing for slight differences specific to their track), but we will be able to identify each student’s licensure track instantly. Although it is valuable for the instructors to be able to quickly identify students in each track, the greatest advantage will be in following students within a track and compiling data on all the students within a given track for accreditation and assessment purposes. Moreover, it will be easy to identify that a given student has fulfilled all the requirements of his or her track when it is time to approve the coursework for licensure. For example, if a student in early childhood takes our reading course (ESSPED 5738.01), we will be able to follow that student during the course and again when we recommend the student for licensure to the State of Ohio. Students will register for the correct course without difficulty because we already have the subcodes for each track attached to each student. The transcripts will now correctly reflect the student’s coursework too. Please note that some courses are not taken by all tracks and therefore we do not need to include all the dot number extensions. These courses are:

- ESSPED 5734 - Mild/Mod Meth Elem – Taken by EC (.01) and M/M (.02) students but not by M/I students so no .03 is needed
- ESSPED 5735.02 - Mild/Mod Meth Sec – Taken only by M/M (.02) students
- ESSPED 5736.03 - Mod/Int Methods 1 – Taken only by M/I (.03) students
- ESSPED 5737.03 - Mod/Int Methods 2 – Taken only by M/I (.03) students
- ESSPED 6760.01 - Early Child Assess – Taken only by EC (.01) students
- ESSPED 6761.01 - Ed Interv Yng Chld – Taken only by EC (.01) students

To simplify registration for both undergraduates and graduate students, we are now using one set of field experience course numbers (5189, 5189.01, .02, and .03) to designate field experiences in the courses in which they are needed. Consequently, students will register into either a grad or
undergrad section for the field experience. Finally, because there is an additional track at the Master’s level, applied behavior analysis (ABA), we need to have a “generic” field experience that is outside the other three tracks; hence the need to create a field experience course without an extension, namely 5189.

This system has many advantages in record keeping and for accreditation and will be a convenience for the student. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me; I am at your service.

Sincerely,

Joe Wheaton, PhD
Associate Chair, Dept of Educational Studies