

# Supporting Special Needs in the Classroom



## Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Through this course, teachers explore behavioral health training that is culturally responsive and trauma and evidence informed. Teachers also gain an increasing awareness of practices relating to educating students with disabilities in the classroom, including inclusive learning environments.

The first section of this course presents a basic understanding of warning signs of early-onset mental illness in children and adolescents.

The second section focuses on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Teachers are provided with a variety of tips, adaptations, and classroom strategies.



1 CEU



100% Online



Quizzes

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## Course Outline

### SECTION A: Recognition of Early-onset Mental Health Illness in Children & Adolescents

#### LESSON 1: Introduction to Mental Illnesses

- An overview of the prevalence, nature, causes, and experience of mental illnesses
- Understanding effective treatments and the role and limitations of medication
- The application of behavioral therapy and other creative therapies under the umbrella of Cognitive Behavior Therapy to target the root of the problem
- The stigma associated with mental illnesses and ways to combat it
- The educational implications of the evaluation and treatment of mental illnesses

#### LESSON 2: ADHD, ODD, and Anxiety in the Classroom

- Understanding the manifestations of ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder) in the classroom and ways to manage behavior effectively in this context
- The common signs, treatments, and classroom strategies to deal with ODD (Oppositional Defiant Disorder) and CD (Conduct Disorder)
- The various subtypes within Anxiety Disorders, their treatment, and classroom applications

#### LESSON 3: Other Mental Health Conditions in Children

- Symptoms and warning signs of OCD, Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder, PTSD, etc.
- Treatments
- Classroom applications and strategies

#### LESSON 4: The Team

- Working with parents
- The role of mental health professionals
- The IEP process
- Understanding assessments and assignments

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### SECTION B: Understanding ADHD

#### LESSON 1: Introduction

- Definition of and challenges of ADHD
- Causes of ADHD
- Strengths of students with ADHD
- Prognosis and treatment of ADHD

#### LESSON 2: Core Issues in ADHD

- The ADHD brain and how the changes in the brain cause deficits
- Challenges in ADHD and strategies that may be used to overcome them, especially in the areas of attention, hyperactivity, and impulsivity
- Strategies that are useful in working with students with ADHD including instruction sheets, classroom seating, movement breaks, and rules
- Dealing with anger and addictive behavior in students with ADHD

#### LESSON 3: Associated Issues in ADHD

- Issues seen in ADHD, including issues in organization, motivation and social skills
- How teachers may help students to organize their schoolwork and complete it
- How to motivate students with ADHD
- How to support students with ADHD so they can build positive friendships

#### LESSON 4: Accommodations

- Classroom accommodations that can help a student with ADHD learn and perform well
- Modified seating and lighting
- How a classroom schedule and organization can support learning
- Adapting homework, visual aids, and assessments in order to help a child with ADHD cope with the curriculum

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