

College of Education, Health and Human Sciences
Proposed Catalog Changes
Effective Summer 2020

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

1. Add the following courses:

EDSP 120 Vandal QUEST Employment Internship

3 credits, max 12

Vandal QUEST (Quality Undergraduate Education to Support Transition) is a program for students with intellectual disability. Students will engage in an on-campus internship to develop job skill and learn work-related soft skills in authentic job settings.

Prereq: Admission in to Career and Community Studies Certificate program

Rationale: In addition to financial incentives, there are a multitude of benefits associated with employment. For many people, jobs or careers help define who they are (both internally and by others), provide opportunities for social engagement, expand circles of support, and provide a structure for time. When considering these benefits, it is especially troubling that individuals with intellectual disabilities are under-employed when compared to the general population. EDSP 120 focuses on developing work skills for students with intellectual disabilities for that they are better prepared to make contributions to their community by finding and maintaining employment.

The development of this course for students with Intellectual Disabilities (ID) is well-aligned with the University of Idaho Mission Summary Statement (The University of Idaho will shape the future through innovative thinking, community engagement and transformative education). In addition, the offering of this course is well-aligned with the goals of the university. EDSP 120 provides an opportunity to collaborate with the community and stakeholders to address a societal need, while promoting economic development and financial self-reliance (Engage). This curricular innovation provides greater access to educational opportunities to meet the evolving needs of society (Transform). Providing genuine opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities enhances our diverse campus (Cultivate).

This course is a mandatory component of the Career and Community Studies Certificate program (i.e., Vandal QUEST), a non-degree offering for students with ID.

Addition of this course simply codifies work a faculty member is already doing anyway. There are no additional resources necessary to deliver it and it will not catalyze a modification to position descriptions.