**Debre Markos University**

**Institute of Education and Behavioral Studies**

**Department of Special Needs and Inclusive Education**

**Course Code:** Snie2053

**Course Title:** Education of persons with Learning Difficulty

**ECTS Credits (CP):5**

**Course Description**

This course is designed to introduce students with the basic concept of learning disabilities, causes, prevalence and co morbidity of the condition with other disorders. In addition, different behavioral manifestations or characteristic features of students with learning disabilities including academic, socio-emotional, and cognitive, language, motivational and perceptual motor difficulties will be discussed. Along with the various learning difficulties, appropriate educational approaches and early childhood education and intervention will be addressed. Finally, determination of eligibility for special education services also is indicated.

**Course Objectives:** At the end of this course the students will be able to:

* Explain the concept of learning disabilities
* Describe historical development of the field learning disabilities
* Clarify the role of special educators in the intervention of students with LD
* Develop effective teaching strategies for students with LD
* Acquire desirable attitude towards all learners in the regular classroom
* Collaborate with parents and relevant others for the success of learners with LD.

**Contents**

**Unit 1**

**1. Introduction**

1.1. Definition of LD & some controversies with the definition

* IDEA definition & eligibility criteria for LD

Historical development of the field

* 1. Causes
* Hereditary
* Teratogenic
* Medical
* Environmental
  1. Prevalence & co morbidity

**Unit 2. Characteristics of individuals with Learning Disabilities**

* 1. Academic achievement deficits
     1. Reading difficulty
     2. Difficulty in Spoken language
     3. Difficulty in Writing
     4. Mathematics difficulty
  2. ADHD & LD
  3. Cognitive, Metacognitive & Memory Deficits
  4. Socio-Emotional problems
  5. Perceptual motor problem
  6. Motivational problem

**Unit 3: Identification and Assessment of LD**

* 1. Early identification & Assessment

**Unit 4: Early Intervention and Educational Approaches**

* 1. Early Intervention
  2. Conceptual models & Educational Approaches
  3. Students with LD in General education classroom
     1. Legal mandates & placement issues
     2. Modifications for SWLD
     3. Effective teaching strategies
  4. Research based practices

### Methods of teaching

Lecture, Case study, Questioning, Presentation, questioning and reflective approaches

**Assessment Methods**

Test (25%)

Group assignment (15%)

Group assignment presentation (15%)

Final (45)

**References**

**Lloyd & Weiss 2-40** the cases of students with LD derive your own definition for SWLD & present to the class

**Lloyd & Weiss 44-61 the** causes of LD & reflect to the class& reflect the prevalence rate of LD with consideration of sex and cultural discrepancies as well as co morbidity issues

**Lloyd & Weiss 44-61:** Read the major concepts in relation to conceptual models in understanding LD. Identify the main differentiating features b/n the models.