



Course Overview

This course introduces you to the federal law *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* or more commonly known as **IDEA**.

IDEA was designed and enacted to protect and provide for all students with disabilities from the ages of birth to 21. All US public education institutions are required to comply with the law. In this course, you will learn the history and background on the law. You will also examine the key provisions of the law and understand the process required for students who qualify under the IDEA.

Goals & Purpose: This course focuses on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and aims to help teachers and schools understand how IDEA works and how best to apply it.

Session 1 – Introduction

This session serves as an introduction to the course and goes over some of the history of the IDEA.

Session 2 – Special Education Law: The Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) Background

This session features key terminology, definitions, and history of the IDEA.

Session 3 – The Eligibility Process and the IEP

This session contains background and information on the process of eligibility, evaluation, and re-evaluation, as well as parental rights and procedural safeguards.

Session 4 – Course Wrap-Up and Evaluation

This section is a conclusion to the course.

Throughout the course, opportunities are provided for you to connect your learning across sessions and to explicitly consider the implications of your learning for your classroom practice. You will also be able to revisit your work and reflections by viewing your individual Course Portfolios.