**Fitchburg State University**

**EDUCATOR Programs**

**Comprehensive Syllabus**

Winter 2018

## Assessment of Students with CVI: Reliable Scoring of The CVI Range

\*this is a preliminary outline of a course in design. Detail will be provided in a final syllabus.

Perkins provides this sample syllabus for planning and funding purposes. Detail is subject to change.

2 Graduate Credit hours (25 Continuing Education Hours)

Dates: February 26 – April 8, 2018

Number of Sessions: 5

Number of Contact Hours: 25

**Instructor: Sandy Newcomb, Ph.D.**

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**Course Description:**

This course will provide an overview and additional practice in reliably scoring The CVI Range. The CVI Range is a functional vision assessment for children with cortical visual impairment (CVI) that determines the degree of effect of the visual and behavioral characteristics associated with CVI. Course participants will be provided with information about assessment materials and procedures, and will be provided with multiple opportunities to score The CVI Range. Participants will learn how to reliably score both sections of The CVI Range, i.e., Across-CVI Characteristics Assessment Method and Within-CVI Characteristics Assessment Method. Instruction will be focused on assessment for children in all three Phases of CVI.

If you plan on matriculating into a graduate program at Fitchburg State University, please be aware that twelve semester hours of Fitchburg State University credit taken within a year prior to the student’s admission may be applied to the degree program with the approval of the program chairperson. Anything over 12 credits prior to matriculation will NOT be accepted towards the degree.

## Texts:

Roman Lantzy, C. A. (2007). *Cortical visual impairment: An approach to assessment and intervention.* New York, N.Y. The American Foundation for the Blind.

Fitchburg State University Teacher Preparation Programs. (2012).  *Conceptual framework.*  Fitchburg, MA: Author. [Online] Available: <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/offices/academic-offices/education-unit/conceptual-framework/>

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. (1999-2011). *Curriculum frameworks*. Malden, MA: Author. [Online] Available: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/frameworks/current.html>

**Fitchburg State University Teacher Education Conceptual Framework**



**Learning Outcomes/Objectives:**

This course will address the dispositions of the Conceptual Framework in the following way(s):

**Knowledge**: As a result of the learning experiences in the course, you will become more cognizant of:

* Descriptions of the 10 CVI characteristics across scores that include Phase I, II, and III of The CVI Range
* CVI characteristics, and the progression towards resolution for each characteristic, including fully present, fully resolved, and 0.25, 0.5, and 0.75 scores on Within-CVI Characteristics Assessment Method section of The CVI Range
* The meaning of R, +/-, +, and – scoring of the Across-CVI Characteristics Method section of The CVI Range.
* Appropriate assessment materials and procedures for completing The CVI Range.

**Skill**: As a result of the learning experiences in the course, you will become better able to:

* Observe children in Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III CVI.
* Reliably score the the Within-CVI Characteristics Method section of The CVI Range.
* Reliably score the Across-CVI Characteristics Method section of The CVI Range.
* Reliably score The CVI Range for a Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III student.

**Caring**: As a result of the learning experiences in the course, you will become more competent in your ability to:

* Identify individuals who demonstrate the characteristics associated with CVI
* Provide functional vision assessment by conducting The CVI Range
* Provide explanations of various scores, i.e. Phase I, Phase II, Phase III, on The CVI Range.

**Ethical**: As a result of the learning experiences in the course, you will become more competent in your ability to:

* Provide an appropriate functional vision assessment for children with CVI.
* Provide a reliable score on The CVI Range.

**INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES**

x Lecture Data Collection and Analysis

x Discussion/Questioning Pre-Practicum

Laboratory Role Playing/Simulation

x Problem Finding/Solving x Independent Learning

Discovery Field Trips

Interviewing Computer Applications

Collaborative Learning Groups x Viewing or Listening to Followed by

x Reflective Responses Discussing

Creating Visual Illustrations of Concepts X Other\_\_\_\_\_Observation\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Technology Initiatives**:

Users of the Fitchburg State University technology systems are subject to all applicable federal, state, and international technology laws. Questions regarding regulations may be directed to the Office of Information Technology.

Candidates will utilize technology as:

* Access to the course materials
* a communication method (email)
* a research method

**Course Requirements**

The required assignments for this course are as follows:

**Post-Tests session quizzes:**

There will be a post-test in all eight sessions. Participants are required to complete all of the post-tests. The quizzes will be multiple choice and true/false questions. Completion of the tests satisfies the requirement. However, failure to complete the tests will result in a loss of points toward the final grade.

**Discussion Forums:**

There will be a discussion forum assignment in each of the six sessions. Each participant is required to contribute to each forum using information and knowledge gathered from the class lecture, assigned reading, website visits, etc. Participation in the discussion forums is critical for maximizing your learning experiences in this course. You are required to be part of an online community who interact, through discussion to enhance and support the professional development of the group. Part of the assessment criteria for the course includes assessing the quality and quantity of your participation in the discussion forum.

Some characteristics that are considered to be part of excellent discussion contributions are outlined below.

* A minimum of two posts is required. You should submit your initial post early in the session, and your subsequent responses to the posts of other participants at timely intervals within the duration of the session. Keep in mind that the goal is to have a dynamic discussion that lasts throughout the entire session.
* Your posts and responses should be thorough and thoughtful. Just posting an “I agree” or “Good ideas” will not be considered adequate. Support your statements with examples, experiences, or references. You are, however, encouraged to be brief – keep each post and response to one or two short paragraphs. Keep in mind that your fellow participants will be reading and responding to you, too.
* Make certain to address the discussion prompt(s). This does not mean you should not extend the topic, but do not stray from the topic.
* Discussions occur when there is dialogue. Build upon the posts and responses of other learners to create discussion threads. Make sure you revisit the discussion forum and respond (if necessary) to what other participants have posted to your initial responses.
* When relevant, add to the discussion by including prior knowledge, work experiences, references, web sites, resources, etc. (giving credit when appropriate).
* Your contributions to the discussions should be complete and free of grammatical or structural errors.

# **Assignments:**

There will be an assignment in each of the six sessions. Each participant is required to provide a well-written response to the assignments. Participants should support their responses with information from readings and lecture.

**CVI Range Assessments:**

There will be three CVI Range video assessments to be completed by each student. Scores must be within 1.5 points of the instructors to be considered reliable.

**Evaluation or Grading Policy**

**Methods of Evaluation**

Participants are evaluated by the following methods:

Tests:

Discussion Forums:

Assignments:

CVI Range Assessments:

TOTAL Points earned: [TBD]

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**

**GRADUATE GRADING SYSTEM**

**4.0** 95 - 100 A

**3.7** 92 - 94 A-

**3.5** 89 - 91 A-/B+

**3.3** 86 - 88 B+

**3.0** 83 - 85 B

**2.7** 80 - 82 B-

**2.5** 77 - 79 B-/C+

**2.3** 74 - 76 C+

**2.0** 71 - 73 C

**0.0**  0 - 70 F

**W** Withdrawn

**IN** Incomplete

**IP** In-Progress

**Course Content/Topical Outline**

Week 1: The CVI Characteristics

* Observe and discuss individual CVI characteristics

Week 2: The CVI Range: Part II

* Describe and discuss each CVI characteristic at each score (0; 0.25; 0.5; 0.75; 1)
* Practice Part II of The CVI Range

Week 3-4: Scoring The CVI Range at Phases I and II

Week 5: Special considerations for assessment of a child in Phase III

**Scheduling is extended to April 8, 2018 in consideration of March 30 – April 1 holy days**

**Fitchburg State University** encourages all Extended Campus students to take advantage of our online student services. We have created a “virtual student center” just for you. Here you will find access to Counseling Services, Career Services, The Student Activity Center, the university bookstore and many other helpful links. You can access our student center by going to the university homepage at <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu> and clicking on Offices and Services. Scroll down and click on Extended Campus Center. You will find links to Library Services, our Virtual Student Center and other important information.

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**

**DISTANCE LEARNING & EXTENDED CAMPUS LIBRARY SERVICES**

The Gallucci-Cirio Library at Fitchburg State University provides a full range of library services including borrowing privileges; document delivery (books and articles mailed to your home); Interlibrary Loan; reference assistance via: phone, email, IM, Blackboard’s Collaborate tools, Skype and in-person; library instruction via online and in-person at extended campus sites; research help and more. Any questions relating to library services should be directed to the E-Learning & Instruction Librarian, at 978-665-3062 or [dllibrary@fitchburgstate.edu](mailto:dllibrary@fitchburgstate.edu). There is also a special section for Distance Learning and Extended Campus Services at <http://fitchburgstate.libguides.com/dlservices> outlining the wide range of services available to you and how to access them.  Activate your library account online through our ILLiad system at <https://fitchburgstate.illiad.oclc.org/illiad>; from here you can access article, book, and media. request forms to get items from our library and from other libraries. If you haven't used ILLiad before, you will need to click on the "First Time User? Create Your Account" link and set up your account.

Students who are currently registered with the university may access any of the library’s subscription databases, including an increasing number with full-text, by visiting the Gallucci-Cirio Library’s homepage at <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/academics/library> and clicking on the Research Databases button in the center of the page. Select the resource you want to access from the alphabetical or subject listing. Once you click on the database title you will be prompted for your Falcon Key logon information; this is the same logon you will use for your Fitchburg State email account and if you have any online Blackboard courses. If you do not know your Falcon Key username and password or if you have any problems logging in, contact the university’s Technology Help Desk at 978-665-4500 or [helpdesk@fitchburgstate.edu](mailto:helpdesk@fitchburgstate.edu). The Library can issue you a temporary guest login to access the library's databases while the Technology Department is setting up your account: contact us at 978-665-3062 or [dllibrary@fitchburgstate.edu](mailto:dllibrary@fitchburgstate.edu)

All registered Fitchburg State University students are eligible for a Fitchburg State University OneCard ID which also serves as his/her library card. If you have not received your OneCard yet, you can still access all of our online services as long as you have activated your library account through ILLiad. After activation by the Gallucci-Cirio Library and receipt of your OneCard, students may access participating Massachusetts State College/University Libraries and you may request an ARC Card to access participating libraries in the Academic and Research Collaborative (ARC) during the current semester. OneCards are available on campus all year round.  Students wanting a OneCard must either complete the online Extended Campus OneCard request form at <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/offices/technology/onecard/> or present a course registration confirmation at the One Card Office in the Anthony Building of the main campus. Please call 978-665-3039 for available times or if you have any questions about your One Card.

**UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATION UNIT POLICIES**

**Policy on Disability**

Disability Services is the primary support system for students with disabilities taking classes in the day and evening divisions. The office is located on the third floor of the Hammond Building and can be reached at 978-665-4020 (voice/relay). If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medication information, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment at the beginning of the course to talk with me. It is important that the issues relating to disabilities be discussed with me as soon as possible.

**Attendance and Participation**

1. As an emerging professional, you are expected to attend every class session, to be on time, and to communicate with the instructor regarding any absences. Absences and tardiness may result in a permanent grade change. Attendance at all pre-practicum sessions is mandatory.
2. Participation in class discussions and cooperative groups is expected. All candidates are responsible for meeting required deadlines on projects and assignments; your ability to complete tasks in a timely fashion demonstrates professional maturity and an ability to organize and manage time. Completion of assigned reading is imperative to your individual development as a professional.
3. All of these behaviors regarding attendance, preparation, and meeting deadlines are critical for successful teaching and thus are factored into the final grade.

# **Education Unit Computer Literacy Requirement**

All assignments must be typed, doubled-spaced, and use APA format when appropriate. Refer to Internet Resources for Writing on the Fitchburg State University website for assistance.

You are expected to use word processing for all assignments (unless otherwise instructed). [If your course has other requirements list those also, e.g., ‘You are expected to use e-mail for dialogues with other class members, to examine the use of software in the field, and to use the Internet to obtain information, ideas and resources.’]

**Cellular Telephones and Other Devices**

Kindly turn-off cellular telephones during class time and field experiences and place them in book bags or purses. Please no texting in class. It reflects negatively upon you as a developing professional. Once class begins and if use of the laptop is not required, all laptops should be closed during class time so that your full attention can be focused on your colleagues and the discussion or lecture in progress. If you prefer to take class notes on your laptop, please inform the instructor. You are on your honor to be focused on note taking and not on e-mail, Facebook or other technological enterprise not germane to the class in progress. Thank you in advance for your consideration of colleagues and students.

# **Grade Appeal**

If you disagree with the evaluation of your work or believe an improper grade has been assigned, an appeal may be followed. Please discuss the matter with the instructor and refer to the Fitchburg State University Grade Appeal Policy in your Student Handbook located: athttp://www.fitchburgstate.edu/uploads/files/EducationUnit\_NCATE/Standard2/narrative/Student\_Handbook\_Web\_1213.pdf

# **Academic Integrity Policy**

The faculty in the Education Unit at Fitchburg State University that work submitted in fulfillment of course requirements will be solely that of the individual candidate and all other sources will be cited appropriately. University Academic Integrity Policy, as outlined in the University Catalogue, will be strictly adhered to.

# **Copyright Policy**

You are reminded that, in preparing handouts for peers or the instructor, reproduction of copyrighted material without permission of the copyright owner is illegal. Such unauthorized copying may violate the rights of the author or publisher. Fitchburg State University adheres to federal laws regarding use of copyrighted materials. See the Electronic Use of Copyrighted Materials on the Fitchburg State University website for more details.