**Syllabus**

A 4 week self-paced online course

Course Title: Welcoming Students with Visual Impairments to Your School

## Online/On Demand

**Instructor:** Perkins eLearning

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**"Welcoming Students"** is made up of 4 modules, each containing video segments, readings, and assigned activities to enhance and apply your learning.  Plan to spend 1 week working through each module.  While this is a self-paced course, the material will have the most impact if you work steadily through the outline in the order it is presented.

**COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS:**

Perkins eLearning Self-paced tutorials include assignments, readings, quizzes, and video clips. Students are expected to be familiar with all material presented in the tutorial, and to submit all assignments where indicated.

A structure is suggested for you through this syllabus and the eLearning environment; however, you may complete and submit the assignments in any order.

**EVALUATION OR GRADING POLICY:**

All submitted material is reviewed by a member of the Perkins eLearning staff and is evaluated as having met the assignment requirements. Assignments are not individually evaluated or graded. Submitted assignments are not returned.

Assignments and assessments are evaluated on a Pass/Fail scale, and *all* requirements must be met to receive credits. There is no time limit to completing a Perkins Self-paced Tutorial. The lesson plan structure is suggested as the best approach to the material.

**TEXTS:**

Required readings and video are provided through the learning platform. Additional suggested reading is optional. There is no textbook required for purchase for this tutorial.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES:**

* Discover ways that will help students with visual impairments build independence and social skills
* Discover resources for large print versions of book can be acquired
* Describe the relationship between specific visual impairments and environmental adaptations in both home and school environments.
* Examine the day-to-day impact of visual impairment within the classroom.
* Distinguish the role of vision and hearing in the acquisition of social skills: e.g., observing body language and facial expressions, searching for people to connect with socially, looking for cues to participate in conversation or activity.
* Explain how extracurricular activities can help foster appropriate social skill development
* Locate information and local resources on Orientation and Mobility
* Summarize the importance of the development of O&M skills for a student with visual impairment.
* Explain screen magnification options
* Identify where one could acquire a screen magnifier online.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

The required assignments for this course are listed below. Please see the individual session description for more detail about each assignment. The learning platform also provides checkboxes that can help you monitor your completion.

**COURSE CONTENT / TOPICAL OUTLINE**

Session 1: Overview – Students with Visual Impairment

**Session Goals:**

Upon completion of this session the participant will be able to :

* Help students with visual impairments build independence and social skills
* Identify resources for  large print versions of book can be acquired
* Describe the relationship between specific visual impairments and environmental adaptations in both home and school environments.

*Pre and Post Quiz*

*Lectures:* Overview; Vision Professionals; Low Vision Tools; The Classroom Environment

### *Reading:* 19 Ways to Step Back

*Assignments*:  reflect on the 19 ways to step back and the role they play in effective intervention

Localte local resources for large print books

Session 2: Social Skills

**Session Goals:**

Upon completion of this session, the participant will be able to:

* Examine the day-to-day impact of visual impairment within the classroom.
* Distinguish the role of vision and hearing in the acquisition of social skills: *e.g.,* observing body language and facial expressions, searching for people to connect with socially, looking for cues to participate in conversation or activity.
* Explain how extracurricular activities can help foster appropriate social skill development

*Pre and Post Quiz*

*Lectures:* Social Skills and How They are Learned; The Role of Adults…;

*Video:* “Developing Social Skills in Children;” “Impacts on Social Skills”

### *Reading:* Talking Points: Dr. Sharon Sacks on Social Skills

*Assignments:* Reflection on Social Skills; Local social organizations for children and youth

Session 3: Orientation and Mobility

**Session Goals:**

Upon completion of this session, the participant will be able to:

* Recognize fundamental O&M skills and basic terminology
* Recognize O&M travel skills and techniques
* Find additional information and resources on O&M
* Summarize the importance of the development of O&M skills for a student with visual impairment.

*Pre and Post Quiz*

*Lectures:* Fundamentals of O&M; Travel Techniques and Skills

*Video:* “Sighted Guide Technique”

*Assignments:* Local resources for O&M; Environmental Adaptations

Session 4: Low Vision

**Session Goals:**

Upon completion of this session, the participant will be able to:

* Locate and explain screen magnification options
* Identify where one could acquire a screen magnifier online.

*Pre and Post Quiz*

*Lectures:* Common Misconceptions; Process of Seeing; Defining Visual Impairments; Types of Vision Loss; Approaches and Strategies

*Video:* “Low Vision;” Adapting Environments”

*Assignments:* Computer/Mobile magnification; commercial magnification;

Final Assignment – summary paper