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Spring 4-15-2024

Capstone Curriculum for University Students with Intellectual Disabilities at Lipscomb University's IDEAL Program

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Recommended Citation

Barcelo, Aubrey J., "Capstone Curriculum for University Students with Intellectual Disabilities at Lipscomb University's IDEAL Program" (2024). *OTD Capstone Projects*. 191.

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Igniting the Dream of Education and Access at Lipscomb

IDEAL is a 2-year inclusive postsecondary education program (IPSE) for adults with intellectual disabilities (ID).

In fall of 2023, IDEAL launched the Advanced Program; an additional third and fourth year that provide students an opportunity to advance their employment and independent living skills.

Mission and Vision

Mission: Empowering students with disabilities to grow into adults with opportunities.

Vision: Through innovative and creative solutions, we seek to meet the needs of our students to prepare them for lives filled with confidence, deep knowledge, and faith.

Agency Needs

Program/curriculum development for a capstone course for fourth year students in the Advanced Program.



Capstone Goals

Gather and synthesize evidence-based practice on universal design and learning styles of young adults with ID.

Connect with IPSE programs who have designed and implemented capstone curriculum.

Collaborate with faculty and staff to determine best practice and the most appropriate course for the curriculum.

Develop an independent/supported capstone curriculum for two 14-week semesters.

Advanced Program Capstone

Purpose

Students will apply and expand knowledge and skills acquired throughout their academic careers to create a needs based project. The creation of a capstone will facilitate academic and professional development of the student.

Description

Based on the components of Person-Centered Planning, students will create a culminating project with resources to prepare them for life after graduation.

Fall Semester

Academics and Employment

- Paid Internship
- Create a SMART career goal
- Complete certification course
- Create a LinkedIn profile
- Interview an expert
- Attend CVD workshops

Spring Semester

Community Engagement

- Research and create a community resource guide for post-graduation (e.g. employment, financial, recreational, and healthcare resources).
- Research and create an activity guide for post-graduation (e.g. leisure, fitness, and social activities in the community).

Independent Living

- Research and create an independent living resource based on results from an independent living assessment (e.g., cookbook, budget, emergency weather plan, laundry guide).

Capstone Outcomes

Additional structuring of the Advanced Program.

Curriculum for two semesters of a capstone course based on Person-Centered Planning.

Resources to be utilized in each course including syllabi, templates for assignments, resources for capstone mentors, and educational material based on different learning styles.



Acknowledgements

Special thank you to:
Dr. Sandy Stevens for all your feedback and guidance.

The IDEAL students and staff for your kindness and continued friendship.

And to Dr. Halle King for sharing your wealth of knowledge. I'm grateful for all of the support you've provided me and for the opportunities you've given me at IDEAL throughout the semester.