# Pedagogical Aims and Strategies in Special Education

## Prof. Luigi d’Alonzo

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to provide students with theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of special education regarding disability and marginality.

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

* apply their theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of special education to situations of disability, prevention of child marginalisation, and resolution of personal conflicts that could lead to deviant behaviours;
* fully understand the needs of people with disabilities, as well as the relational dynamics within their families;
* interpret the needs of subjects who can’t develop civil coexistence skills because of exogenous factors;
* identify the educational and social contexts in which the disabled or problematic people live their personal experiences;
* understand the obstacles faced by education institutions in taking care of the disabled or problematic subjects.

Beside this, students will be able to work as educational consultants who can resolve sensible pedagogical issues caused by disability or marginality, as well as to design an educational process aimed at satisfying the needs of disabled and problematic subjects.

***COURSE CONTENT***

– The concept of special education.

– Educational problems when integrating the disabled.

– The educator’s competencies and educational actions.

– The learning potential of students with mental disabilities.

– Cerebral functions and learning in the disabled student.

– Recognising a pupil with learning disabilities.

– Educational choices for the future of the disabled student.

– Educational problems in persons with problems.

– The importance of motivation in marginalisation contexts.

– The problem of failure for persons with problems.

– Autonomy as an objective.

– Professional training as an objective of special education.

***READING LIST***

L. D’Alonzo, *Disabilità e potenziale educativo,* La Scuola, Brescia, 2017.

L. D’Alonzo(ed.), *Dizionario di pedagogia speciale*, Scholé, Brescia, 2019.

Furthermore, for an in-depth analysis, students should study one of the following books:

A. Frohlich, *La stimolazione Basale. Per bambini, adolescenti e adulti con pluridisabilità,* La Scuola, Brescia, 2015.

L. D’Alonzo – R. Sala (eds.), *Il profilo di apprendimento. Conoscere per differenziare*, Scholé, Brescia, 2023.

L. d’Alonzo – A. Monauni, *La differenziazione didattica. Via obbligata per una scuola inclusiva ed innovativa,* Scholé, Brescia, 2021.

L. d’Alonzo (eds.), *Vite reali. La disabilità tra destino e destinazione*, Pearson, Milano, 2021.

L. d’Alonzo, *Come fare per gestire la classe nella pratica didattica,* Giunti, Florence, 2017.

L. d’Alonzo (ed.), *Autismo. Kit di strumenti per l’inclusione nella scuola, Il modello TAE*, Scholé, Brescia, 2019.

L. d’Alonzo, *Gestire i comportamenti problematici nella pratica didattica*, Giunti, Firenze, 2019.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures with the help of technological teaching aids. Students are expected to get actively involved, and also take part in small work groups debating topics studied at lectures.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral assessment. The exam will test whether students have learnt and understood the subject matter of the books on the reading list, the topics studied at lectures and the teaching material made available throughout the course. The final mark will also take into account the following criteria: clarity of exposition, knowledge of the topics explained during the course, critical thinking, and ability to create links between general and more specific themes.

The examination will also assess their reasoning skills and analytical precision when looking at course topics, as well as their mastery of language and communication skills.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites for attending the course. However, students should ideally be interested in pedagogical reflection and special education.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.