

ACVREP COURSE PROPOSAL

Title: Education of Students with Blindness/Low Vision: A Colorado Webinar Series

Instructor of Record: Tanni L. Anthony, Ph.D. (Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us)

Instructor of Record Biography: Tanni Anthony earned a Ph.D. from the University of Denver in 2002 in the area of Child and Family Studies and Interdisciplinary Leadership. She has 35 plus years of experience in her teaching profession. She is currently the Director of the Access, Learning, and Literacy Team with the Colorado Department of Education's Exceptional Student Leadership Unit and serves as Project Co-Director of the Colorado Services for Children and Youth with Combined Vision and Hearing Loss Project, and as State Consultant on Blindness / Visual Impairment.

Course Description for ACVREP website: A webinar series called Sound Bites is offered through the Colorado Department of Education for School Year 2024-25. Seven 90-minute webinars will be offered from October 2024 through April 2025 on topics specific to the education of students and youth with blindness/low vision.

Name of Program Activity: Education of Students with Blindness/Visual Impairment: A Webinar Series

Location: This activity is provided virtually

Dates: October 2024 – April 2025

CEU Hours: 10.5 clock hours

Registration Contact Information: For more information, contact Dr. Tanni Anthony at (303) 503-4647 or Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us This webinar series is only for Colorado personnel working with students with visual impairment, including blindness or Colorado families of children with visual impairment, including blindness.

Required Readings: Accessible course handouts will be sent ahead of each training session.

PRESENTATION SCHEDULE, DESCRIPTION, AND OBJECTIVES

All webinars will be offered from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. MST

October 16, 2024 with Dr. Tina Herzberg and Dr. Penny Rosenblum – 1.5 ACVREP Clock Hours

Bio: Dr. Tina Herzberg is Professor and Coordinator of the Visual Impairment Program at the University of South Carolina (USC) Upstate. She is a certified teacher of student with visual impairments and an ACVREP certified O&M specialist. She is a co-author of the Nemeth Braille Curriculum and serves as the principal investigator of the federally funded braille training grant, Project INSPIRE: Increasing the STEM Potential of Individuals Who Read Braille. Her research interests include braille literacy, assessment of students with visual impairments, STEM education for students with visual impairments, tactile graphics, and efficacy of continuing professional development.

Bio: Dr. L. Penny Rosenblum is the owner of Vision for Independence LLC. Her company works on a variety of projects that focus on professional development and/or research. Penny has been a teacher of students with visual impairments for more than 35 years, worked at universities preparing teachers of students with visual impairments and conducting research for more than 25 years, and served as the Director of Research at the American Foundation for the Blind from 2020-2021.

Title: Filling Your Transportation Toolbox: How We Engaged Teens in Exploring Their Future Travel.

Description: During this 1.5 hour session the presenters will describe a program they created for 10 South Carolina teens. The goal of the program was to encourage participants to consider and learn about their travel options as adults. The presenters will share examples of the activities, work products, and ideas for how you can develop a similar program in your community. Come prepared to “think outside the box” when it comes to building the travel skills of today’s teen and young adult traveler.

Objectives: Participants will:

1. To describe the purpose of the *Filling Your Transportation Toolbox* program and five activities that students completed.
2. To list 5 skills that students developed during the *Filling Your Transportation Toolbox Program*.
3. To identify 5 steps needed to offer a *Filling Your Transportation Toolbox Program* in Colorado

November 13, 2024 with Dr. Lauren Lieberman and Ruth Childs – 1.5 ACVREP Clock Hours

Bio: Lauren J. Lieberman Ph.D. is a Distinguished Service Professor in the Kinesiology Department at SUNY Brockport in adapted physical education. She taught at The Perkins School for the Blind in the Deafblind program. She is co-director of The Institute on Movement Studies for Individuals with Visual Impairments or Deafblindness (IMSVI). She is the founder and director of Camp Abilities, now in 30 locations worldwide. She has published over 230 peer-reviewed articles and 24 books. In 2019 she was awarded a Global Fulbright Scholarship to promote Camp Abilities world-wide. She won the Lifetime Achievement Award for both the National Consortium of Physical Education for Individuals with Disabilities and for SHAPE America. Most recently she won the Lifetime Achievement Award from Division 19 of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind in 2024. She is the co-chair for the Adapted Health and Physical Literacy Council for NAHPL.

Bio: Ruth Childs, MFA, has been at SUNY Brockport’s Department of Theatre and Music Studies since 2001. Her teaching specialties include self-advocacy, public speaking, acting, voice and speech, improv, and the politics of theatre. In addition, she is certified to teach Fitzmaurice Voicework. Ruth has directed and acted in multiple productions at Brockport and beyond. Recent projects include *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind*, *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Urinetown*, *Prelude to a Kiss* and *Wonder of the World*. She often works in voiceover, and as a voice and dialect coach. She is a public speaking consultant and a specialist in teaching self-advocacy. She

directs the self-advocacy program at Camp Abilities each summer. Ruth served as regional chair of the National Playwriting Program for Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival and has been a respondent and reader for national and regional playwriting awards. She was awarded the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Gold Medallion.

Title: Stand Up. Speak Up. Teaching Self-Advocacy to Children with Visual Impairment

Description: Self-Advocacy is a foundational skill for all children, but especially those with a visual impairment. This hands-on workshop will teach participants how to infuse self-advocacy into any curriculum. Workshop attendees will gain an understanding of the importance of self-advocacy, a system for teaching children to stand up for what they need, and practical tools to help guide teachers and parents.

Objectives: Participants will:

1. Learn the importance of self-advocacy.
2. Understand the four components and five steps to implement self-advocacy.
3. Know how to implement a self-advocacy curriculum at their school or organization.

December 11, 2024 with Elizabeth Webb and Dr. Tanni Anthony – 1.5 ACVREP Clock Hours

Bio: Elizabeth Webb has been a Certified Teacher of the Visually Impaired for 13 years. She earned her master's in visual impairment at the University of Arizona. Elizabeth taught at the Arizona School for the Blind as well as itinerant in public school districts in Arizona and Texas. Elizabeth's company VirtualTVI has served students in Arizona, California, Colorado, Missouri, Texas, and Virginia.

Bio: Dr. Tanni Anthony is the Director of the Access, Learning, and Literacy Team within the Colorado Department of Education's Exceptional Student Services Unit. She serves as the state consultant on blindness/low vision and Project Co-Director of the CO Deaf-Blind Project.

Title: Meaningful and Measurable Individualized Education Program Goals: A Formula for Success

Description: Legal requirements from IDEA and the Supreme Court Case specific to Endrew F and best practice procedures for writing meaningful and measurable IEP goals will be reviewed. Guidance will also be discussed specific to appropriate PLAAPF, listing of accommodations, and progress monitoring. SMART goal information will be detailed.

Objectives: Participants will:

1. Understand IDEA requirements and the Supreme Court Endrew F case implications for IEPs.

2. Understand the golden thread of a well-documented Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance to other key sections of the IEP.
3. Identify the elements of the SMART goal process and high-quality progress monitoring resources, including charts to create visuals of progress to show IEP teams.

January 28, 2025 with Tina Herzberg and Mary Robbins – 1.5 ACVREP Clock Hours

Bio: Dr. Tina Herzberg is Professor and Coordinator of the Visual Impairment Program at the University of South Carolina (USC) Upstate. She is a certified teacher of student with visual impairments and an ACVREP certified O&M specialist. She is a co-author of the Nemeth Braille Curriculum and serves as the principal investigator of the federally funded braille training grant, Project INSPIRE: Increasing the STEM Potential of Individuals Who Read Braille. Her research interests include braille literacy, assessment of students with visual impairments, STEM education for students with visual impairments, tactile graphics, and efficacy of continuing professional development.

Dr. Mary Robbins is an itinerant teacher of students with visual impairments with the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind Division of Outreach Services and a low vision consultant with Project Magnify. With expertise in universally accessible STEM education, she has contributed to the writing, development, and implementation of the WaterViz classroom lessons and STEAM camp for students with visual impairments. Prior to becoming a TSVI, she worked as a pharmaceutical research chemist at Merck and as a chemistry instructor at Augusta State University.

Title: Sparking Your Student’s Interest and Engagement in Science

Description: Would you like to spark your students’ interest, engagement, and confidence in science? Come learn about strategies, resources, and accessible measurement tools for promoting science learning. Strategies for providing role models and mentors for students and helping students “see” themselves as a scientist will also be discussed.

Objectives: Participants will:

1. Participants will identify at least 3 benefits of using creative and multisensory methods for representing scientific data.
2. Participants will identify 3 strategies for increasing the interest and engagement of students with visual impairments in science.
3. Participants will identify 3 accessible measurement tools for promoting science learning.

February 19, 2025 with Connor Rodrigo-1.5 ACVREP Clock Hours

Bio: Connor Rodrigo is an Adapted Physical Education (APE) teacher dedicated to promoting inclusive physical activity and sports opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Since 2018, he has served as a full-time APE teacher for Greeley-Evans School District 6, where he works to provide high-quality adapted physical education services to students across

various grade levels, including elementary, middle, high school, and transition services. Connor has worked as a sport specialist at multiple Camp Abilities, an educational sports camp for blind, visually impaired, and deafblind children. Connor is a co-founder of Colorado Blind Youth Adventures, a nonprofit organization focused on bringing Camp Abilities to Colorado. Connor's educational background includes a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education from Northern Arizona University, which he earned in 2016, and a Master of Science in Adapted Physical Education obtained in 2018. He is dedicated to promoting inclusive practices and ensuring that all students have equal access to physical activity and sports opportunities

Title: Physical Education for Students with Blindness/Low Vision

Description: In this webinar participants will learn valuable information for teaching students with vision impairments skills to participate in physical education and in everyday life.

Objectives: Participants will:

1. Identify strategies to include students with vision impairments in physical education.
2. Describe skill progressions for a variety of sports.
3. Explain how paralympic sports can be taught in general physical education classes.

March 19, 2025 with Dr. Kara Hanson -- 1.5 ACVREP Clock Hours

Bio: Kara Hanson, OD, FAAO, is an Associate Professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Department of Ophthalmology and Director of the Low Vision Rehabilitation Service at the UCH-Sue Anschutz-Rodgers Eye Center on the Anschutz Medical Campus. She received her Doctor of Optometry degree from the University of Houston College of Optometry in 1998 and has practiced low vision rehabilitation since then. She teaches ophthalmology residents in clinical and didactic settings, and lectures about low vision topics at local, national and international conferences. She provides low vision care to patients ranging in age from 3 years to 100+ and collaborates with other professionals with expertise in working with the low vision population to ensure her patients maximize their chances of successful adaptation to low vision.

Title: Optical Strategies to Enhance Mobility

Description: Optical devices to enhance mobility can include different telescope devices. Certain tools will increase the student's access to distance detail and others will enhance peripheral vision. Different tools will be reviewed for their ability to support and enhance a student's mobility.

Objectives: Participants will:

1. Know the optical device options used for:
 - a. accessing distance detail
 - b. enhancing peripheral vision awareness

2. Understand the advantages, limitations of these tools
3. Understand how to use them appropriately

April 16, 2025 with Dr. David Simpson - 1.5 ACVREP Clock Hours

Bio: David Simpson is an assistant professor of ophthalmology at the University of Colorado. He graduated with his Doctorate of Optometry from the Illinois College of Optometry, then completed a residency in Low Vision Rehabilitation at Salus University in Philadelphia. Previously, Dr. Simpson was on faculty at the Northeastern State University Oklahoma College of Optometry where he oversaw the low vision clinics, including a weekly clinic at the Oklahoma School for the Blind.

Title: Understanding Visual Field Loss in Children

Description: The session will provide an overview of the human visual field and how it interacts with other visual abilities such as contrast and binocular vision. Conditions that affect a child's visual field will be reviewed, as well as strategies to support an individual with visual field loss.

Objectives: Participants will:

1. Understand what a typical visual field is and how it interacts with other components of vision (contrast, binocular vision).
2. Identify conditions that are associated with visual field loss and conditions that are not.
3. Understand strategies for measuring and addressing visual field loss and their limitations

Total ACVREP Clock Hours – 90 minutes across 7 sessions or 630 minutes = 10.5 hours

Attendance Method: Only registered participants will receive the registration link to the sessions. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of the session and participants will be monitored for their full attendance on the zoom calls. Only those who attend the full session will receive the clock hour certificate for the full 90 minutes of an attended session. Certificates will be issued for each session, up to 7 sessions for a possible total of 10.5 clock hours.