Autism in Society: Past, Present, and Future

main class instructor: Andrea Ruppar

9 credits
Includes 25 hours of community-based learning outside the classroom.

MAIN CLASS
Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education 200
Issues in Special Education

LINKED CLASS
Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education 300
Individuals with Disabilities

LINKED CLASS
Psychology 202
Introduction to Psychology

What does it mean to be social? What advantages do social and communication skills afford individuals in society? People with autism find social communication challenging. What barriers do people with autism face at work, at school, and in everyday life? How can schools, workplaces, and communities become more inclusive of individuals with autism?

Autism affects everyone in some way. Perhaps you have met a person with autism at school or work, have a person with autism in your family, or you have an autism diagnosis yourself. The central class for this FIG, Rehabilitation Psychology & Special Education 200: “Issues in Special Education,” will provide an overview of the intersections among autism and areas such as education, the media, medicine, law, family life, and neuroscience. You will learn about how having autism affects friendships and social life, as well as how students with autism experience college. The purpose will be to capture your interest in studying a field related to autism; broaden your perspectives about the experiences of individuals with autism; and (c) empower you to create a more inclusive and welcoming society for individuals with autism.

Rehabilitation Psychology & Special Education 300: “Individuals with Disabilities” — This class is designed to introduce class members to the concept of disability and to the field of special education. The history, etiology, and characteristics of specific categories of disability will be examined, as will educational programs designed to meet the needs and interests of school-age students with disabilities. Topics germane to the study of disability and the field of special education such as cultural and linguistic diversity and inclusion will also be explored.

Psychology 202: “Introduction to Psychology” — This class examines behavior, including its development, motivation, frustrations, emotion, intelligence, learning, forgetting, personality, language, thinking, and social behavior.
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Enrolled in a FIG and you change your mind?

FIG classes are designed to be taken together. When you enroll in a FIG, you are signed up for these classes as a whole group, not as separate classes.

**Dropping one FIG class means ending your enrollment in all of the classes in the FIG.**

So, here's what you should know if you want to drop the FIG:

- You can drop all the classes on your own at enroll.wisc.edu. Any non-FIG class will not be affected.

- After classes begin, if you need to drop a single class within the FIG, please contact Kari Fernholz (see below) to review your situation. If necessary, she will provide the required authorization to drop the class.

- **Wednesday, September 11, 2019** is the last day to drop a class without it appearing on your college transcript.

- **Friday, September 13, 2019** is the last day to add a class without first getting department permission.