**O&M Program Video Transcription**

The Virginia Murray Sowell Center for Research and Education in Sensory Disabilities presents:

The Orientation and Mobility Program, Coordinated by Dr. Nora Griffin-Shirley

Degrees offered; a master’s in special education with a specialization in orientation and mobility, and a stand-alone orientation and mobility certification. The master’s program requires 36 credit hours of graduate coursework; and the certification program requires 27 hours of graduate coursework.

Required courses for the O&M masters program include 9 specialization courses, 2 core classes and a choice of one Educational Psychology course. The end of phase components are; for Phase one, EDSP 5380, for Phase two, EDSP 5389, and for Phase three, the Masters Comprehensive Exam.

The coordinator of the Orientation and Mobility program is Dr. Nora Griffin-Shirley. Dr. Griffin-Shirley is the Director of the Virginia Murray Sowell Center for Research and Education in Sensory Disabilities. She is a Full Professor as well as the Coordinator of the Orientation & Mobility Program at Texas Tech University. She graduated from Boston College as a peripatologist, and also from the University of Maine with a major in elementary education. In 1993, she received her doctoral degree from Georgia State University in human resource development and gerontology.

Dr. Griffin-Shirley: “Hello, my name is Nora Griffin-Shirley and I represent the Sensory Impairments Program. More specifically I coordinate the orientation and mobility specialist program within the Sensory Impairments program.”

The following clips are taken from EDSP 5386 Intermediate Orientation and Mobility Training, where program scholars are practicing teaching cane techniques to students who are blind.

Teacher: So you know the steps to shore lining…I created something I think you’re really gonna like cause I know you are all into maps, so I’ve created a little tactual map for you to look at, okay?

Student: Okay.

Teacher: So I’m going to move over in front of you, I’m just going to touch your hand there now I want you to kind of explore it first. There is a triangle to your north and that is your north.

Student: Okay.

Teacher: Okay? Now if you start down here at your very west corner and you go up, you’re gonna find your first shoreline.

Student: Right here?

Teacher: Mmhmm. Your first shoreline, what do you notice about that first shoreline?

Student: It’s pretty long.

Teacher: It’s pretty long, it’s a pretty long shoreline, and then, you’re going to find your first landmark. And that…

Student: Oh that’s that brick wall…

Teacher: Yeah you remember that’s perfect that’s that brick wall. Okay and then you’re going to find what?

Student: …There’s nothing right there…

Teacher: There’s an open space there

Teacher: So what I’m going to do is I’m going to have you walk towards me in a minute when I say go, and I’m going to clap every time I need you to take a step. So I’m going to verbally walk you through: street, curb, grass. When you hear me clap, I want you to take a step with me.

Student: Okay.

Teacher: Okay we are going to walk until we contact your mailbox right out front of what is usually our home base.

Student: Okay.

Teacher: This is our starting home base right now. Okay so let’s begin! Street “clap”, curb, nope, nope you took a step.

Student: Okay sorry.

Teacher: No you’re good this is why I’m teaching you right now, okay. Street ‘clap’, curb, grass “clap” (repeat)

Teacher: Street “clap”, curb, nope, curb, grass. Okay so maybe line your feet up so that you are parallel to that curb…

**The Trademark Outcome of the Sensory Impairment Programs is:**

The candidate will, upon completion of the program, be able to conduct an assistive technology evaluation with and provide intervention to a student with sensory impairments using collaborative consultation.

Phase one or ‘P1’ courses emphasize the foundational knowledge and skills required within the discipline. The phase one courses for the O&M program include EDSP 5380, 5384, 5383.

Phase Two or ‘P2’ courses incorporate the knowledge and skills from P1 and assimilate them into practice in guided and hypothetical settings, such as case studies.

The phase two courses for the O&M program include EDSP 5386, 5387, 5389, 5391, & 5392.

Phase Three or ‘P3’ courses integrate the knowledge and skills from Phase 1 with the simulated application from Phase 2, and then employ them in authentic real-world settings.

The Phase Three course is EDSP 5093, the internship course.

Apply & Evaluate or “A&E” assignments provide opportunities for educator candidates to learn about effective instructional strategies and practices, see those strategies modeled, practice those strategies within their courses, and then use these strategies in a real-world setting.

Apply today to become a Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist!

Thank you for viewing our program. For more information go to our website or search for “Texas Tech University Virginia Murray Sowell Center” to explore all of our programs and upcoming events.