



Selective Mutism- Creating Understanding and Progress

EDUO 9360 3 Semester Credits/Units

Instructor Carolyn Catalano

ccatalano@dominicancaonline.com

Course Syllabus

Course Overview: Explore approaches to understand and support students with selective mutism. Learn the underlying psychological and developmental factors contributing to selective mutism, gaining invaluable insights into effective strategies to empower these students. Emerge equipped with a comprehensive toolkit to facilitate the progress and well-being of students navigating selective mutism challenges.

Required textbook: Book: *Helping Your Child with Selective Mutism: Practical Steps to Overcome a Fear of Speaking* By Angela McHolm, Charles Cunningham, and Melanie Vanier

Throughout this course, participants will explore a myriad of approaches to understand and support students with selective mutism. Teachers will learn the underlying psychological and developmental factors contributing to selective mutism, gaining invaluable insights into effective strategies to empower these students. Teachers will focus on practical strategies aimed at creating a supportive classroom environment, fostering trust, and gradually encouraging verbal communication. Moreover, this course will highlight the importance of collaborative efforts involving educators, parents, and mental health professionals to implement personalized interventions tailored to the unique needs of each student. By integrating theoretical insights with practical techniques, participants will emerge equipped with a comprehensive toolkit to facilitate the progress and well-being of students navigating selective mutism challenges within educational contexts.

Course Learning Objectives:

- Understand Selective Mutism and its impact on students in school.
- Learn effective ways to help students with selective mutism communicate comfortably.
- Create supportive environments for these students in classrooms.
- Develop monitoring plans to track student's progress.

How to Submit Coursework

Each completed assignment in this course is submitted to the instructor for review. Follow directions at the end of each assignment on how to prepare and submit your assignments. Name each file submitted with your last name and assignment number (i.e. BrownAssignment3. Make sure you place your full name, course number and assignment number at the top of each document page. You will receive feedback from your instructor within 5 days indicating successful completion of the assignment or the need for revision. Assignment grades will be averaged for the final course grade.

Course Modules

Module 1 Introduce Yourself to the Instructor	
Objective	The purpose of this first assignment is to introduce yourself to your instructor
Assignment	<p>Write a bio about yourself, including the grade you currently teach and any prior coursework you have taken on the topic of creative revision.</p> <p>Please provide any knowledge you already have on this subject which you want to share. Please also provide what you hope to gain from this course. Please submit this document.</p> <p>As you move through this course, be sure to post your thoughts on the course forum page by starting a new thread and replying to another learner's post. Let's learn and support each other as we move through this course.</p> <p>Submit your completed work to the corresponding LMS dropbox</p>
Assessment	The Course Assessment Rubric will be used to assess if the module

Module 2 Journal	
Objective	Create a Reading Journal
Assignment	<p>Read the book: Helping Your Child with Selective Mutism: Practical Steps to Overcome a Fear of Speaking By Angela McHolm, Charles Cunningham, and Melanie Vanier</p> <p>As you read the text, create a reading journal for your own future use.</p> <p>This journal may include: notes on each chapter, topics of interest, things you may want to research further, inspirational quotes, and strategies that you may try to implement in your classroom.</p> <p>Feel free to include any personal feelings and experiences as this journal <u>will not be submitted to the instructor in its entirety.</u></p> <p>Submit 2-3 snippets from your personal journal you kept as you read the book. These can be typed or photos from your journal.</p>
Assessment	The Course Assessment Rubric will be used to assess if the module

Module 3 “Show your learning”	
Objective	Create a Visual information presentation
Assignment	<p>Create PowerPoint presentation, or Google slides, or any other visually presented activity to show your knowledge of the following:</p> <p>What is selective mutism? What are the common characteristics? What is the effect of selective mutism on academics and self-esteem? What are the difficulties associated with selective mutism? What factors may contribute to selective mutism?</p> <p>Submit your work to the corresponding LMS dropbox</p>
Assessment	The Course Assessment Rubric will be used to assess if the module

Module 4 Basic Principles	
Objective	Gain deeper understanding and demonstrate knowledge of the basic principles in addressing selective mutism.
Assignment	<p>Explain the 5 principles of the author’s program to address selective mutism, as explained in chapter 4. Please provide 1-2 paragraphs per principle.</p> <p>Submit your work to the corresponding LMS dropbox</p>
Assessment	The Course Assessment Rubric will be used to assess if the module

Module 5 Devise Your Plan	
Objective	Develop your plan to address selective mutism through the development of activity ladders, location ladders, people ladders, and culminating into an integrated conversation ladder.
Assignment	<p>As you read through the book, you were taught how important the exploration and development of different aspects of an integrated ladder was important to a successful plan to address selective mutism.</p> <p>Please choose a student you presently know with diagnosed or suspected selective mutism to design these ladders.</p> <p>If you do not <i>presently</i> have a student with diagnosed or suspected selective mutism, but you recently had a student who fits this, please base your ladders on them.</p> <p>If you do not presently have a student who fits the assignment, or in your recent past, please email the course instructor. The course instructor will happily email you a case study to base the ladders on.</p> <p>Please create the following ladders:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Activity ladder (page 89) 2. Location ladder (page 94) 3. People ladder (page 98) 4. Integrated ladder (page 100) <p>Submit your work to the corresponding LMS dropbox</p>
Assessment	The Course Assessment Rubric will be used to assess if the module

Module 6 Video for Deeper Understanding	
Objective	Create a Visual information presentation
Assignment	<p>To gain a deeper understanding of selective mutism, watch https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dKJMP0gHNGQ</p> <p>Please take some notes on your thoughts on the video. Were you surprised by any of the young girls' responses?</p> <p>Please reflect on your thoughts of the video and submit a one paragraph response of your thoughts of the video.</p> <p>Submit your work to the corresponding LMS dropbox</p>
Assessment	The Course Assessment Rubric will be used to assess if the module

Module 7 Explore Further and Independent Research	
Objective	To Explore Further and Independent Research
Assignment	<p>Watch 3 videos from the Selective Mutism Association</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6GwY4kccpkcmgl-uNIA5tg</p> <p>Write a 2-paragraph response per video addressing the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Please summarize the video 2 What were your take-ways, or personal thoughts on the content of the video? <p>We encourage you to contact your instructor with any questions you may have prior to submitting the assignment.</p> <p>Submit your work to the corresponding LMS dropbox</p>
Assessment	The Course Assessment Rubric will be used to assess if the module

Module 8 Progress Monitoring	
Objective	Develop a specific progress motoring log based on the integrated ladder the learner created.
Assignment	<p>Develop a specific progress motoring log based on the integrated ladder the learner created.</p> <p>You may use the example on page 141 related to the location ladder and people ladder you created.</p> <p>Submit your log to the corresponding LMS dropbox</p> <p>Contact your instructor with any questions you may have prior to submitting the assignment</p>
Assessment	The Course Assessment Rubric will be used to assess if the module

Module 9 Reflect on what you have learned	
Objective	This final assignment will serve as an opportunity to reflect on what you have learned
Assignment	<p>What three aspects of this course do you think will be the most helpful to improving your teaching? Are there any changes you will be making to your classroom?</p> <p>To receive full credit for this assignment you must write a minimum of 250 words. Please submit this assignment</p> <p>Contact your instructor with any questions you may have prior to submitting the assignment.</p>
Assessment	The Course Assessment Rubric will be used to assess if the module

Course Assessment Rubric:

EXCELLENT Meets or Exceeds Course Objectives: A to A-	ACCEPTABLE Majority of Work Meets Course Objectives; B+ to B	NOT ACCEPTABLE Needs Considerable Improvement: Resubmit Work Suggested: C or below
All work submitted reflects in-depth understanding of course objectives.	Most work submitted reflects in-depth understanding of course objectives.	Work shows little or no in-depth understanding of course objectives.
Assignment responses show evidence of new knowledge evidenced by creation of a plan for engineering a supportive environment for students with selective mutism, based on the insights learned in the course text.	Most responses show evidence of new knowledge evidenced creation of a plan for engineering a supportive environment for students with selective mutism, based on the insights learned in the course text.	Responses show little to no evidence of new knowledge evidenced by not creating a plan for engineering a supportive environment for students with selective mutism, based on the insights learned in the course text.
Work submitted was organized and clearly articulated.	Most work submitted was organized and clearly articulated.	Work submitted was not organized or not clearly articulated.
Assignment content and required projects were original.	Assignment content and required projects were original.	Evidence that not all assignment content and required projects were original.
Work is free of spelling and/or grammatical errors.	Work has few spelling and/or grammatical errors.	Work has numerous spelling and/or grammatical errors.

Resources:

Confident kids. "An Interview with a 7 Year Old with Selective Mutism." *Www.youtube.com*, www.youtube.com/watch?v=dKJMP0gHNGQ. Accessed 17 Dec. 2023.

McHolm, Angela E, et al. *Helping Your Child with Selective Mutism*. New Harbinger Publications, 1 Aug. 2005.