**Syllabus for Work-Based Learning Experience for Students with Disabilities**

**Course Title**: Work-Based Learning Experience for Students with Disabilities

**Duration**: 12 Weeks

**Target Audience**: High school students with disabilities (ages 14–21) receiving transition services under IDEA

**Course Objectives**

By the end of this course, students will:

1. Gain real-world experience in a workplace setting.

2. Develop essential workplace skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving.

3. Learn to apply academic knowledge in a professional environment.

4. Understand workplace expectations, rights, and responsibilities.

5. Reflect on their interests and abilities to inform future career choices.

**Course Outline**

**Week 1: Introduction to Work-Based Learning**

• Overview of the course and expectations

• Understanding the purpose and benefits of work-based learning

• Exploring individual goals and interests

**Week 2: Preparing for the Workplace**

• Overview of workplace norms and expectations

• Resume writing and job application practice

• Introduction to workplace safety and procedures

**Week 3: Developing Workplace Skills**

• Communication skills in a professional setting

• Teamwork and collaboration

• Managing conflicts and problem-solving

**Week 4: Self-Advocacy and Workplace Rights**

• Understanding workplace rights under ADA and Section 504

• How to request accommodations and supports

• Practicing self-advocacy and assertive communication

**Week 5: Introduction to Job Placement or Internship**

• Matching students with appropriate work-based learning sites

• Orientation to the workplace environment

• Setting personal learning and performance goals

**Weeks 6–10: On-Site Work-Based Learning Experience**

• Applying skills in a real-world setting

• Regular check-ins with supervisors and instructors to monitor progress

• Journaling experiences, challenges, and lessons learned

**Week 11: Reflecting and Evaluating the Experience**

• Assessing personal growth and skill development

• Identifying strengths and areas for improvement

• Exploring how the experience informs future career plans

**Week 12: Preparing for Future Employment**

• Updating resumes with work experience

• Practicing interview skills through mock interviews

• Setting actionable next steps for career exploration and planning

**Assessments**

• Weekly reflections and journals documenting workplace experiences

• Supervisor evaluations of performance on-site

• Final project: A comprehensive portfolio including resume updates, a reflection on the work experience, and a future career action plan

**Materials and Resources**

• Career exploration tools: O\*NET, CareerOneStop

• Templates for resumes, journals, and career plans

• Access to vocational rehabilitation services and job coaches

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this course, students will:

• Demonstrate workplace readiness through active participation in a professional setting.

• Identify career interests and skills based on real-world experiences.

• Develop confidence in navigating workplace challenges and advocating for themselves.