

Chadron State College

**How to Succeed in College...
with a learning disability**

JANET MOELLER-INSTRUCTOR

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Welcome and Context

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Introductions

Participant roles

Questions procedure

Disclaimer

We do not have EVERY answer for EVERY college student or Professor.

We do have some tips and ideas from our life stories.

We do have resources to help both students and Professors.

Intended Participant Outcomes

- Participants will learn techniques for accomodating college students while maintaining rigor of coursework.
- Participants will have the opportunity to ask successful college students, "How do you do it?"
- Participants will learn what college students with disabilities need from their instructors to become successful students in higher education.

My Background

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General Education	Preschool-4th Grade	10.5 years
Special Education	Preschool-12th Grade	12.5 years
Special Services Director	SPED & Title I	11 years
University of AZ	Adjunct EC-SPED	2 years
University of Chapel Hill	Research Consultant	3 years
Chadron State College	Education Instructor	3 years
	Total years in SPED	34 years
	Total years in Higher Education	8 years

Who We Are:

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Founded: 1911

Environment: Small rural agricultural community

Enrollment: Approximately 3,000 from throughout the U.S.

Approximately 60 international students

Admission stats: The average admitted freshman has an ACT score of 22

Who We Are:

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Chadron State College Services

Chadron State College

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[Tutoring](#)

[Writing/Speaking Center](#)

<http://www.csc.edu/projectstrive/>

[http://www.csc.edu/healthserv/counseling/
index.csc](http://www.csc.edu/healthserv/counseling/index.csc)

SLD Review

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United States Code
(20 U.S.C. §1401 [30]):

"The term 'specific learning disability' means a disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, which disorder may manifest itself in the imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or do mathematical calculations

Dyslexia

Instructor Tips

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- Use UDL
- Keep your expectations high
- Be Explicit
- Be Redundant
- Make courses easy to navigate
- Be Flexible---to a point
- Allow extra time on tests[®]

Student Tips

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- Choose your college carefully
- Contact your student support office immediately
- Plan your schedule carefully:
12-15 credits first semester
- Follow the Syllabus and NEVER procrastinate
- Talk with your Instructors
- Use technology to help you with reading and writing

21 Transition Tips

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Lexi Smidt

Chadron State College

CEC 2013

Age: 22

Senior

**Major:
Early Childhood Education
with an Endorsement in Special Education**

Lexi Smidt

Chadron State College

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I was I diagnosed with
Dyslexia and an Auditory
processing disorder in the
2nd grade

In elementary school I
did not qualify to be on
an IEP.

I struggled in middle
school with my self-esteem
and confidence.



Lexi Smidt

Chadron State College

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"I hope you're a better
basketball player than you
are a reader!"

Will I get into
college?



Lexi Smidt

Chadron State College

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The choice between School
and Basketball

Strategies that I
use today

What professors
could do to make
college easier



Lexi Smidt

Chadron State College

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College Graduation

Teach Special Education

Apply for Grad School



Erin Dunn

Chadron State College

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Age 21

Junior



Erin Dunn

Chadron State College

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Background

Born and raised on a Ranch

Attended country school
kindergarten-8th grade

Tested in the 3rd grade

Tutored 2 days per week
for five summers

Achieved success in high school



Erin Dunn

Chadron State College

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College Struggles

Limited availability for scholarships
--low ACT score

Often nervous and stressed

Take on more than I can handle

Parents couldn't come to CSC
with me



Erin Dunn

Chadron State College

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College; Overcoming the Struggle

Write everything down in class

Make 'To Do Lists'

Take class with a friend

Time management (no TV)

Schedule for big block of homework time

RUN and SING



Erin Dunn

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What Can Professors Do to help?

Even out test points and assignment
/participation points

Reduce required reading

Make assignments worth student's time

ALWAYS encourage students to go see instructor

Erin Dunn

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Future Plans

Master's Degree in subject area
or Special Education

Law School

Impact young people as I
was impacted



Tim O'Neill

Chadron State College

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BY TIM O'NEILL

ADD and Dyslexic

BS Accounting

Serial Solo Entrepreneur

Senior at Chadron: BS Education
endorsement in Business, Management
and Internet Technology.

Three of my children have learning differences

Amber ADHD, ODD, Josh ADD, quadriplegia

Noah high functioning Autistic and ADD



Tim O'Neill

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School Years

Daydreamer, creative,
colored outside the lines,
thought outside the box.

Had difficulty staying on track
and reading. Passed with low GPA.

Began an interest in Photography
with the year book. Something I could
excel at through hands on and practical
application, trial and error.



Tim O'Neill

Chadron State College

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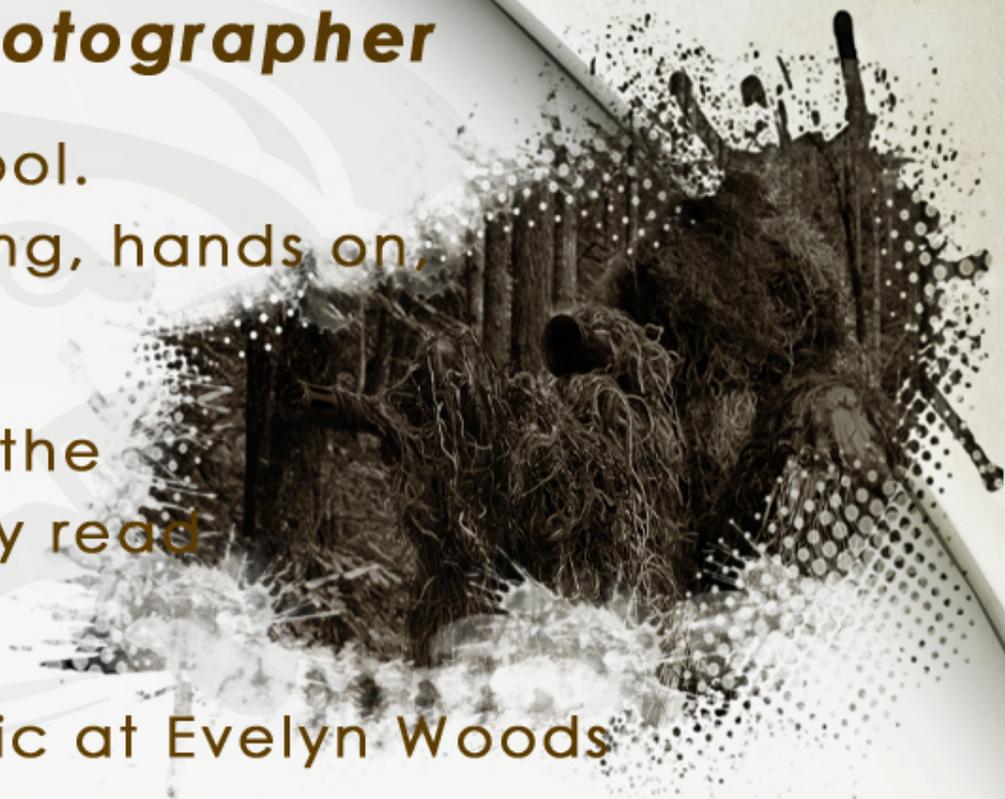
Military Combat Photographer

Excelled at Photo School.

It was discovery learning, hands on, kinesthetic.

I helped students with the hands on part and they read the book out loud.

Found out I was dyslexic at Evelyn Woods Speed reading course.



Tim O'Neill

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College-Fine Art

Started with 9th grade math.

College Professor used manipulatives and visual aids and I found I actually liked math.

The challenge before was the delivery.

Switched from Fine art to Accounting.

Counselor said I could not make a living as an artist.



Tim O'Neill

Chadron State College

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Student Best Practices

Use business strategies and think big picture.

Use an editor to proof read papers.

Odesk, Fiverr, Paperrater.

Hardcore time management.

Build online study group.

In depth analysis of syllabus to choose the best course combinations,



Tim O'Neill

Chadron State College

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What's Next?

Continue writing, publishing and creating art.

New magazine
"Eco Village
Costa Rica"

Continue to develop online adult education courses in the area I am passionate about.

Masters degree in Education Technology.



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