A UP Student is Enrolled in My Class, now What?

University Participant Program
Western Carolina University
The Basics

• All UP students are non-degree seeking. They audit all classes. They need your permission to participation and your signature on their audit forms.

• UP students will be accompanied by a student aide (i.e. ‘support’), ideally from within your class.

• UP faculty liaison can assist you as much or as little as you desire.

• There are no requirements that you change the structure or format of your class to include UP students.
UP Students all have mild or moderate intellectual disability.

• What is intellectual disability (ID)?

• Cognitive impairment
  • significant limitations in intellectual functioning
  • limitations in adaptive behavior (conceptual, social & practical skills)

• Eligible for birth-12th grade services under IDEA

• All UP students access college differently from their peers (no SATs, GPA, course requirements, essays, etc.)
# How will UP provide assistance?

- Address class on disabilities & UP Program
- Collaborate with the office of disability services to provide academic accommodations
- Assistive technology: i-Pad apps; digital recorders; smart pens
- Provide Universal Design for Instruction information & resources
- Modify & retrofit assignments- with your permission
- Discuss any classroom challenges & brainstorm solutions
UP Natural Supports

- Paid and unpaid WCU students, approximately the same age as UP students, who intervene as necessary to facilitate inclusive participation in dorm-life, course work, and social & recreational activities.

- Academic supports ideally will be enrolled in your class and receive small academic scholarship for assisting UP students with classwork and homework.
# Why is the UP Program @ WCU?

- Higher Education Opportunity Act (reenacted 2008) has provisions for people w/ ID to have greater access to college.

- Transition & Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSIDS)
  - US Department of Education grant (WCU was one of 28 funded 2 or 4 year colleges; 5yrs 2010-2015)

- UP is a federal model demonstration program built to create strategies and evidence for including students with ID in college.
• Please reference the UP website for further information: up.wcu.edu