

Shippen, M. E. (2001). *An investigation of secondary educators' perceptions and practices of serving students with disabilities*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Auburn University.

DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

The inclusion of students with disabilities has been an evolutionary process that can be attributed to landmark legislation, litigation, and policy shifts in the last half of the 20th century. These policies have articulated the philosophy that students with disabilities belong in general education classrooms with their typical peers. Research has been mixed regarding teachers' perceptions and practices of serving students with disabilities in general education classes. The purpose of this study was to investigate secondary educators' (i.e., teachers in grades 6-12) perceptions and practices of serving students with disabilities in general education classrooms relative to years of teaching experience.