

ThePlan



TARGETED STUDENTS:

- The struggling learner with/without an IEP in a mainstream placement



HOW IT WORKS:

- Schools with an appreciation of the issues apply for the opportunity to be part of TU's DLI
- School chooses someone who meets Learning Specialist Criteria to participate in the program
- Learning Specialist attends weekly Sunday sessions at Torah Umesorah.
- DLI staff have ongoing collaboration with Learning Specialist.



LEARNING SPECIALIST:

- Special education background and experience
- Maintains or will maintain a supervisory role in the school
- Demonstrates a well-developed understanding of children and their needs
- Strong communication and collaboration skills

ClinicalDirector

Rabbi Dr. Shmuel D. Mandelman holds a doctorate from Columbia University in Educational and Developmental Psychology. He spent 5 years conducting research at Yale University's Child Study Center on individual differences in cognitive ability. Afterwards, he went on to pursue a specialty in clinical neuropsychology, and did his clinical training in neuropsychology at Weill Cornell Medical Center, where he now conducts neuropsychological evaluations on both adults and children. Additionally, he maintains a private consulting practice in Brooklyn, NY. He is a talmid of Reb Elya Brudny and a musmach of Reb David Feinstein and Reb Nuta Greenblatt.



BRING ME In.

TheStats

30% of all children have a diagnosable learning related issue.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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BRING ME In.

TheCrux

The current reality is that several children in every classroom view themselves as simply being non-learners. The issue is exacerbated with each passing school year, with students encountering continuous failure despite their exhaustive efforts to succeed. The seemingly endless efforts to assist these children without success-chavrusas, tutors, P3, resource room pull-outs - underscores the fact that they cannot succeed in school. This reality is too painful for them to deal with. The child is then left with two choices: **He can choose to embrace the role of Troublemaker or Furniture.** Which would you choose?

ThePurpose

The TU Diverse Learner's Initiative (DLI) addresses the challenges of students facing academic issues by creating the role of a learning specialist. A combination post-graduate level training/supervision program, DLI bridges research-based theory and practical application in the classroom. With the knowledge acquired, the Learning Specialist will be able to collaborate with principals, teachers, parents, and students **to offer informed guidance and specific recommendations, and to help students overcome their academic challenges.**

I can't.. I'm not good at anything. I'm just not good... **I'M NOT WORTH IT.** Am I a mistake? Why am I so bad? Why is everything so hard for me? How come everyone else can do this? **Why am I so DUMB?** I am a nobody. I wish I could be a somebody. No one understands...me. Why did Hashem make me different? **I made Mommy cry...AGAIN. Can I stay in bed today?** Where can I go? I wish I was invisible... I wish I wasn't born. I can't do this anymore. I can't... **Does my child have a future?** Why does it have to be so hard? What did I do wrong? **Where did I go WRONG?** I have no more energy. I am depleted. How can I take care of the rest of my kids? Hashem, please help me get through this. How can I get through today? Tomorrow? Where else can I go for help? **I have tried everything.** **Why can't he just do it like everyone else?** What is going to be with this child? **He could do it if he TRIED.** I can't do this anymore. I can't... **He is RUINING my class.** Rivky is not performing at grade level. If only she would try harder, she could see success. Chaim has not raised his hand even once. He does not seem to be a participant in this classroom. I have tried everything.. She can not learn in a regular classroom. I wish he would be absent. It's either me or him. If only he was motivated. I've heard all the ideas, they don't work. **He belongs in a SPECIAL SCHOOL.** I have never met a child like this. I can't do it anymore.

TheTopics

Course Topics to Include:
Specific Learning Disorders · Reading, Writing and Math · ADHD · Autism Spectrum Disorder · Social Pragmatics · Executive Function · Cognitive Constructs · Gifted · Cognitive Development · Instructional Design · Instructional Models · Development of Materials · Behavioral · Language · Non Verbal Learning Disability · Psychological issues · Understanding an Evaluation · Remediation Strategies for SLDs · Classroom Management

TheFuture

