

UT Informal Classes Aimed at Adults with IDD's – Summer 2015

Course title	Instructor	Max Enrollment	Class fee	Day	Dates	Time
Fun with Science: Building Better Brains	Jon Pierce-Shimomura	13	\$120	Mondays	6/8 - 7/13/2015	6:30-8:30pm
Reader's theater	MaryAnn Finegan	13	\$120	Wednesdays	6/3 - 7/8/2015	6:30-8:30pm
Fun with Cultures: Film Studies	Lucy Barber	13	\$120	Wednesdays	7/15 – 8/19/2015	6:30-8:30pm
Debutante Ball	Jessica Dunn	13	\$120	Thursdays	6/11 – 7/30/15 No class 7/2 & 7/16	6:30-8:30pm

Reader's Theater

We are going to take a FUN approach to reading by performing Readers Theater. It requires no sets, costumes, props, or memorized lines. The student's goal is to read a script aloud and effectively so the audience can visualize the action. Performers (students) bring the text alive by using voice, facial expressions, and gestures. Readers Theater helps to: develop fluency through repeated exposure to text, increase comprehension, engage students, increase reading motivation, create confidence and improve self-image of students, provide a real reason for reading, and provides an opportunity for cooperative learning, AND IT'S FUN! Material covered in this course will be different from that covered in previous courses.

Fun with Science: Building Better Brains

Where are my keys? What is my password? Who is that actor? We all experience momentary lapses of memory. Some of us also suffer from specific deficiencies in memory due to age or disability. In this course, students will learn specific tricks to enhance their memory and brain function that were routinely practiced in ancient times. Along the way, we will gain insight from modern neuroscience on how memory works in the brain. We will also learn about the importance of forgetting and how to forget. Lastly, we will study different forms of memory dysfunction. In addition, students will work each week to enhance their memory on a specific topic. The course will end with students boasting their new feats of memory performance to families.

Fun with Cultures: Film Studies

Who doesn't love a good movie? Everyone has their favorites, but what makes a classic? Students will watch clips of films that have shaped the medium, starting with early silent films, onward through the pivotal era of the 1970s, and culminating in contemporary movie making. Participants will learn terminology, technique, and engage in conversations about what makes a film part of the classic cannon. In the final class, students will share with their families what they learned about classic films and their relation to modern favorites while enjoying snacks.

Debutant Ball

Summer is time for music, parties and romance!! Students will work as a group to plan an exquisite banquet hosted in one of the fanciest ballrooms on the UT Austin campus. With the guidance of the instructor and UT student volunteers, students will use their math and organizational skills to plan a scrumptious meal with food and drinks. They will also apply their writing and design skills to prepare a formal invitation and banquet schedule. Students who enjoy music will orchestrate the list of songs for everyone to enjoy and dance to. Along with planning for the ball, students will practice proper etiquette appropriate for formal occasions. The course will culminate in a banquet ball for family and friends during which students will show off their new skills and planning. Banquet will accommodate two guests per student (about \$25 per person) not included in fee.

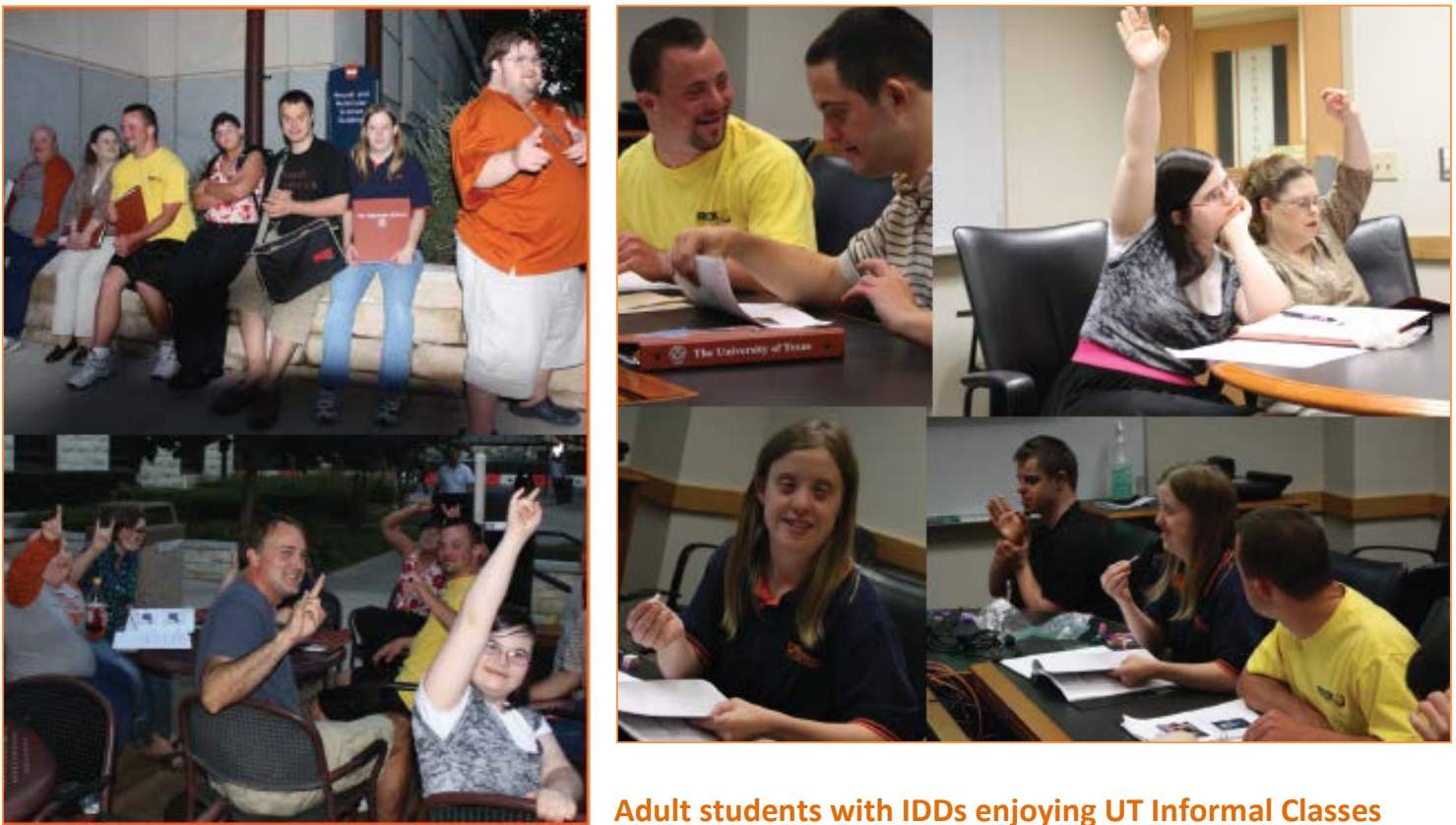
For each class, students may be dropped off at **6:30pm** by the [UT Littlefield Café](#) to socialize for 30 minutes with each other and volunteer students from UT. Students will then participate in an interactive discussion about the topic for the day in the [Biomedical Engineering \(BME\) building](#) across from the Littlefield Café. Here they can follow along with handouts of class slides and bring in their homework to discuss with their peers. Lastly, students will complete simple but fun projects. Families can pick up their student by the café at **8:30 pm**.

Occasional student absences are acceptable due to summer vacations.

Full or partial scholarships available for adults with Down syndrome via [DSACT](#) or [Ruby's Rainbow](#).

Additional scholarships for adults with autism are offered via Autism Society of Central Texas (contact Suanne Potts suzanne@austinautismsociety.org).

Please sign up with the [blue hyperlinks](#) above or via UT Informal Classes website: <http://cie.austin.utexas.edu/informalclasses/>



Adult students with IDD enjoying UT Informal Classes

Please address all questions to [Jon Pierce-Shimomura](#), 512-232-4137, jonps@austin.utexas.edu