







Laboratory teaches handicap's problems

One laboratory in East Campus' Home Economics Building is different from all the rest. Shelves, counters and bathrooms are modified from their usual appearances.

This laboratory serves a special purpose. It is

This laboratory serves a special purpose. It is used to teach home economics students how to help the handicapped.

Children's rehabilitation and family rehabilitation services are offered for the first time this year by the College of Home Economics through the Department of Human Development and the Family. Twelve students have pre-registered as majors in each field of study.

The laboratory has equipment designed for physically or mentally handicapped people. A bathroom was designed for people without limbs. Shelves in the kitchen may be lowered to allow people in wheelchairs to reach objects on them.

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Students do supervised work in the laboratory, said Lois Schwab, associate professor of human development. A student majoring in family rehabilitation services will get six hours credit for lab work. Schwab said students majoring in children's rehabilitation will receive appropriate credit for their lab work.

Schwab said majors must take 11 credit hours of social welfare classes with required home economics courses. She said students should also take 12 credit hours of special education courses although they are not required.

UNL's program began after Head Start Program teachers recommended that handicapped students begin pre-school training, Schwab said.

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"In the past, handicapped children begfan training when they reached school age. It is apparent that children learn certain things at a pre-school age more easily than when they are older," she said.

The goal of the program is to enable graduates to obtain certification from the State Department of Education allowing them to act as teaching assistants, Schwab said. No request for certification has been made yet by UNL, according to Jerald Sughroue, administrator for school management and evaluation.

Give till it helps.



