PD Topics:

* Social model of disability approach vs. a medical model of disability approach
  + Social model - focuses on making changes in the environment to meet the individual’s needs
  + Medical model - deficit model focused on changing the individual
  + I am using a social model of disability
    - What are the barriers to reaching the goal?
    - What changes can we make to the environment to help this person reach their goal?
    - How do we collaboratively work together through this process?
* What is Autism
  + Neurotype (neurological differences in brain) & pervasive developmental disability
  + Abilities and disabilities come with it
  + Communication, movement, sensory processing differences between people without autism & autistic people
    - What do these differences look like in action → list all of the sensory experiences to provide background; examples of communication differences
  + Profile of autism in each individual is unique
    - This is why it is best to consult the person about their needs, preferences, accommodations, etc.
    - In a world that is not designed for autistic people, this can bring challenges
* How does autism impact learning & the classroom
  + Common behaviors (e.g. eye contact, stims, sensory seeking/avoidance behaviors)
  + Common strategies & accommodations
    - Some strategies will be helpful for all learners (e.g. visual schedule, using audio & visual information sharing)
    - Overall these should be used on an individual basis
    - Need to examine the function → how your needs impact your functioning & what is the behavior, is it helping you meet your learning goal, and if it a current system is not working, then we need to find a functional replacement that works better for you
  + **Collaborative problem-solving** with the student
  + [Vignettes of situations with step-by-step problem solving](https://collegeautismnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/CAN-Case-Studies-2018-10-01.pdf)
  + Practice vignettes
* Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) & higher education
  + What are individuals’ rights?
  + What does this mean for instructors?

Resources:

<https://autisticadvocacy.org/>

<https://awnnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/AWNNetworkWelcomeautisticadultspacket.pdf>

<https://awnnetwork.org/resource-library/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M3Q51Qaz45M&t=7s>

Sara Sanders Gardner. Preparing for College: What you can do NOW. Bellevue College Neurodiversity Navigators, February 2020.