## **Peer Mentoring**

Peer Mentoring is a one year elective class with two goals: (1) to teach students about disabilities and (2) to provide quality peer interactions with the students in our Essentials and ELS programs who have been identified as having a variety of cognitive impairments. Students spend the first semester in the classroom learning about a variety of topics, including special education law, various disability areas, assistive technology, and strategies for teaching students who have moderate to severe disabilities. In addition, each peer mentor will spend time during the first semester building relationships with the students in our Essentials and ELS programs. During the second semester, students are placed in the Essentials/ELS classroom(s) where they work daily as peer mentors and participate in a variety of learning experiences. Assessment methods include a reflective journal, in-class activities, unit tests, and a case study project. One credit is awarded each semester.