



**Mineral Area College**  
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**Mineral Area College**

*Introduction to Early Childhood Education: ECE1000AA01*

**Fall 2011**

**Instructor: Patricia Fields**

**Department Chair: Patricia Fields**

**Career and Technical Division:  
Dean Gil Kennon**

**COURSE TITLE:** Introduction to Early Childhood Education

**COURSE NUMBER:** ECE 1000

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mrs. Patricia Fields

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:**

**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday 10am to 12pm or available on request

**Phone:** (573) 518-2128

**Email:** [pfields@mineralarea.edu](mailto:pfields@mineralarea.edu)

**Office location:** Arts and Science Building- Office #26

### ***I. Course Description:***

The course focuses on research-based theories that have affected the evolution of current developmentally appropriate curriculums used in early care and education programs. The student will explore the history and application of those curriculums based on current theory and practice. Considerations of planning the environment for age's birth through eight will be explored through the use of exploring methodology of Creative Curriculum. Developmental affects of the dynamics of the physical, temporal, and human characteristics within the learning environment will be included in the planning process. An introduction to planning of the environment through assessing the individual needs of the child will be explored. The assessment and record keeping skills will be identified through the utilization of observation in order to plan for the Developmentally Appropriate (DAP) environment.

### ***II. Course Requirements:***

**Prerequisite course:** It is strongly recommended that EDU130-Child Development be taken before this course. All early childhood developmental domain areas are used in the assessment and individual planning of the child's daily environment.

The student will be required to complete eight to ten (30 minute) observations at an *approved* practicum during the semester.

*Mineral Area College is committed to excellence in the teacher education and child development programs, and it has implemented criminal background checks for all students enrolled in education or child development classes that require any field work or practicum observation experiences with children. Students must complete the application process of the background check within the first two weeks of the semester. The process is required prior to conducting field work or practicum/observations. Failure to have the criminal background check completed can result in the student's ability to participate in the Mineral Area College's EDU or ECE classes.*

*Note: If the student has completed the background check within the past two years, it does not have to be repeated. Please email instructor if this applies to you.*

*Note: The student is required to complete five to eight hours of observation during the semester at a pre-approved early care and education site.*

*TO COMPLETE REQUIRED observations, it is imperative that the student always respect the daily schedule of the child care setting and planned activities taking place in the child care setting/classroom. It is up to the student to make arrangements with the lead classroom teacher to complete observations, etc. in order to complete assignments in a timely manner. The student will begin a collection of their work (known as artifacts) completed throughout the child development studies leading up to the CDA (Child Development Associate credential) and/or the Associate of Applied Science in Child Development. The artifacts will be assigned throughout the semester as a part of the scheduled assignments. The student will be required to take a three hour course prior to applying for the CDA final assessment by the Council for Professional Recognition. If graduating with the Associate of Applied Science in Child Development, the student will be required to take a one hour course, "Portfolio Artifacts". The student will need to save all artifacts collected throughout their child development studies for the CDA and/or the AAS in Child Development.*

### **III. Text/Resource materials:**

**Introduction to Early Childhood Education, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition. Essa**

*Additional Materials Used*

**Creative Curriculum for Preschool, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Dodge.**

*Materials needed*

**NAEYC Standards Notebook: 1" Binder Notebook; 25 Notebook Protector Sheets  
Developmentally Appropriate Practice Activity Materials for final**

### **IV. Course Objectives:**

- 1. The student will explore early childhood history and its effects on the developmental and learning theories which have influenced today's early childhood curriculum and teaching methods.**
- 2. The student will identify the diversity in early childhood programs.**
- 3. The student will define the whole child and its complexity in Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP).**
- 4. The student will identify the early childhood teacher's role in promoting the development of the young child.**
- 5. The student will identify the purpose of observation skills to plan for the DAP growth and development of the child.**
- 6. The student will develop an understanding of the professional work ethics and attitudes needed when working with other adults and children.**
- 7. The student will learn how to enhance DAP scheduling and curriculum planning to help promote and guide children's developmental stages of growth during infancy, toddlerhood, preschool years; and early school years.**
- 8. The student will explore methods and purposes of observation.**

**10. The student will modify the environment in order to accommodate for the individual needs for all children.**

*Note: Assigned artifacts for the semester project will reflect the CDA competencies and functional areas and the NAEYC Standards.*

#### **V. Student Evaluation**

<b>A. Weekly Assignments 15@ 25 pts.</b>	<b>375pts.</b>
<b>B. In-Class Assignments 35 @ 5pts.</b>	<b>175pts.</b>
<b>C. NAEYC Standards (semester) Notebook</b>	<b>50pts.</b>
<b>D. Quizzes 10 @ 10 pts.</b>	<b>100pts.</b>
<b>E. Final</b>	<b>50pts.</b>

***Total Points 700 Points***

#### ***Final Grading Scale***

**90-100% = A**

**80-89% = B**

**70-79% = C**

**60-69% = D**

#### **VI. Special Policies:**

##### ***A. Attendance***

**The student is expected to attend class in order to complete class assignments. Much of the work is completed during class time. Absenteeism will affect the student's grade.**

##### ***B. Drop Policy:*** The following will constitute an instructor dropping a student from the web course:

- No oral or written contact has been made by the student within two weeks of scheduled dates of the course.**
- No oral or written contact from the student for two consecutive weeks during the semester.**
- Academic dishonesty.**

***Note: It is the student's responsibility to drop the course through the business office or they will receive an F on their transcript.***

##### ***C. Special Needs:*** Please notify instructor of any modifications or adaptations to

technical instructional materials or personal health needs that may restrict your learning. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

**D. Academic Honesty:** Students who engage in dishonest acts such as plagiarism or other forms of cheating in meeting the requirements of this course will be notified by the instructor that they are receiving a “0” for the assignment and/or an “F” for the course. Students who wish to appeal the decision of the instructor on a matter of dishonesty may do so under the Procedural Policy for Disciplinary Action. (Under the policy, the student is subject to suspension from college for acts of dishonesty.)

*Note: Plagiarizing also applies to completing course assignments by using information directly from the text..*

*I.e. The student is to summarize internet articles and cite the resource where the information was found. The student should always cite the text, web site addresses, etc. on EACH WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT. Failure to do so will result in a reduction of points.*

*The instructor reserves the right to schedule an on-campus meeting in order to determine the authenticity of the student's work. Students who wish to appeal the decision of the instructor on a matter of dishonesty may do so under the "Procedural Policy for Disciplinary Action".*

**Welcome to Introduction to Early Childhood Education.** The course is intended to provide the student with hands-on-learning experience in the early care and education classroom through observations and application of knowledge learned in the classroom. The student will have a list of developmentally appropriate practice programs to choose from the first week of classes. The student will apply the knowledge learned throughout the course in order to prepare you for the ECE2000-Practicum Classroom Experiences and other child development courses. The course will apply the Developmentally Appropriate Practice and Curriculum in the learning environment.

#### *Course Content and Structure*

Please refer to the “Course Outline” for assignments and more details on the flow of the course.

#### *Semester Projects*

**NAEYC Standards Notebook:** The semester project is used to evaluate the student’s understanding and application of planning a DAP classroom environment.

**Final:** The date for the final is posted in the Student Planner Book and on MyMAC. The student must attend the final or receive an “F” for the course.

#### *Performance and Participation*

The student must remember the participation grade of in-class assignments is a major part of the grade. The student is required to contact the instructor if they cannot be in class. If for some reason the student cannot attend, the student is to email the instructor at [www.pfields@mineralarea.edu](mailto:www.pfields@mineralarea.edu) or (573) 518-2128. The communication must be received before the class meeting time.

### *Keys for Success*

The instructor values the importance of gaining knowledge in the developing child, and application of the development in the child's environment. Adults working with children can use this knowledge in planning a developmentally appropriate environment. The following provides an outline for the students' evaluation by the instructor and learning of the course materials.

1. Read chapter materials before coming to class.
2. If you have any questions or concerns about the assignment, ask the instructor after class to clarify the assignment.
3. Refer to "Course Outline" for due dates of assignments. The instructor will not accept late work. The student will receive a "0" for the assignment regardless of why the assignment was late.
4. Email the instructor if you are having difficulties in completing the scheduled work as soon as possible (the same week the assignment is due).

**NOTE:** *Please let the instructor know if you are having difficulty. The instructor can meet with the student during scheduled office hours or arrangements can be made to meet at other times that are agreeable to both parties.*