

Course Syllabus

Course: ED 474:Early Childhood Curriculum Foundations
Spring 2007- 3 credits

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Time/Day: 5:30 - 9:40 P.M.,Mondays. 04/02/2007 - 06/11/2007

Location:St.John Vianney School,Kailua.

Texts:Theories of Childhood:An Introduction to
Dewey, Montessori, Erikson, Piaget, and Vygotsky by Carol G. Mooney
Developing Constructivist Early Childhood Curriculum: Practical
Principles and Activities by Rheta DeVries

Catalogue Description:This course provides an examination of the theoretical foundations of early childhood education.Emphasis is on creating and implementing a curriculum that is integrated throughout the learning centers,including content area instruction that is developmentally and culturally appropriate.

Course objectives:Students will learn about the history/philosophy of curriculum in early childhood education.They will learn how to implement an integrated curriculum throughout all learning centers and content areas.Students will learn how to create daily,weekly and a monthly integrated lesson plans which are developmentally appropriate,culturally and linguistically responsive.Students will learn how to assess their own and their students work.

- 1.To acquaint students with ECE theories.
- 2.To gain an understanding of ECE theories.
- 3.To begin to develop a personal philosophy of education for ECE.
- 4.To understand how to develop curriculum with respect to developing social-emotional,physical,language content areas.These include:early literacy,math,science,social studies,technology,creative arts,health and safety.
- 5.To be able to understand and respond to children's needs and interests.
- 6.To understand the importance of making learning meaningful for all children.
- 7.To learn ways to assess children's work.
- 8.To learn ways to plan curriculum in concordance with best practices(DAP and NAEYC).

This syllabus is subject to change depending upon students' needs.

Expectations of students:

Each student is expected to assume a shared responsibility for the content and process of the class. Active participation is essential in making the class a good experience for everyone. Specific expectations are:

1. Attend all class sessions and arrive on time.
2. Do the assigned reading before each class session.
3. Participate in class discussions/activities.
4. Submit assignments when they are due.
5. Handle concerns with the instructor.
6. Work cooperatively as appropriate.

Grading:

1. participation - 10 pts.

2. quizzes(5) - 5 pts.(1 pt. each quiz)

3. 3 classroom observations-at different types of schools with a set of designed questions - 15 pts.

4. reflections(written)/portfolio- 10 pts.

5. lesson plans(3 kinds) - total 20 pts.

 #1- for 1 activity(lesson)-show how to integrate;provide differentiation/extensions - 5 pts.

 #2 - weekly lesson plan incorporating learning centers;integrated;differentiation/extensions - 5 pts.

 #3- monthly/unit plan:integrated with learning centers;differentiation/extensions;assessments - 10 pts.

6. Research project on one of the five philosophers-3-5 pages;references, conclude with why you chose this person/why is he/she important to you - 15 pts.

7. final - 20 pts.

total = 100 pts.

Evidence of mastery of course content and excellence in applying it in assignments will earn a grade of A.

90 - 100 pts. = A

60-69 pts. = D

80-89 pts. = B

Below 60 pts. = F

70-79 pts. = C

The following criteria are used to evaluate course work:

Completeness of work

Quality of content

Quality of class presentation

Thoughtfulness and reflection(personal growth)

Students need to make every effort to attend all class sessions.If a student misses two classes,an A grade will not be given.The final grade will be dropped one grade level.Three classes missed will result in an F.Any absence and/or known tardiness must be cleared through the instructor PRIOR to class,is at all possible.Please call and leave a message or email me.

University Policy:

Plagerism-"Plagerism is the offering of work of another as one's own.Plagerism is a serious offense and may include,but is not limited to,the following:

1.Complete or partial copying directly from a published or unpublished source without proper acknowledgement to the author.Minor changes in wording or syntax are not sufficient to avoid charges of plagerism.Proper acknowledgement of the source of a text is always mandatory.

2.Paraphrasing the work of another without proper author acknowledgement.

3.Submitting as one's own original work(however freely given or purchased) the original exam,research paper,manuscript,report,computer file,or other assignment that has been prepared by another individual.

In the cases of alleged academic dishonesty(such as plagerism,cheating,claiming work not done by the student,or lying)where a faculty member observes or discovers the dishonesty,the faculty member may choose to confront the student and handle the matter between the faculty member and the student,or the faculty member may choose to refer the incident to the Chair or Graduate Program Director.(If the Chair or Director is the instructor in question,the concern should be directed to the Associate Provost;if the Associate Provost is the instructor in question,the concern should be directed to the Executive Vice President and Provost.)If the faculty member chooses to confront the situation and it is not satisfactorily resolved between the faculty member and the student,the matter then may be referred or appealed to the Chair or Director.

In either case,the Chair or Graduate Program Director may choose to 1)resolve the matter through a meeting with both the student and the faculty member,or 2) refer the matter to the Executive Vice President and Provost.The findings,in either case,are final."(Taken from Chaminade University General Catalog,p.48.)

Incomplete - An incomplete(I) may be given to a student who did not complete a small portion of the work or final examination due to circumstances beyond the student's control. The incomplete contract must be signed by the student and the instructor. The work must be completed in 90 days or the incomplete will revert to the grade that the student would have earned. This grade and the date the work is due will be specified on the incomplete contract.

Please refer to your Student Handbook, General Catalog, and the Education Division Policy Manual for other important institutional and academic policies including Classroom department, Freedom of Expression, Add/Drop, Disabilities, and others.

Assignments-subject to change as needed.
videos and research articles will be used to enhance the curriculum.and to help students apply what they are learning.

Mon.,04/02/2007:

- meet 'n greet
- housecleaning-go over syllabus and requirements
- group work:what do we know about ECE Curric.

Foundations;what do we want to know about ECE curric. Foundations;

- at this time what do we think the following means:
philosophy curriculum education foundations ECE play
progressive education constructivist education

Read:Purple book: Introduction;Part 1,Chap. 1 - Play and Understanding Constructivist education.

Yellow Book: John Dewey - Chap 1

Reflection #1 based on the readings.What did you get out of it;what has the reading changed/added to your thoughts.

Mon.,04/09/2007:

- discussion of readings
- quiz # 1
- group work - based on readings
- video and articles on Dewey

Think about making a pictorial representation of ECE curriculum- will pre-discuss.

Read:Purple Book:Part 1,Chaps. 2 and #

Yellow Book:Chap. 2 - Montessori

Reflection #2

Mon.,04/16/2007:

- discussion of readings:Montessori,Constructivist Ed.,principles of teaching,assessments/documentation
- group work-video(Montessori),what follow the child means
- quiz #2
- make a pictorial representation of ECE curriculum in class

Read:Purple Book:Part II - Physical Knowledge Activities-intro.,Chaps. 4 & 5.

Yellow Book:Chap. 3 - Erikson

Reflection #3

Mon.04/23/2007:

- discussion of readings
- quiz #3
- lesson plan construction
- classroom observation questions
- work on lesson plan #1

Read:Purple Book: chaps 6 & 7

Yellow Book:Chap. 4-Jean Piaget

Reflection #4

Mon.,04/30/2007:

- discussion of readings
- classroom observation questions/check on
- quiz # 4
- lesson plan #1 due;full presentation-can have classmates do it.
- teaching strategies;possible video,hand-outs,discussion

Read: Purple Book:Chap. 8,Part III,intro.-p. 181-188

Yellow Book:Chap. 5- Vygotsky

Lesson Plan #2 due 05/07/2007

Reflection #4

Mon.,05/07/07:

- discussion of readings
- possible video-teaching strategies
- quiz #5
- lesson plan #2 due along with presentation
- work on research paper

Read:Purple Book:Part III-Chaps. 9 & 10

Reflection #5

Mon.05/14/2007:

- discussion of readings
- continue teaching strategies/curriculum creating
- repoding to children's needs & interests
- making learning meaningful
- research paper due/presentations

Reflection #6

Mon.,05/21/2007:

- discussion of differentiated instruction to meet children's needs & interests

- best practices/NAEYC & DAP objectives/position statement

- 3 classroom observations due/presentations

Reflection #7

Mon.,05/28/2007: Memorial Day-No class

Mon.,06/04/2007:

- due-reflection journal/portfolio

-due- lesson/unit plan III and presentations

Mon.,06/11/2007:

- all work outstanding is due

- final exam

- celebration