

ECE 101 - EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Course Description

This course familiarizes students with the history and present state of early childhood education, from birth to 10 years of age. Each age group (infant/toddler, preschooler and school-age) receives a minimum of 10 classroom hours of focused study related to the course content. An overview of child development theories is presented in the context of the role of the educator/caregiver. Resources and careers, and contemporary issues such as school readiness and exploration of various education philosophies are also included. Early Education environment observations and a personal philosophy of education project are required. The observations are set by students to meet their schedules. Group 2 course.

Credit Hours

3

Contact Hours

3

Lecture Hours

3

Course Learning Outcomes

Knowledge:

- Identify the historical and philosophical foundations of early childhood education.
- Describe the basic principles of learning relating to child development theories for all age groups.

Application:

- Evaluate current early childhood learning environments (all age groups) through observational contexts.
- Design a "best practice" classroom environment.

Integration:

- Compare and contrast educational experiences to current trends in early childhood education.

Human Dimension:

- Create a philosophy of early education statement identifying their own professional values and teaching style.

Caring - Civic Learning:

- Actively advocate for the wellbeing of children and families in their community.

Learning How to Learn:

- Analyze their own thinking and learning styles.
- Reflect upon their learner and "teacher" skills.