

Course Description

EEC1200 | Early Childhood Curriculum 1 | 3.00 credits

The student will learn developmentally appropriate curriculum planning and its impact on children's total development. The student will examine the importance of dramatic play, proper room arrangement, outdoor environments, advances in technology, scheduling, classroom management, and activity planning for first and second language development, early literacy, and social studies.

Course Competencies

Competency 1: The student will summarize the concept of developmentally and culturally appropriate practices by:

1. Demonstrating knowledge of the anti-bias curriculum approach to early childhood education
2. Relating the components of an anti-bias curriculum approach to the development of self-esteem in young children
3. Identifying activities designed to avoid bias and stereotyping
4. Discussing components of developmentally and culturally appropriate practices
5. Identifying child-initiated, child-centered, adult supported activities observed while at work in an early childhood classroom
6. Discussing a necessary balance of activities such as quiet and active, child and teacher initiated, individual and group, indoor and outdoor
7. Integrating curriculum through open-ended activities
8. Demonstrating knowledge of developmentally appropriate classroom themes and projects for young children
9. Identifying developmentally and culturally appropriate indicators for social studies, self-concept, language and literacy, room arrangement and outdoor environments
10. Discussing the arrangement of the early childhood environment into major centers of interest, defining the centers, and providing appropriate materials within each
11. Analyzing how classroom environments impact behavior

Competency 2: The student will analyze the role of play in young children's learning by:

1. Discussing how play promotes cognitive, physical, social, emotional and creative development in young children
2. Describing the developmental stages of play
3. Explaining the importance of play in promoting children's development
4. Differentiating between child-initiated play activities and teacher-directed activities
5. Defining dramatic play and discussing its importance in the life of the young child
6. Describing the set-up of a dramatic play area in the classroom including various materials to be incorporated in this area
7. Discussing strategies to incorporate elements of the children's family and culture into the dramatic play area, as well as other classroom areas

Competency 3: The student will summarize knowledge of language and literacy development by:

1. Identifying strategies that facilitate the development of effective oral language acquisition (e.g., vocabulary, grammar, syntax) and listening skills
2. Utilizing instructional methods and strategies to increase vocabulary acquisition (e.g. word analysis, choice of words, context clues, and multiple exposures) across the curriculum
3. Describing the steps in first and second language acquisition
4. Recognizing appropriate strategies and activities that provide for the communication and language needs of children and families with limited English proficiency
5. Discussing the principles to be utilized in the selection of children's literature for early childhood programs

6. Identifying the goals of an appropriate literacy curriculum along with the stages of literacy development
7. Comparing various methods of literacy instruction, including phonics, the whole language approach and the balanced approach
8. Identifying strategies for meeting literacy strategies through play

Competency 4: The student will develop appropriate social studies curriculum by:

1. Defining social studies in Early Childhood Education
2. Discussing developmentally and culturally appropriate content for a social studies curriculum for young children, based on the self, family, neighborhood and community
3. Demonstrating how the social studies area can be used to integrate all the curriculum areas

Competency 5: The student will develop appropriate outdoor environments by:

1. Describing the importance of outdoor play for young children
2. Identifying developmentally and culturally appropriate activities that promote indicators for development of gross motor skills
3. Selecting components for a developmentally appropriate outdoor environment
4. Connecting the concepts of safety outdoors with classroom safety rules
5. Discussing the importance of extending in class activities to the outdoor environment

Competency 6: The student will use technology appropriately in early childhood programs by:

1. Identifying appropriate uses of technology, in early childhood curriculum
2. Identifying strategies to promote cooperative interactions among children using technology in the classroom
3. Analyzing NAEYC's position statement on technology for young children

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities