

EDCT 586 TEACHING AND LEARNING: RESEARCH AND APPLICATION-CLASSROOM (3)

An analysis of teaching and learning strategies and instructional variables as they relate to diverse groups of learners. Research will be analyzed in terms of the major paradigms of the field of education. Also included is a review of recent developments in the evaluation of classroom performance and achievement. Grade only. This course is required for the Curriculum, Teaching, and Learning program. Prerequisites: consent of instructor and approval of the School of Education.

EDCT 595 SPECIAL STUDIES (1-4)**Education: Early Childhood Education (EDEC)**

EDEC 178 INTRODUCTION TO ECS MAJOR AND DIGITAL PORTFOLIO (1)

In this course students will learn about the requirements and responsibilities of the Early Childhood Studies (ECS) major, and learn about ethical and legal requirements in field placements and professional life. They will understand the purpose of the senior portfolio in the ECS major, learn about different types of portfolios, and practice building a digital portfolio using the software myEfolio. Prerequisites: none. Grading: Credit/No Credit only. Course is not repeatable.

EDEC 201 FOUNDATIONS OF EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION (4)

This course provides an introduction to the theory and research that underlie professional work with young children. Topics include: historical views on childhood and play, influential theorists, historical and contemporary models of early childhood education, principles of developmentally and culturally appropriate practice, contemporary issues in early care and education, professional ethics, and professional career development.

EDEC 220 OBSERVING CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE FIRST 8 YEARS (4)

Students will learn the major developmental milestones, research findings, and theories covering the social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development of children from conception through eight years old. Students will concurrently study observation techniques for documenting and assessing children's growth and development. Students' growing knowledge of observation and child development will be applied through 24 hours of supervised field work in an early care and education setting. Students must sign the School of Education Field Experience Agreement before starting at their field site. Course open to sophomores and above.

EDEC 237 CREATING ENVIRONMENTS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN (4)

This course presents an overview of knowledge and skills related to planning and implementing developmentally and culturally appropriate curriculum and environments for young children from birth to eight years old. Students examine how to create and use the physical environment as the foundation for promoting activities that support learning and development, with an emphasis on language and literacy development and the essential role of play. Each student will spend about 24 hours observing and participating in an infant/toddler, preschool, transitional kindergarten, or kindergarten classroom that has been approved by the instructor. Students must sign the School of Education Field Experience Agreement before starting at their field site. Course open to sophomores and above.

EDEC 247 PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH IN CHILDHOOD (3)

In this course, students will study the factors that promote optimal physical development and health in childhood. Students will consider practical applications of this knowledge in a variety of organizations that serve young children. Students will also study the basics of parent education, so that they can work effectively with parents to keep children safe and to see that children receive needed health services. Prerequisite: none. Grade only. Course is not repeatable.

EDEC 270 FAMILIES AND CHILDREN IN DIVERSE SOCIETIES (4)

Class participants will study the dynamic interactions of race, culture, gender, socioeconomic status, and other factors as they relate to the care and education of children from diverse populations. Students will explore the diversity of family systems, sociocultural factors affecting the child's development, and the socializing influences of community. The coursework helps students become more informed and effective professionals and community members by promoting the development of the knowledge, dispositions, and skills needed to work effectively with families and children in a pluralistic society.

EDEC 347 COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (2)

Students will complete a field placement (at least 45 hours) in an approved agency or organization that serves children in a non-education/non-child care setting. Students will perform tasks set by the placement agency, attend weekly class meetings, and complete readings and assignments related to working effectively with diverse children and families. Students must sign the School of Education Field Experience Agreement before starting at their field site. Prerequisites: declared ECS Major with a concentration in Early Childhood Development, EDEC 220, junior or senior standing. This course can be taken one time only. Grade only.

EDEC 420 CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN FAMILY, SCHOOL, AND COMMUNITY (3)

Students will explore the physical, cognitive, social, emotional, moral, and language development of children from birth through adolescence. The course covers major theories of child development, including critiques and application of the theories as they relate to children from a variety of cultural and family backgrounds. The impact of child-rearing beliefs, poverty, gender issues, and language development are studied as they relate to developmentally-based practices in educational settings. Students will learn effective school-family communication practices for a diverse society, individualized curriculum to meet the needs of diverse learners, and community resources available to support families. This course is a prerequisite to the Multiple Subjects credential program, can be applied to the Child Development Permit, and satisfies GE Area E (the Integrated Person). Grade only.

EDEC 435 LEADERSHIP ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (4)

In this course, students will study and apply the principles and strategies that underlie effective administration of programs for young children and families and effective advocacy on behalf of young children and families. Students will build and use leadership skills in the areas of identifying priorities, organizational planning, guiding staff, communicating clearly, and working collaboratively with community partners. Present-day early childhood advocacy issues will be explored and students will engage in leadership efforts that engage their newly developed understandings and skills. Prerequisite: junior- or senior-level standing.

EDEC 437 INTEGRATED CURRICULUM IN EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASSROOMS (4)

In this course, students will learn to plan and implement developmentally and culturally appropriate curriculum for children in early elementary classrooms. Through study of professional resources and participation in an instructor-approved classroom, students will create learning and assessment opportunities that enable young children to construct knowledge through an integrated approach that includes all curriculum areas and that aligns with relevant state and professional standards. Students must sign the School of Education Field Experience Agreement before starting at their field site. Prerequisites: EDEC 237 and EDEC 220. Includes 24 hours of fieldwork.

EDEC 447 CHILDREN'S EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND MENTAL HEALTH (3)

In this course, students will deepen their understanding of children's emotional development from birth through age eight, and learn about common mental health problems in early childhood. Topics include the role of sociocultural context, risk and protective factors, attachment and temperament, resilience, common mental health problems, and mental health observation and screening tools. Prerequisite: EDEC 220, junior standing. Grade only. Course is not repeatable.

EDEC 460 INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH IN EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES (4)

This course provides an overview of quantitative and qualitative research methods commonly used to study young children. Topics will include research methods, the role of context in research, common early childhood psychological measurement tools, observational techniques, research ethics, library research strategies, and evaluating research reports.

EDEC 478 EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES PORTFOLIO (1)

In this seminar, students will compile and reflect upon their work in the Early Childhood Studies major. Final products will be presented to faculty and students in the Early Childhood program. Prerequisite: senior in the Early Childhood Studies major.

EDEC 490 SPECIAL TOPICS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES (1-4)

A course designed according to the interests of a particular faculty member, providing opportunities for diversification in content and reading. Grade only. May be repeated for credit under a different topic.

EDEC 495 SPECIAL STUDIES (1-4)

Independent study completed under the supervision of a faculty member. May be repeated for credit.

EDEC 531 THE ROLE OF PLAY IN DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING (3)

Students will examine theories from developmental psychology, education, and anthropology to look at the role of play in human experience, from infancy to adulthood. Topics include play's relationship to learning in all areas of development and academic disciplines, history of play, effects of technology and culture on children's play, gender development and play, play environments, play therapy, and play as a tool for developmentally and culturally sensitive curriculum and assessment. Grade only. Prerequisite: graduate student in Education or permission of instructor. Taught fall semester of odd years.

EDEC 532 SOCIAL-MORAL DEVELOPMENT IN ECE (3)

Students will explore theories and research addressing social and moral development from infancy through middle childhood. Topics include: attachment and its role in social and moral development, research on the development of prosocial behavior and the ability to take the perspective of others, cultural value differences, gender identity and gender role socialization, development of friendships, resiliency and at-risk children, curriculum that promotes children's social and emotional development, and working with parents to promote children's social and emotional development. Students will plan, implement, and report on action research projects that answer specific questions dealing with social, moral, and emotional development in early childhood education. Grade only. Prerequisite: graduate student in Education or permission of instructor. Taught fall semester of even years.

EDEC 535 LEAD ADV FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (3)

Students will critically examine research, theories, and policies related to administration of programs that serve children and families. Students will develop leadership skills in the areas of teaching adults, administering programs, and advocating effectively for children and families within and outside of early care and education programs. Taught spring semester of odd years.

EDEC 538 COGNITIVE AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT IN EARLY AND MIDDLE CHILDHOOD (3)

This course addresses the development of children from birth through middle childhood with emphasis on the relationships between language development and cognitive development. We will study the ideas of major theorists — Piaget, Erikson, Bruner, Vygotsky, Mead, and others — who address the development of children's representational thinking, language, and cross-cultural and family influences on development and learning. We will also explore current research on brain development in the first five years of life from a critical perspective and with an emphasis on practical implications. We will study current research and theories of cognitive, social, and emotional development as related to oral, written, and spoken language development in home and in school/care environments, including in environments where children are learning more than one language. Grade only. Prerequisite: graduate student in Education or permission of instructor. Taught spring semester of even years.

EDEC 578 PROJECT CONTINUATION (1-3)**EDEC 595 SPECIAL STUDIES (1-4)**