



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2011

CD 1011: Introduction to Early Childhood

MONDAYS 1 - 2:50 PM H 135

INSTRUCTOR: Andrea Thiessen **PHONE:** Office (780) 539-2708
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OFFICE

HOURS: as posted and by appointment

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:

Acceptance into the ELCC program

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Copple, C. & Bredekamp, S. (2009). *Developmentally appropriate practice in early childhood programs serving children from birth through age 8* (third edition). Washington, D.C.: National Association for the Education of Young Children.

**There may be additional costs incurred for photocopying and materials for presentation assignments

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces the field of early childhood. Programs and services for young children and their families including the roots of early childhood, the evolution of early learning and child care in Canada, and aspects of quality programs will be examined. The role of the early childhood professional in supporting children's development through child centered developmentally appropriate interactions and experiences will be introduced.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS:

3 Credit/45 Hours

DELIVERY MODE(S):

Lectures, guest speakers, in and out-of-class activities and assignments.

This course may also be taken by Distance

OBJECTIVES:

- Identify historical influences on current early childhood theory and practice;
- Explain the need for and benefits of affordable, accessible, high quality child care and early education programs in Canada;
- Outline the defining characteristics of various child care and early education programs (e.g. play school, family day care, out-of-school care, preschool, etc.) existing in Canada today and the challenges and rewards of working in each;
- Describe a variety of contemporary program models, their goals and philosophies, e.g. Montessori, Waldorf, Reggio Emilia, High Scope, Aboriginal Head Start.
- Identify the characteristics of high quality early childhood programs, including the attributes required of the early childhood educator;
- Demonstrate understanding of ethics and professionalism in Early Learning and Child Care.
- Identify and access agencies and resources that support the professional development of early childhood educators.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.

GRADING CRITERIA:

A final grade of D must be obtained to pass this course. Final grades will be based on Assignments and In-Class Participation. Your grades may be accessed on Moodle throughout the semester.

Final grades will be based on the following 4-point system:

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalence	Percentage
A+	4.0	90-100
A	4.0	85-89
A-	3.7	80-84
B+	3.3	76-79
B	3.0	73-75
B-	2.7	70-72
C+	2.3	67-69
C	2.0	64-66
C-	1.7	60-63
D+	1.3	55-59
D	1.0	50-54
F	0.0	0-49

EXAMINATIONS:

There are not any formal examinations in this course.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Refer to the College Admissions Guide at

<http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/admissions-guide-2011-2012/htm/49.html>

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Refer to the College Admissions Guide at

<http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/admissions-guide-2011-2012/htm/49.html>

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

This schedule is **TENTATIVE** and may change based on your needs or mine. Changes to the schedule will be discussed with you in class. Moodle for this course has all assignments posted, and information for portions of the course.

Date	Topic
Sept. 12 Monday	Introductions
Sept. 19-26	Historical look at Developmentally Appropriate Practices in Early Childhood Settings
Oct. 3-24	Types of early learning programs in Canada. Program models: Philosophies/approaches
Oct. 31-Nov 14	Quality in Early Learning Programs
Nov. 21-28	Roles and responsibilities
Dec. 5-12	Ethics and professionalism in Early Learning. Agencies/resources to support the professional.