



ECE 560: EARLY CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM DESIGN

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COURSE INFORMATION

Textbooks:

Goffin, S, & Wilson, C. (2001). *Curriculum models and early childhood education: Appraising the relationship*. (latest edition). Merrill/Prentice-Hall: OH.

Roopnarine, J. & Johnson, J. (2005). *Approaches to early childhood education* (latest edition). Merrill/Prentice-Hall: OH.

Reutzell, D. Ray. (Ed). (2013). *Handbook of research-based practice in early education*. Guilford: NY.

Course Description

This course will explore various curriculum models and underlying theories utilized in designing early childhood curriculum. Additionally, participants will examine factors that have influenced

curriculum development in Early Childhood Education. Moreover, participants will determine how certain factors have influenced the development of a variety of curriculum models that have shaped present curriculum in early childhood education.

Course Goal:

To help students recognize appropriate ECE environments that promote active hands-on learning, respect children as individuals, and allow for the development of the whole child.

As a result of participating in this class, students will:

1. Identify significant factors that have influenced curriculum development in early childhood education.
2. Analyze curriculum models that have been used in a variety of early childhood programs.
3. Critique early childhood curriculum framework that reflects best practices to promote the growth and development of all children.
4. Generate an early childhood curriculum framework that reflects best practices to promote the growth and development of all children.
5. Describe distinguishing features of major early childhood curricula models and programs.
6. Classify different early childhood curriculum models in relation to the philosophical/theoretical/historical base of the curriculum model.
7. Demonstrate leadership ability as a professional educator for analyzing curriculum materials and models with particular attention to assessment, content, connections and alignment to state and national standards.
8. Synthesize knowledge of evaluation research involving the comparisons of curriculum models.
9. Examine the relationship among theory, research, and practice regarding major curriculum models.
10. Continue the development of a personal philosophy and knowledge base necessary to provide leadership in curriculum development and implementation in the field of early childhood education.

- The learner will be an active and engaged participant in discussion forums by analyzing, constructing/creating, and evaluating information presented within the textbook, external readings/resources, student research, and class activities.
- The learner will demonstrate an understanding of the methods used in education by creating a DAP Book, highlighting the technology employed, and the appropriateness and effectiveness in the study of early childhood education.
- The learner will also demonstrate understanding of the course materials through objective examinations.

Course Requirements

- Class Discussion
- Chapter Presentations
- Position Statement
- Curriculum Model Presentation
- Curriculum/Program model critique
- Course Final Exam

Grading in this class will include only points so that students can determine at any time in the class where they stand. The grade book will be available through eCollege and students may access it at anytime they wish.

Grades will be determined as follows:

Grading Scale	
A = 90 - 100%	
B = 80 - 89%	
C = 70 - 79%	
D = 60 - 69%	
F = below 60%	

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology in your web-enhanced course.

The following technology is required to be successful in this course. Internet connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up) Word Processor (Microsoft Office Word – 2003 or 2007)

Access to University Library site

Access to an Email

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Access and Log in Information

This course will be utilizing eCollege to enhance the learning experience, eCollege is the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx>.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you experience issues while taking your exams or at any other point, feel free to contact the support desk.

- **Chat Support:** Click on *'Live Support'* on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- **Email:** helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- **Help:** Click on the *'Help'* button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc...).

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Late Assignments

Assignments are due on specific dates, as assigned. Assignments will be accepted after the due date, however a **30 point deduction** will be applied to the grade. For example, if an assignment is due by 12:00 PM on Sunday in the drop box of eCollege and is not placed in the drop box until 1:00 AM, there will be a 30 point deduction.

Withdrawal Policy

Every student has the right to drop the course without penalty until the drop-date. Students dropping the course during this period will be given a DP (drop while passing). A grade of DP is GPA neutral, but a grade of DF counts as an F on your transcript.

If you choose to stop attending class, you may be dropped from the course due to excessive absences. If you are not satisfied with your grade in the course and wish you to drop, it is YOUR responsibility to drop the course. Once a grade of DP or DF has been submitted, it cannot be changed.

A student may drop a course by logging into their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled 'Drop a class' from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the Web page.

Student Conduct

All students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. You are adults and will be treated as such. Discriminatory, rude, and inappropriate language will not be tolerated in this class and students will be asked to leave or drop the class (these same rules apply for online discussions). If a student continues to act in the same manner during future classes, the instructor reserves the right to drop the student from the course.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly work free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution.

Texas A&M University-Commerce has explicit rules and regulations governing academic dishonesty and academic misconduct. As the University states, "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." These policies are stated in detail in the Student's Guide Handbook. Each student is expected to read this document and abide by the contained policies. These university policies will be followed in this class. The minimum penalty for an act of academic dishonesty will be the assignment grade of 0 on the examination or homework assignment. The maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

Texas A&M University-Commerce further does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and

passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it. Visit the following websites: <http://www.plagiarism.org/>

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html>
<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

University Policies

Requests for Special Accommodations

Requests from students with disabilities for reasonable accommodations must go through the Academic Support Committee. An individual instructor cannot decide to make accommodations for you without that Committee's approval.

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

TEXAS SENATE BILL

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to

(<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.