



**ECE 460 Early Childhood Curriculum
COURSE SYLLABUS**

Course Description:

The Early Childhood Curriculum course emphasizes an integrated approach to early childhood curriculum development for young children. Relates early childhood pedagogy, research, and content area knowledge to thematic and inquiry curriculum design. (3 semester hours)

Instructor: Josh Thompson, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education

Office Location: EdSouth 248J

Office Hours: by appointment

Office Phone: 903-886-5537

(PREFERRED): 214-663-6102

Office Fax: 903-886-5581

University Email Address: josh.thompson@tamuc.edu

Faculty website: <http://faculty.tamuc.edu/jthompson>

Course website: <http://faculty.tamuc.edu/jthompson/460>

Preferred Form of Communication: For general questions, I prefer you to post your question in eCollege: Course Home: Virtual Office. That way others may see our communication and they may benefit. Please email me anytime to ask a question about your particular work. You may call my cell phone anytime between 9am-9pm, Mon-Fri, or up until 3pm on Saturdays.

Communication Response Time: Expect to hear back from me within the next working day or two. Please ask again anytime I don't answer promptly or completely.

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook Required: Brewer, J.A. (2006). *Early Childhood Education: Preschool Through Primary Grades* (6th ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. The student will be an active and engaged participant in class discussions, both face to face and online in eCollege, by analyzing, constructing/creating, and evaluating information presented within the textbook, external readings/resources, and class discussion.
2. The student will be able to design appropriate activities and experiences in each of the five curriculum areas through lessons that meet the state mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and address accommodations for ELL students through the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS).
3. The student will recognize and utilize technology in planning, appropriately implementing, assessing learning activities with children and communicating with parents.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

4. The student will be able to identify and apply a variety of teaching strategies to meet the individual, developmental, and diverse needs of young children.
5. The student will examine techniques used in assessing diverse groups of young children and the appropriate application of results to guide student learning in both whole and small group experiences.
6. The students will associate TExES Core Content competencies with the course content.

TEA Standards I-IV. Domains I-IV. Competencies:

Standard I. Domain I. Competencies 001-004 Domain III. Competencies 007-010

The teacher designs instruction appropriate for all students that reflects an understanding of relevant content and is based on continuous and appropriate assessment.

Standard II. Domain II. Competencies 005-006

The teacher creates a classroom environment of respect and rapport that fosters a positive climate for learning, equity, and excellence.

Standard III. Domain III. Competency 007-010

The teacher promotes student learning by providing responsive instruction that makes use of effective communication techniques, instructional strategies that actively engage students in the learning process, and timely, high-quality feedback.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Technical Skills Needed:

Successful students will navigate this course content through extensive reading of the required textbook, required readings, powerpoint lectures, online videos, and other digital and authentic learning artifacts taken from classrooms and schools for young children. Students must navigate the learning management system using a current, updated browser, word-processing software, Adobe Acrobat Reader, and presentation software.

Instructional Methods/Activities/Assessments:

This course consists of a series of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes/objectives for the course and instructional units. Each week you will work both online and in class on various combinations of assignments, activities, discussions, readings, research, etc.

Online Quizzes (4) 10 points each – Total 40 points

Learning Outcome # 1 & 7

There will be a total of 4 quizzes which will cover the required textbook readings and the content of the lectures. Quizzes are to be completed online during the dates posted and announced in class. Each quiz is created from a question pool and each student will get a different set of 5 questions on each quiz. These quizzes are meant to check for understanding so you are given two chances to take the quiz. The quizzes will be timed for 10 minutes each and grades are made available to students following the submission of the quiz. If you wish to review your answers, please make an appointment with the instructor to do so. If you lose Internet connectivity during the quiz, log back in **immediately** and continue on with the quiz. Save your answers often (after each answer). If you experience any issues while taking the exam, you must contact the eCollege Helpdesk immediately so that your issue is documented with a helpdesk ticket number. Considerations regarding quiz issues will be made by the instructor on an individual basis based on the documentation.

Online Mid-Term & Final Exams: 50 points each – Total 100 points

Course Objective/Learning Outcome # 1 & 6

The exams will be completed online during the dates posted and announced in class. Final Exam will be given during the final week of the course. Each exam is created from a question pool and each student will get a different set of 25 questions for each exam. The exams will be timed for 45 minutes and grades are made available to students following the submission of the exam. If you wish to review your answers, please make an appointment with the instructor to do so. If you lose Internet connectivity during the exam, log back in immediately and continue on with the exam. Save your answers often (every 5 minutes). If you experience any issues while taking the exam, you must contact the eCollege Helpdesk **immediately** so that your issue is documented with a helpdesk ticket number. Considerations regarding exam issues will be made by the instructor on an individual basis based on the documentation.

Assessment Method: Multiple -Choice

Cooperative Learning Activities: (10) 10 pts. each- Total 100 points

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes # 2-4

Cooperative class learning activities are designed to engage the students in a variety of experiences to help clarify and demonstrate specific early childhood knowledge necessary to examine and evaluate learning environments for young children. These activities will be included throughout the in class portion of the course.

Assessment Method: Active class participation

Story Analysis: 25 points

Course Objective/Learning Outcome #2

An appropriate children's literature book for each team Project will be chosen and analyzed according to Bloom's Taxonomy. The team will present this activity in class with student-made tool.

Assessment Method: Bloom's Taxonomy

Content Lessons (2): 50 points

Course Objective/Learning Outcome #4

Each team will create content area lessons based the Project Plan's specific early childhood grade level. The lessons will be written in approved lesson plan format for each content area required. This activity is due on the date listed in the course outline. These lessons will be shared in class in conjunction with each content area.

Assessment Method: Lesson Plan

Mini-Workshops (3): 75 points

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes # 2 & 3

The student will create hands-on activities for a specific grade level with the appropriate TEKS and ELPS. All workshops will be based on the Project concept selected. Each workshop will be planned and presented as a team. The first workshop will be an appropriate art experience for young children. The second workshop will be a teacher-constructed math manipulative. The third will be a cooking experience.

Assessment Method: rubric provided

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Attendance both online and at face to face meetings is required; regular, consistent participation is important. We do important things every week of class – don't miss it. Excessive absences (less than 5 hours a week logged in to eCollege, or 10 days without logging into eCollege, or missing more than 20% of f2f meetings) may prompt an administrative withdrawal.

- **Read** textbook assignments, supplemental reading assignments, lecture notes, PowerPoint presentations, and resource links.
- **Check Leo eMail** frequently, at least twice a week.
- **Discussions:** Participate in frequent online class discussions, whole class or small groups. Most are asynchronous – not live. Note the discussion board rubric in eCollege: Tools: DocSharing: **Discussion Board Rubric.pdf**. Occasional synchronous (real-time, live) CHAT or CLASSLIVE sessions require your participation when scheduled. Occasional opportunity, optional, to go onsite to schools and centers for guided observation.
- **Quizzes:** Read all assigned readings. Participate in frequent chapter quizzes as posted in eCollege units.

Grading

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 any time they wish.

Course Evaluation	
Online Quizzes (4)	40 points
Exams	100 points
Cooperative Learning Activities	100 points
Story Analysis	25 points
Content Lessons (2)	50 points
Mini workshops (3)	75 points

University policies in syllabus template August 2016

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- To fully participate in online courses you will need to use a current Flash enabled internet browser. For PC and Mac users the suggested browser is Mozilla Firefox.
- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
 - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
 - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - Speakers or headphones
 - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
- Run a [Browser Check](#) through the Pearson LearningStudio Technical Requirements website. http://help.ecollege.com/LS_Tech_Req_WebHelp/en-us/#LS_Technical_Requirements.htm#Browser
Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

- Pop-ups are allowed.
- JavaScript is enabled.
- Cookies are enabled.

To launch a browser test within eCollege, click on the My Courses tab, and then select the Browser Test link under Support Services.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (version 17 or later) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
 - [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.
- For additional information about system requirements, please see: [System Requirements for LearningStudio](https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical) <https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to [myLeo](http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx) and from the top menu ribbon select eCollege. Then on the upper left side of the screen click on the My Courses tab. <http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx> You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support for the use of Pearson LearningStudio. Technical assistance is available 24/7 (24 hours, 7 days a week). If you experience LearningStudio (eCollege) technical problems, contact the LearningStudio helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511 (toll free) or visit [Pearson 24/7 Customer Support Site](http://247support.custhelp.com/) <http://247support.custhelp.com/>

The student help desk may be reached in the following ways:

- **Chat Support:** Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio

Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure must be followed:

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at 866-656-5511.
2. Students must file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number

3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and provide me with the helpdesk ticket number.
4. I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you

PLEASE NOTE: Your personal computer and internet access problems are not a legitimate excuses for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. Only Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate reasons to contact the Help Desk.

You strongly are encouraged to check for your internet browser compatibility **BEFORE** the course begins and take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform.

myLeo Support

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at [myLeo](https://leo.tamuc.edu). <https://leo.tamuc.edu>


Learner Support

The [One Stop Shop](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/) was created to serve you by providing as many resources as possible in one location. <http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/>

The [Academic Success Center](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/) provides academic resources to help you achieve academic success. <http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/>

FREE Mobile APPS

The Courses apps for phones have been adapted to support the tasks students can easily complete on a smaller device. Due to the smaller screen size course content is not presented. The Courses app is free of charge. The mobile Courses Apps are designed and adapted for different devices.

	App Title:	iPhone – Pearson LearningStudio Courses for iPhone Android – LearningStudio Courses – Phone
	Operating System:	iPhone - OS 6 and above Android – Jelly Bean, Kitkat, and Lollipop OS
	iPhone App URL:	https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pearson-learningstudio-courses/id977280011?mt=8
	Android App URL:	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.pearson.lsphone

Once downloaded, search for Texas A&M University-Commerce, and it should appear on the list. Then you will need to sign into the myLeo Mobile portal.

The Courses App for Android and iPhone contain the following feature set:

- View titles/code/Instructor of all Courses enrolled in online
- View and respond to all discussions in individual Courses
- View Instructor Announcements in individual Courses
- View Graded items, Grades and comments in individual Courses
- Grade to Date
- View Events (assignments) and Calendar in individual Courses
- View Activity Feed for all courses
- View course filters on activities
- View link to Privacy Policy
- Ability to Sign out
- Send Feedback

LearningStudio Notifications – no longer functional in eCollege

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Preferred Form of Communication: For general questions, I prefer you to post your question in Virtual Office. That way others may see our communication and they may benefit. Please email me anytime to ask a question about your particular work. You may call or text my cell phone anytime between 9am-9pm, Mon-Fri, or up until 3pm on Saturdays.

Communication Response Time: Expect to hear back from me within the next working day or two. Please ask again anytime I don't answer promptly or completely.

Communicate with me as needed. Use josh.Thompson@tamuc.edu or my office phone 903-886-5537 or **cell phone 214-663-6102 (preferred)**.

COURSE PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Attendance

Attendance online and face to face is expected; regular, consistent participation is important. We do important things every week of class – don't miss it. Excessive absences (less than 6 hours a week logged in to eCollege, or 5 days without logging into eCollege or missing more than 20% of face to face classes) may prompt an administrative withdrawal.

Participation

This course builds cumulative knowledge and insight; you cannot pass the class by just completing assignments all at one time. You must follow along and contribute as chapters, units, and projects unfold throughout the semester.

Grading

A holistic grading approach is sought. Rather than a scorecard with points, students must account for their mastery of the course objectives, and thus their grade in the course. This is done through the use of the Professional Behavior Survey. You will **self-evaluate your professional behaviors** TWICE, once at the beginning, and again at the end of the course.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement Students with Disabilities

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- Room 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

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 the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer. Web

url: www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf

Campus Open Carry Statement

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.

Please be aware of the new campus carry policy issued by Navarro College effective August 1, 2017. You are responsible for reading and knowing this information. Please see link below:

<http://navarrocollege.edu/boardpolicies/section-gj-1/>