



ECE 322.41B
Family & Community Partnerships in Early Childhood Education
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2024

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Karen Walker

Office Location: Sowers Education South 227

Office Hours: by appointment

Office Phone: (903)886-5537

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Karen.Walker@tamuc.edu

Communication Response Time: Please allow 24 business hours for a response time.

COURSE INFORMATION

Required text:

[Keyser, J. \(2017\). From parents to partners: Building a family-centered early childhood program \(2nd edition\). Redleaf Press.](#)

- 978-1-60554-514-1 (Softbound)
- 978-1-60554-515-8 (e-book)

Other Required Reading:

- [Incorporating Knowledge from Children's Homes and Communities: A Home-to-School Approach for Teaching STEM in Preschool](#)
- [Advancing Equity in Early Childhood Position Statement](#)

Course Description

This course explores best practices in building successful early childhood education programs through partnerships with children's families and communities. Students will learn about and understand the importance and complex characteristics of children's families and communities. Students will examine the role of home environments in children's development to support and engage families through respectful, reciprocal relationships that support and empower families. and that involves all families in their children's development and learning. Students will examine community resources that support young children's learning and development and to support children's families and learn how to build connections between early learning settings, schools, and community organizations and agencies. (3 hours)

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to

- *Demonstrate an understanding of various family, community, cultural and/or linguistic strengths that may help build respect and trust between family and school.*
- *Demonstrate knowledge of how to gain valuable information about students' learning preferences, styles, histories, and strengths and ways to encourage parent input and involvement.*
- *Demonstrate knowledge of innovative ways to communicate with parents and promote on-going parent engagement.*

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

- *Demonstrate how to adjust curriculum in ways that incorporate students personal, community, and/or cultural assets.*
- *Demonstrate knowledge of innovative ways to communicate with parents and promote on-going parent engagement.*
- *Demonstrate how to plan culturally responsive community activities that encourage effective parent and school partnerships.*
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COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Taking an online course requires general computer literacy. All work in this course must be completed and submitted through myLeo Online (D2L), our campus Learning Management System. You must have consistent and reliable access to a computer and the Internet. You must be able to use Leomail, organize and save electronic files, download and upload documents, locate information with a browser, and generate content using general word processing programs.

Instructional Methods

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

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

The ABCs of Student Responsibility:

- Actively participate in class and the learning process.
- Be organized and prepared.
- Communicate with me about questions or concerns.

GRADING

All assignments and examinations are due as indicated on the course calendar. Written work should follow the guidelines published in the APA Manual (7th ed.) for citations, references, and manuscript style using 1" margins, double spaced, and 12-point font.

Work submitted late will be subject to a **10% deduction per day**. Ten days after the due date a grade of '0' will be entered in the Grade Center.

Unless otherwise stated, grading will be completed within one week of the due date.

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale based on 100 points:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

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Course Requirements:

Course Outline:

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

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.

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.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

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 Specific Procedures

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/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedures 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](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

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

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Students with Disabilities-- 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

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<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:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

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.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

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Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



AI Use in Courses

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

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