ECD 133

Practicum

Spring 2024 (On-line)

Class Time and Location: On-line
Instructor Name: Brianne House
Office Location: Spencer 203
Office Hours: 8:00-4:30
Office Phone: 479-394-7622 Ext 1624
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Prerequisite: Foundations and Theories of Early Childhood Ed (ECD 103) and Basic Child Growth & Development (ECD 113)

Resources: <u>The Child Development Associate National Credentialing Program and CDA Competency Standards</u>

Course Description: Students must be employed or volunteer in a licensed childcare facility in order to apply skills learned in the previous three courses. Observation of the student's work and evaluation of student skills are conducted by instructors following the CDA standards. Students must show competence in 13 functional areas. Professional resource files and all other CDA requirements must be completed during Practicum so that the student is eligible for CDA assessment. Minimum clock hours are 144. (480 hours if the student intends to assess for CDA upon completion of current semester) Students must complete the child maltreatment training before taking this course.

Program Outcomes: The Arkansas Early Childhood Professional Development System defines the Child Development Associate (CDA) as an individual who has successfully completed 120 clock hours of study, has completed CDA assessment, and has been awarded the CDA credential. After completing the class work and the practicum, a student will be eligible to take the CDA final assessment administered by the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education in the Arkansas Department of Human Services.
Additionally, the individual will demonstrate competence in meeting the specific needs of children and can work with parents and other adults to nurture children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual growth in a child development framework.

Rationale: This course is intended for students who plan receive their Certificate of Proficiency in Early Childhood Development. (CDA)

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of Practicum, the student should be able to do the following:

1. To register with a CDA specialist to schedule an in-person evaluation.
2. To register to take the CDA exam.
3. To understand the concept of developmentally appropriate practices.
4. To use knowledge of developmentally appropriate practices to define and evaluate

methods and materials for young children.
5. To apply principles of developmentally appropriate practices in creating a safe, healthy learning environment for children.
6. To use principles of developmentally appropriate practices to advance physical and intellectual competence.
7. To use principles of developmentally appropriate practices to support social and emotional development and provide positive guidance.
8. To understand the role of the teacher in establishing positive relationships with families and advocating for children and families.
9. To understand the role of a teacher as a professional and a manager.

Topical Outline/Course Schedule:
Students are responsible for scheduling/ maintaining 144 hours of working with young children in the age category they plan to be assessed for CDA completion. Instructor will conduct drop-in visits and regularly meet with the site director in order to confirm expectations are being met.

Week 1: Preparing the Professional Portfolio- create shell and add tabs and cover sheet
Week 2: Transcripts, certificates, and Family Questionnaires
Week 3: The Resource Collection (RC I-1, RC I-2, and RC I-3)
Week 4: The Resource Collection (RCII-Nine Learning Experiences)
Week 5: The Resource Collection (RCIII-Bibliography)
Week 6: The Resource Collection (RCIV- Family Resources Guide)
Week 7: The Resource Collection (RCV- record keeping forms)
Week 8: The Resource Collection (RCVI-1- regulation of child care centers and family child care homes)
Week 9: The Resource Collection (RCVI-2- early childhood associations)
Week 10: The Resource Collection (RCVI-3- legal requirements)

Course Conduct: This course is conducted through employed or voluntary visits made to a licensed childcare facility in order to apply skills learned in previous three courses. Students will be expected to complete 144 hours of working with children as well as finalize their portfolio through the instructor. They will be expected to create a CDA account and keep up with their log-in credentials. They will use this information to schedule a CDA specialist visit after completing the course**. It is the student's responsibility to schedule time throughout the semester to meet with the instructor about questions regarding the portfolio.**

UA Rich Mountain Credit Hour Calculator: For every course credit hour, you should expect to spend at least three clock hours per week of concentrated attention on course-related work, including but not limited to time attending class, as well as out-of-class time spent reading, reviewing, organizing notes, preparing for upcoming quizzes/exams, problem solving, developing and completing homework, and other activities that enhance learning. For a three-hour course, a typical student should expect to spend at least nine hours per week dedicated to the course.

Course Requirements/Evaluation:

In order to complete 144 contact hours required for this course, students will need to plan on working/volunteering no less than 10 hours per week.
Grading scale: (Provide a grading scale or point value for receiving grades.)

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = 59-below

Class Procedures/Student Requirements:
It is critical that students conduct themselves in a professional manner while working in childcare facilities. Students will be always held accountable to the facility policies and procedures. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the site director if unable to be at work. The instructor will be making regular contact with site directors to confirm that students are holding to this standard of professionalism.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty is unacceptable, and I do not tolerate it. My responses to students who commit academic dishonesty may include (1) assigning a zero for the assignment or test and/or (2) requiring the student to resubmit another assignment or to retake the test. In cases of serious or repeated academic dishonesty, I may refer the student to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs or his designated representative for disciplinary review subject to possible disciplinary action, including dismissal from the course. Scholastic dishonesty is defined as misconduct including, but not limited to, plagiarism, cheating and collusion. Additionally, I will treat assignments that include excessive artificial syntax as plagiarized. Assignments with artificial syntax look like machine learning technologies generated them rather than human thought. For clear definitions of the UARM policy for Academic Dishonesty, see pages 88-92 of the current catalog.

Artificial Syntax Clause: Artificial syntax is defined as "language or phrasing inconsistent with natural speech patterns." Students who use paraphrase tools and/or anti-plagiarism generators or submit assignments containing artificial syntax will be penalized. Please see the guidelines below:

a. Discussion posts or small class assignments: no credit
b. Larger assignments/essays: point deductions based on percentage of overall submission and number of prior offenses

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools: Students are turning to artificial intelligence (AI) more and more in the world of education. Common tools include Grammarly, ChatGPT, and Bard, to name a few. It is important that students understand the limitations, biases, and inaccuracies that come with using and/or relying on AI tools and platforms. Even if a student were fortunate enough to escape the penalties for plagiarism, using AI tools to produce writings that are inaccurate, biased, and/or limited in scope would still not yield a desirable grade. Ultimately, the student is responsible for ensuring that his/her writing is original, accurate, and complete.
Review and use the guidelines below to help navigate the ethical and appropriate uses of AI tools in this class. Check the syllabus and with the instructor for each course in which you are enrolled. For more information, review the Academic Dishonesty slides posted in Blackboard.

Appropriate uses for AI tools:	Inappropriate uses for AI platforms:
• Copying and pasting a description or assignment and asking AI to rephrase or explain the concept to you in a different way • Asking AI to provide an example of a particular aspect of writing (e.g., a thesis statement, an introduction, a conclusion, a body paragraph, etc.) • Copying and pasting your original compositions and soliciting feedback from AI regarding clarity and/or organization • Asking AI to generate a list of common reasons for or against a particular issue • Using AI tools to identify grammatical and mechanical errors for revising • Requesting statistical information for use in research (remember to evaluate the source and cite both the AI tool and the original source in your assignment) • Acknowledging the use of AI tools in your Works Cited pages	• Asking AI to write you an essay on (insert prompt here) • Asking AI to rephrase something written by another person and passing it off your own • Asking AI to provide you with a list of quotes from a text to use in your essay because you didn't read the assigned text • Assuming that AI-generated results are accurate, objective, or complete • Using AI tools to generate source citations that are inappropriate for your discipline • Using AI tools to falsify sources

Disability Policy: It is the policy of UA Rich Mountain to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to state and federal law. Any student with a disability who needs accommodations should contact the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Office, 394-7622 ext.1400.

Arkansas Clean Air Act: In compliance with the Arkansas Clean Air Act, UA Rich Mountain is a smoke and tobacco free facility. Students and guests are to refrain from the use of all tobacco products while on campus.

Student Misconduct: Students committing misconduct are subject to disciplinary sanction(s) and or restrictions. Misconduct or prohibited behavior includes, but is not limited to endangerment, harassment, disruption, sexual misconduct, dishonesty, illegal drugs and/or alcohol, fire or safety issues, gambling, property violations, computer violations or other violations as listed in detail in the UA Rich Mountain catalog.

Title IX Sexual Harassment: If there is an issue of this nature, it should be reported immediately to the Title IX Director, Terry Francis at (479) 394-7622, Ext. 1460. To report a concern, or to learn more about UA RICH MOUNTAIN's Title IX and Non-Discrimination

Policies, visit https://www.uarichmountain.edu/title-ix-policy

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