ECD 123

Environments For Young Children

Spring 2024 (Online course)

Class Time and Location: Online
Instructor Name: Brianne House
Office Location: Spencer 203
Office Hours: 8:00-4:30
Office Phone:479-394-7622 Ext 1624
Cell phone or other contact number: 479-234-3975

Prerequisite: Foundations and Theories of Early Childhood Ed (ECD 103) and Basic Child Growth & Development (ECD 113)

Resources: Essentials for Working with Young Children & Workbook, Third Edition.
CDA Competency Standards

Course Description: This course is designed to provide the student with a broad knowledge base on how to design a program for children developing both typically and atypically. The course provides the opportunity to plan environments that are physically and emotionally secure. The students will plan and implement activities that are age, stage and culturally appropriate for children birth to age five. The course content is based upon guidelines established by the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition. Students will be required to complete the child maltreatment training as part of this course. (Offered fall and spring semesters)

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 Environments for Young Children, the student should be able to do the following:

1. To read and discuss material from the text and supplementary/resource material which provide additional information on appropriate methods and learning experiences.
2. To demonstrate the application of appropriate activities with young children through field experiences.
3. To use methods and materials which provide opportunities to encourage curiosity,

exploration, problem solving, verbal and non-verbal communication, creativity, positive self-esteem and basic concept development.

4. To apply the concepts and theories of developmentally appropriate practices in developing the competency goals for the Child Development Associate credential.

Topical Outline/Course Schedule:

Week 1: Intro questions in workbook (pages 5-8)
Week 2: Competency Standard 1 in workbook (pages 10-18)
Week 3: Competency Standard 1 in workbook (pages 21-32)
Week 4: Competency Standard 1 in workbook (pages 35-45); Competency Statement 1 due; Workbook Check-in on campus
Week 5: Competency Standard 2 in workbook (pages48-56)
Week 6: Competency Standard 2 in workbook (pages 59-67)
Week 7: Competency Standard 2 in workbook (pages 70-81)
Week 8: Competency Standard 2 in workbook (pages 84-94); Competency Statement 2 due; Workbook Check-in on campus
Week 9: Competency Standard 3 in workbook (pages 98-106)
Week 10: Competency Standard 3 in workbook (pages 109-118)
Week 11: Competency Standard 3 in workbook (pages 121-132); Competency Statement 3 due
Week 12: Competency Standard 4 in workbook (pages 135-143); Competency Statement 4 due; Workbook Check-in on campus
Week 13: Competency Standard 5 in workbook (pages 146-155); Competency Statement 5 due
Week 14: Competency Standard 6 in workbook (pages 158-166); Competency Statement 6 due; Final Professional Philosophy Statement due

Course Conduct: This course is conducted through weekly reading assignments, completion of workbook and completion of competency statements that will be added to the portfolio upon completion. The portfolio should be started at the beginning of this course and completed by the end of this semester. 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 reading, preparing for upcoming assignments, 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:
Competency statements will count as weekly graded assignments. The portfolio will be graded in place of a final exam.

Grading scale:

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

Class Procedures/Student Requirements:
Modules containing assignments will be posted each week on Mondays at 8:00am. Students are responsible for logging into Blackboard and keeping up with weekly assignments. Late work will not receive full credit.

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

UA Rich Mountain Mission: UA Rich Mountain provides transformative education to all learners.