

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: CHD 265

Credits: 3

Course Title: Advanced Observation and Participation in Early Childhood/Primary Settings

Course Description: Focuses on implementation of activity planning and observation of children through participation in early childhood settings. Emphasizes responsive teaching practices and assessment of children's development. Reviews legal and ethical implications of working with children. Supports the student in creating a professional educational portfolio. Includes 40 hours of field placement in early learning setting. Lecture 2 hours (seminar). Laboratory 2 hours (field placement). Total 4 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: To provide students with a field experience, focusing on teaching practices and child observation skills. Students will participate with different age groups and will develop and implement learning activities for children.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Students must have completed the majority of program specific courses before enrolling. Students must be eligible to work with young children according to Department of Social Services requirements.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Differentiate professional credentials, qualifications, requirements, and competencies for early childhood settings;
- b. Critique techniques in teaching and facilitating learning gained by participating in daily routines and planned activities with children;
- c. Design appropriate environments and learning activities for all children, including those with special needs and varying cultural backgrounds;
- d. Demonstrate responsive teaching using appropriate observation, assessment, and evaluation techniques for decision making;
- e. Illustrate the importance of communication and networking skills to the professional;
- f. Identify and respond to ethics and public policy issues, including those related to professional standards;
- g. Participate in self-assessment, evaluation, and ongoing professional renewal as a practicing professional in an early childhood setting;
- h. Evaluate various types of employment options in the field of early childhood education as related to personal employment preferences;
- i. Articulate the professional development transition from preparation to application and practice in the field of early childhood education;
- j. Identify and apply appropriate learning standards as they relate to early childhood education; and
- k. Design an education portfolio based around national standards for demonstrating skill and professionalism.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. Work place skills, attitudes, and values
- b. Curriculum development and child study
- c. Teaching goals and competencies
- d. Advocacy and professionalism
- e. Professional standards and legal requirements for teaching
- f. Adaptation of early childhood activities and environments
- g. Best practices of inclusion

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