

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

CHILD DEVELOPMENT: COURSE #735

Contact Information

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The Department's Educational Philosophy

Students are encouraged to explore current child development theories and application to current practices through readings and observations in the preschool classroom. Student's reflection of observations and experiences is an essential component of the learning process.

Guiding Principles

Students should respect young children's physical, social and emotional needs, as well as be accepting of their similarities and differences. Developing an understanding and knowledge of young children's daily behavior to help facilitate positive interactions with them is essential.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT LAB: COURSE #735

Course Frequency: Full year course, five times per week

Credits Offered: Five

Prerequisites: Child Development (Course #734) concurrently or with teacher/counselor permission, and teacher or counselor recommendation

Background to the Curriculum

This course has been offered at the high school for over twenty-five years. Through hands-on experience within a preschool classroom, the high school student gains valuable work and learning experience that can be applied to future interests in education and childcare-related work experiences. In 2004, a program was established that allows a high school student who successfully takes this course for two years, in addition to the Child Development class (course #734), to graduate with eligibility to become a certified childcare professional (Teacher-Preschool) through the Office of Child Care Services.

Core Topics/Concepts/Skill

Developmental understanding of preschool age children and how to use that knowledge to successfully interact with the preschool-aged child in a classroom setting.

Course-End Learning Objectives

| <u>Learning objectives</u> | <u>Corresponding state standards, where applicable</u> |
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| <p><i>Students will:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1] Develop understanding and knowledge of young children’s daily behavior and use that knowledge to help facilitate positive interactions with the children.2] Learn to think critically and respond appropriately to a child’s needs.3] Reflect upon and discuss confidentially with the Preschool staff the observed behavior of the children.4] Design and implement developmentally-appropriate projects for the preschoolers that can be incorporated within the current preschool curriculum. | |

Assessment

Participation: Regular attendance and positive active participation with the children is paramount. The preschool program is designed with the high school students as an important component of making the program successful. Respectful, positive, and supportive attitude with all the preschool children and fellow lab students, as well as all teachers in the preschool, is expected.

Journals: Reflections on observation and experience is evaluated. Specific topics may be assigned or general observations may be required.

Projects: Each quarter students will complete an assigned project directly relating to the preschoolers.

Technology and Health Learning Objectives Addressed in This Course

(This section is for faculty and administrative reference; students and parents may disregard.)

| <u>Course activity: skills and/or topics taught</u> | <u>Technology standard(s) addressed through this activity</u> |
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Materials and Resources

Current articles and books related to child development are made available to the students for research purposes.