



**COURSE PREFIX #: ECE 366 Section: 001 Call #: 20008**  
**TITLE: "Learning Environments"**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING SEMESTER 2013**

**Instructor:** Dr. Linda E. St.Clair, Ed. D., M. Ed., B. S., Adjunct Professor  
**Office Location:** EDS127  
**Office Hours:** 9:30 A.M.-10:45 P.M., Tuesdays and Thursdays  
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<b>COURSE INFORMATION</b>
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**Required Textbook:** Kostelnik, Soderman, & Whiren (2007). *Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum* (5<sup>th</sup> edition). Columbus, Ohio: Prentice Hall.

**Optional Book for Extra Credit Activities:** St.Clair, L. E. (2010). *Embedded Student Question Asking: Strategies and Thinking Map Ideas to Enhance Questioning of Text by Diverse Student Populations*. (May be purchased from the instructor)

**Required Supplies:** Watercolor markers, scissors, tape, glue sticks, pencils, small plastic supply box (*Bring these supplies to every class meeting.*)

**Course Description:** ECE 366 provides a study of Early Childhood organizational plans, procedures, physical facilities, and a survey of materials and equipment. This course develops a process of designing appropriate learning environments for young children.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. TSW clarify developmentally appropriate principles/practices of Early Childhood education.
2. TSW identify behavioral characteristics of young children to meet individual, developmental, and diverse needs.
3. TSW learn how to equip and supply an Early Childhood classroom.
4. TSW learn how to plan and organize a child-centered environment.
5. TSW examine and evaluate Early Childhood Learning Centers.
6. TSW learn how to develop an appropriate ECE management system.
7. TSW build communication skills with parents and paraprofessionals.
8. TSW be an active and engaged participant in discussions by analyzing, constructing/creating, and evaluating information presented within the textbook, external readings/resources, etc.
9. TSW associate ECE TexES competencies with course content.
10. TSW demonstrate an understanding of the course materials through the Mid Term Assessment, Final Assessment, Cooperative Learning Groups, and course requirements assignments.
11. TSW identify DAP ECE environments that promote active hands on learning, respect for children as individuals, and allow for development of the whole child.

<b>COURSE REQUIREMENTS</b>
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**Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments:** This course is composed of a series of assignments and assessments (Mid-Term and Final Assessments) to assist students in achieving the course goals and objectives. Each week, you will work on various combinations of in-class and/or out-side-of class assignments, activities, discussions, Cooperative Learning Groups activities, readings, and/or research, etc.

- **Complete the ECE 460 Mid-Term Exam (possible 100 pts.).**
- **Complete the ECE 460 Final Exam (possible 100 pts.).**
- **Read the assigned chapter(s) on the Weekly Assignment Sheet from the course textbook prior to each class meeting and complete any assignments from the instructor by the specific due date.**
- **Generate and present an Early Childhood Parent Pack (possible 100 pts.):** Carefully following the “Rubric for a Parent Pack” instructions handout, **create a totally and completely original Parent Pack** for sending EC activities home to reinforce a specific concept/skill already introduced at school for any grade level between PreKindergarten and third grade.
- **Create and present a DAP Original Children’s Book with an Original Puppet (possible 150 pts.):** Carefully following the “Rubric for an Original Children’s Book” instructions handout, **create a totally and completely original** children’s book and puppet for any grade level between PreKindergarten and third grade (the Early Childhood grades).

**OR**

- **Create and present a DAP Children’s Book with Clip Art Technology and with a Manufactured Puppet (possible 100 pts.):** Carefully following the “Rubric for a Children’s Book with Clip Art Technology” instructions handout, create a children’s book with a manufactured puppet for any grade level between PreKindergarten and third grade (the Early Childhood grades).

**Grading:** The Course Evaluation includes 300 pts. for Class Meetings Attendance with Active Participation, 10 pts. per class meeting (20 pts. for classes meeting once per week). It is very important that you be in attendance at each Class Meeting and actively participating.

**The Course Evaluation is based upon total earned points as follows:**

<b>630-700 total points or more</b>	<b>= Course Grade of an A</b>
<b>559-629 total points</b>	<b>= Course Grade of a B</b>
<b>488-558 total points</b>	<b>= Course Grade of a C</b>
<b>417-487 total points</b>	<b>= Course Grade of a D</b>
<b>Less than 417 total points</b>	<b>= Course Grade of an F</b>

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology in your face-to-face and/or web-enhanced ECE 366 course. The instructor will deliver course content via all or some of the following technology methods:

- The Publisher's Website Power Points, resources, discussions, activities, test bank questions, suggested links, etc. and/or TAMU Commerce eCollege.

The following technology is required to be successful in this course: Internet connection of high speed (recommended) but not dial-up; Word Processor Microsoft Word 2003 or 2007; access to the TAMU Commerce University Library Site; and access to a working email.

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to have access to eCollege: Our TAMU Commerce campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system of XP or newer and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0). Courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems. It is strongly recommended that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a "Browser Test", login to eCollege, click on the "myCourses" tab, and then, select the "Browser Test" link under "Support Services".

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION (ONLY if eCollege course)

**Access and Login Information:** At times, this course may be utilizing eCollege for some learning experiences. eCollege is the Learning Management System used by TAMU Commerce. To get started, go to: <https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx>. You will need your CWID and password to login to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu). (This course section IS NOT an eCollege course.)

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

**Interaction with Instructor Statement:** TAMU Commerce provides students with technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hrs. a day, 7 days per week. If you experience problems at any point, feel free to contact the support desk. For "Chat Support" click on "Live Support" on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative. Phone 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with an eCollege Technical Support Representative. You may email [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org) to initiate a support request with an eCollege Technical Support Representative. For Help, click on the "Help" button on the tool bar for information about working with eCollege.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

## Course Specific Procedures

**Attendance/Participation:** According to University rules, students may be dropped from the class for excessive unexcused absences. That will be considered for this course. Participants are expected to be on time and to actively and consistently participate. Any unexcused absences will result in an adjustment to your Final Grade or as mentioned, according to University rules, students may be dropped for excessive unexcused absences. For an absence to be excused, you must submit a note to the instructor from your physician, your child's physician, your principal or director, or your immediate work supervisor addressing the specific reason for your absence, according to University policy. It is very important that in the event of an emergency and you must miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining class materials, assignments, and/or notes from one of your classmates. At our first class meeting, exchange phone numbers and email addresses with 2 of your peers in our class. I will not bring extra copies of handouts from previous class meetings, so remember to pick up extra handouts for your "Class Buddy" if he/she must be absent. If you must be absent, you are responsible for contacting one of your "Class Buddies", getting the assignment, and completing it prior to the next class meeting. Class participants are expected to be on time to actively engage in discussions, Cooperative Learning Groups, and/or activities during our class meetings. Lack of participation will impact your grade, especially if you are on the borderline of a grade. Each student should arrive on time and not pack up their belongings early and prior to the instructor's dismissal. **You must be present in class and actively participating to earn 10 points per class meeting (or 20 pts. per class meeting for classes that meet only one time per week).**

**Discussions/Cooperative Learning Groups:** Each student should contribute frequently and consistently to class discussions and Cooperative Learning Group activities.

**Classroom Etiquette:** Each student is expected to be polite and engage in civil interactions with all members of the class (Student's Guide Handbook, Policies, Procedures, Conduct, pages 67-73). Each student is expected to turn OFF all cell phones, pagers, texting devices, emailing, laptops, and all other electronic devices before entering our classroom. The instructor will deduct points from your overall grade for having electronic devices turned ON and/or in use during class meetings. All students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. Discriminatory, rude, and/or inappropriate language will not be tolerated in this class and students will be asked to leave or drop the class. If a student continues to act in the same manner during future classes, the instructor reserves the right to drop the student from the course.

**Late Assignments:** Assignments are due on specific dates as assigned by the instructor. Assignments will be accepted after the due date; however, points may be deducted for assignments submitted after the due date.

**Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly work free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution. TAMU Commerce has explicit rules and regulations governing academic dishonesty and academic misconduct, including plagiarism, copyright violations, and cheating. Each student is expected to read the Student's Guide Handbook. The minimum penalty for an act of academic dishonesty will be the assignment of a grade of a "0" (zero) on the exam or assignment. The maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

## University Specific Procedures

### 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**  
**Gege Library 132**  
**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**  
**Fax (903) 468-8148**  
[StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)  
[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

### Student Conduct:

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

<b>COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR</b>
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Note: ECE 366 students will receive Weekly Assignment Sheets according to the overall progress of the class. Please keep these close at hand and accessible for quick reference of assignments, chapter readings, presentation due dates, Mid Term and Final Exam assessments, etc.