Course Information

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required:

Optional:

Course Description:
This course examines theoretical and empirical research along with practical experience relating to young children. Cognitive, physical, social, and affective developmental domains are explored and implications for curriculum design and learning environments are drawn.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Goals of the course: Early Childhood Educators must utilize an understanding of normal developmental patterns as they serve young children in Texas schools.
1. To identify developmental milestones and their implications during the early years
2. To examine the effect of environmental factors which affect development and learning
3. To apply developmental principles and theories to programs for young children
4. To observe and record the developmental behavior of young children
5. To explore the variations of development

Course Requirements

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments
1. Complete the Midterm Exam and Final Exam.
2. Read all assigned chapters from the textbook prior to the due date and actively participate in online class discussions in a professional manner. You will be required to respond to each question in at least one complete paragraph. Then you must reply to
two other classmates in a thorough manner. One-line replies will not be counted. All submissions will be added together to compile this portion of your grade.

3. **Reaction Paper on Children’s Media:** Write a typewritten reaction paper after you have watched 2 hours of media produced for young children (i.e., cartoons, video games, or computer games). You should summarize and evaluate what you have observed. Include implications for the developing child and whether or not the media has any educational value for the young child. Using higher-level thinking skills (analysis, synthesis, and evaluation), your paper should be a minimum of 3 double-spaced typewritten pages. Place the completed assignment in the Dropbox for the specific week on the Course Schedule. A rubric will be provided.

4. **Case Study of 3 Young Children:** Complete a Case Study of: 1) a child between the ages of 0 to three years, 2) a child between the ages of four and six years, and 3) a child in elementary school. You will be responsible for locating the children and completing the assignment. You will submit each case study into the Dropbox for the specific week on the Course Schedule. A rubric will be provided.

5. **Research Paper on a Child Development Topic:** Select a topic of your interest related to Child Development or Early Childhood Education. Write a research paper on this topic. The paper should exhibit professionalism and follow the writing standards for this course. Include 5 peer-reviewed professional journal articles related to your topic. Be sure to cite all references and articles, using the APA format. Your paper should be at least 5 double-spaced typewritten pages. Be sure to spell-check your paper. Spelling and punctuation will count. The paper should be submitted into the Dropbox for the specific week as noted on the Course Schedule. A rubric will be provided.

**Grading**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class online discussion</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaction Paper on Children’s Media</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case Study—Infant or Toddler</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case Study—Preschool or Kindergartener</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case Study—Primary (Grade 1-4)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topical Research Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>10%</td>
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</table>

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in the course whether it is web-enhanced or online.

- Internet access/connection—high speed recommended (not dial-up)
- Headset/microphone (if required for synchronous sessions in an online course)
- Word Processor (i.e. MS Word or Word Perfect)

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege: Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0). Your 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 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, log in to eCollege, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

**ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: [https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx](https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx). You will need your CWID and password to log in 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.

**COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

**Interaction with Instructor Statement:**
You may contact me by calling my cell phone at 972.746.5774 between the hours of 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or by email. Online classes should communicate in the course shell.

**COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

**Course Specific Procedures:**
Attendance at all class meetings is required and is essential to your success in this course. Participants are expected to be on time and to actively participate. Please refer to the catalog for information on absences.

Cell phones/Beepers/Text Messaging/Emailing: These are all prohibited during class, so please turn all electronic devices off before entering the classroom. If you have a critical family situation or emergency, please inform the instructor before class.

Assignment due dates: All assignments are due by midnight on the specified date. An automatic ten-point reduction will be taken for late work. After an assignment is one week late, it will not be graded.

Written assignments: All written assignments are to be typewritten, double-spaced, in a legible standard 12 point font (no script fonts), with 1 inch margins (top, bottom, and sides). They are expected to exhibit professional quality, including mastery of organization, structuring, and editing (for all mechanics) in your writings. Poor grammar, spelling errors, and inappropriate vocabulary usage will result in a deduction of points.

Plagiarism of Writings: Be sure to cite your references. Plagiarism will result in a grade of “F” for the course and may result in your dismissal from the program.

Class Participation: This course is based upon a high level of participation.

**University Specific Procedures:**

**Attendance**
It is the prerogative of the instructor to drop students from courses in which they have accrued excessive absences (three or more). However, a student wishing to drop the course should do so. Failure to do so may result in a failing grade.
Academic Honesty Policy

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

Disciplinary action for these offenses may include any combination of the following:

1. Point deduction on an assignment.
2. Failure for an assignment.
3. A grade of zero for an assignment.
4. Failure for the course.
5. Referral to the Academic Integrity Committee or department head for further action.
6. Referral to the Dean of the College of Education and Human Services, Business and Technology, Arts and Sciences, or Graduate School as appropriate.
7. Referral to the University Discipline Committee.
8. Communication of student's behavior to the Teacher Certification Office and/or Dean of the College of Education as constituting a reason to bar student from entering into or continuing in a teacher certification program. Procedures, A 13.04, 13.12, 13.31, and 13.32

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
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu
Student Disability Resources & Services

Disclaimer:

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the schedule of the class. Any alterations will be announced by the instructor in class, on ecollege, or via email. Students who do not attend class, log into ecollege, or check their email assume full responsibility for missing changes to the course.

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).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Topic of the Day</th>
<th>Reading Assignment</th>
<th>Papers Due*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 14</td>
<td>Child Development</td>
<td>Read Trawick-Smith (Textbook) Chpt. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 21</td>
<td>History &amp; Families</td>
<td>Chapters 2 &amp; 18</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 28</td>
<td>Theories</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
<td>Reaction Paper on Media due</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 4</td>
<td>Prenatal &amp; Newborn</td>
<td>Chapters 4 &amp; 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 11</td>
<td>Infant Physical &amp; Cognitive Growth</td>
<td>Chapters 6 &amp; 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 18</td>
<td>Infant Language &amp; Social/Emotional</td>
<td>Chapters 8 &amp; 9</td>
<td>Case Study 1 due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 25</td>
<td>Preschool Physical and Motor</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>Chapters 1-10 &amp; 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>Preschool Cognitive Development</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
<td>Case Study 2 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Symbolic Thought</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Preschool Social/Emotional</td>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>Primary Physical Growth &amp; Motor Development</td>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
<td>Case Study 3 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Cognition &amp; Schooling</td>
<td>Chapter 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 22</td>
<td>Language, Literacy, and Schooling</td>
<td>Chapter 16</td>
<td>Research Paper Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>Primary Social/Emotional</td>
<td>Chapter 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Chapters 11-17</td>
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*In addition to the reading assignments each week, you will also be required to participate in the online discussion. All assignments and discussion submissions are due by midnight on the Sunday night of the week in which they are listed. For example, the Reaction Paper will be due on February 3.