



**ECE 561.01W  
Early Childhood Curriculum  
Spring 2014**

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**COURSE INFORMATION**

Textbook: Berk, Laura E. (2006) *Child Development*, 7th ed. Allyn & Bacon.  
[http://wps.ablongman.com/ab\\_berk\\_childdevcw\\_7](http://wps.ablongman.com/ab_berk_childdevcw_7)

Course Description: A comprehensive study of the early childhood pedagogy, research and curriculum, including the area of instruction, experience, and use of materials. A special emphasis will be given to planning curriculum that will help make learning meaningful for young children. The focus will be on integrated curriculum, child-centered philosophy, the role of play, and attention to the individual child's needs and interest. Reflecting and supporting diversity in addition to utilizing assessment tools and processes will also be emphasized.

Student Learning Outcomes: Participation in this class will enable students to demonstrate:

1. To investigate theories and practices associated with the ECE curriculum.
2. To examine techniques used in the authentic assessment and evaluation of young children.
3. To create instructional material used to teach the curriculum.
4. To plan activities for an active hands-on approach to the curriculum.
5. To demonstrate methodology for teaching an integrated curriculum to young children.
6. To develop curriculum sensitive to cultural pluralism and children with special needs.

**COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

Course Requirements

1. Attend, and participate. Grading

A = 90 - 100 %

B = 80 - 89 %

C = 70 - 79 %

D = 60 - 69 %

F = below 60 %

## **Grading Criteria**

Criteria for each requirement will be generated by the participants and supplemented by the instructor. The following holistic scoring format will be adapted for each course requirement:

- 4=Highly impressive-well above average in thought, organization, and professional choices. Evidences significant control of own decision-making and learning processes.
- 3=Commendable—in command of thought, organization, and professional choices. Evidences acceptable control of own decision-making and learning processes.
- 2=Developing-probably functional in terms of thought, organization, and professional choices. Responsible, but in need of instruction. Evidences some control of own decision-making and learning processes.
- 1=Minimal-somewhat lacking in thought, organization, and responsibility. Lack of awareness of professional choices. Evidences minimal control of own decision-making and learning processes.

## **Technology Requirements**

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology in your web-based course.

The following technology is required to be successful in this course.

Internet connection - high speed recommended (not dial-up)

Word Processor (Microsoft Office Word - 2003 or 2007)

Access to University Library site

Access to an Email

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).

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 in to eCollege, click on the 'myCourses' tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

## **Access and Navigation**

Access and Long in Information

This course will be utilizing eCollege to enhance the learning experience, eCollege is 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>.

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

Texas A & M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you experience issues while taking your exams or at any other point, feel free to contact the support desk.

- 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 eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Email: [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org) to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Help: Click on the "Help" button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions, etc...)

## Course and University Procedures/Policies

### Course Specific Policies:

If you decide not to take the course, you are responsible for dropping the course. Failure to do so will result in an F in the course. Course Specific Policies:

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### **1. Assignment Due Dates**

All assignments are due by the date listed on the course outline.

A 30 point deduction will be applied for each class day that an assignment is turned in past the assignment due date.

### **2. Class Absence**

Attendance at all class meetings is required. Arrive on time and remain until class is dismissed. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class and at the end through a series of exercises. If you are not present, you will not receive credit for those activities. Each student is allowed two absences during the term. 10 points credit will be deducted from the final grade for any absence greater than two.

### **3. Written Assignments**

All assignments must be typed in legible (preferably Times Roman) 12 pt font. College level writing is expected. If you feel insecure about your writing abilities you may want to seek assistance from the writing lab in the department of literature and languages. They will not assist with spelling. Please make sure someone proofs your paper. Excessive grammar, spelling and vocabulary errors will result in a lower grade. You should demonstrate mastery of organizing, structure and editing.

### **4. Plagiarism of writings**

Plagiarism will result in a grade of F for the assignment and possibly the course. Further infractions could result in dismissal from the teacher education program. Plagiarism consists of copying directly from a source without properly citing the source. It is also using someone else's work and claiming it as your own. Please cite your references in APA format. See handout for examples.

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it you may visit the following websites:

<http://www.plagiarism.org/>

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

5. Professionalism component

You are expected to demonstrate a professional attitude at all times. This includes respecting the thoughts of your peers as well as your instructor. Also included is the following: participating in small and large group discussions, being on time, staying the entire time, accepting constructive criticism, listening, turning in high quality work, and understanding that this is a growth experience. Students who come into class expecting an A need to rethink their reason for being here. If you want an A, then you will work to earn the A. The Professional Behavioral Standards Evaluation Form will be used at such a time as it is warranted due to non-compliance with these expectations. "All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." (see Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

#### **6. *Withdrawal policy***

Every student has the right to drop the course without penalty until the drop-date. Students dropping the course during this period will be given a DP (drop while passing). A grade of DP is GPA neutral, but a grade of DF counts as an F on your transcript.

If you choose to stop attending class, you may be dropped from the course due to excessive absences. If you are not satisfied with your grade in the course and wish to drop, it is YOUR responsibility to drop the course. Once a grade of DP or DF has been registered; I will not be able to change it.

A student may drop a course by logging into their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled "DROP a class" from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the WEB page.

#### **University Specific Policies:**

##### *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@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).

#### **Assignments**

Implications Notebook 100 points each

Develop at least five milestones per domain: Cognitive, Social/Emotional and Physical

Complete one domain for each year (example: year 2 and year 3) of the assignment.

Include citations for each milestone within the document and references at the end.

Use at least three references to complete each domain/age chart.

Note: The best notebooks use 3 to 4 references. An example of a good notebook is provided under the lecture material.

Case Study	100 points
The case study will include: field notes, demographic information, developmental milestones, alignment to theorists, conclusion and a reflection.	
Exams (5)	100 points each
Year One Implications Notebook	100 points

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

**Required Technology:** This course will use the online platform Ecollege. Therefore, students are required to have continuous on-line access. All students must have access to email and adequately functioning computer equipment. To use the university's online resources, students need a computer and an Internet service provider (ISP). Students also need an Internet browser, an email program, and a word processing program. A working familiarity with hardware and software is advantageous before entering the program. You must have the most recent computer software and hardware to successfully complete the course.

**Ecollege Technical Concerns:** Please contact the eCollege HelpDesk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. By sending an email directly to [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org). You may also reach the HelpDesk by calling (toll-free) 1-866-656-5511.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

### Interaction with Instructor Statement:

**Course Concerns:** If you have questions pertaining to the content of this course (e.g., questions about an assignment, exam, about course due dates, etc.), please contact the instructor via email or by phone. She will respond within 48 hours.

### 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:

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### Appeal of Final Grade

Any student who is not satisfied with their final grade and believes he or she can justify why the final grade should be different is welcome to participate in the process of appeals. The policy for appealing a semester grade is available through the office of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Texas

A&M University-Commerce. Generally, the student must first make an appointment with his or her professor and present in writing the reasons why he or she believes a higher grade was earned. The professor is obliged to hear and read the case and provide an answer to that appeal with a reasonable time. If the student continues to be dissatisfied with the decision of the professor, the student may contact the head of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and continue the appeal at that level.

### **Academic Integrity/Honesty Statement**

This course demands a high level of scholarly behavior and academic honesty on the part of students. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: (1) turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or instructor without obtaining permission from this instructor in advance; (2) turning in another person's work, in part or in whole, as your own; (3) copying from professional works without citing them; and (4) any form of cheating on exams. Violations of academic integrity/honesty while carrying out academic assignments may, at the discretion of the instructor, receive a zero on the particular work in question, receive an "F" in the course, or be brought before a higher level of governance for possible dismissal from the university.

### **Grading Policy**

A=90-100%

B=80-89%

C=70-79%

D=60-69%

F=below 60%