



COURSE PREFIX #: ECE 460 Section: 03E
TITLE: "Early Childhood Curriculum"
COURSE SYLLABUS:

Instructor: Dr. Linda E. St.Clair, Ed. D., M. Ed., B. S.
Office Hours: 4:30 PM-7:10 PM
Office Phone: 214-473-4733
University Email Address: drlindastclair@email.com
Conference: by appointment only

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Textbook: Brewer, J. A. (2007). *Introduction to Early Childhood Education: Preschool Through Primary Grades* (6th edition). ISBN: 0206491456

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

Course Description: ECE 460 emphasizes an integrated approach to Early Childhood curriculum development for young children. This course relates Early Childhood pedagogy, research, and content area knowledge to thematic and inquiry curriculum design.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. TSW identify specific instructional areas within the Early Childhood curriculum.
2. TSW learn about how to create appropriate activities/experiences in the 5 curriculum areas.
3. TSW learn how to help young children develop an understanding of specific skills/concepts.
4. TSW identify a variety of teaching strategies that are used to help young children acquire an understanding of skills/concepts in the EC curriculum.
5. TSW examine techniques used in assessing young children.
6. TSW identify the TEKS objectives as related to the content.
7. TSW apply the knowledge learned to the TExES competencies.
8. TSW be an active and engaged participant in discussions by analyzing, constructing/creating, and evaluating information presented within the textbook, external readings/resources, student research, and class activities.
9. TSW demonstrate an understanding of the course materials through the Mid-Term and Final Exams assessments, Cooperative Learning Groups activities, Paired Learning activities, course requirements assignments, class discussions, etc.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments: This course is composed of a series of assignments and assessments (Mid-Term and Final Exams) 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 Mid-Term Exam (possible 100 %) and Final Exam (possible 100 %).**
- **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 an Early Childhood Thematic Unit:** It is required for this course that you generate a Thematic Unit (specify EC grade PreKindergarten through third grade) on a topic from the handout "Thematic Topics List" and present it to the class. You should carefully follow the instructions on the handout "Rubric for a Thematic Unit". (possible 100 %.)
- **Create a Mini-Workshop:** It is required for this course that you create and present with a class partner a Mini-Workshop to our class from any of the following ECE areas: Health, Math, Science, Reading, Language Arts, Social Studies, Music, Art, Emotional/Affective, or Drama. You should carefully follow the instructions on the handout "Rubric for a Mini-Workshop". (possible 100 %.)
- **Generate a Take-Home Parent Information Newsletter:** It is required for this course that you generate a 5-page, typewritten Take-Home Parent Information Newsletter that includes a brief Biography, the Class Rules and Consequences for Rule Infractions, your Expectations for the Students, Special Projects, Special Events and Programs, and Volunteer Opportunities for Parents/Guardians; present this Newsletter to our class. You should carefully follow the instructions on the handout "Rubric for a Take-Home Parent Information Newsletter". (possible 100 %)
- **Create a Learning Center "Smart Box":** It is required for this course that you create with a class partner a Learning Center "Smart Box" to reinforce a concept/skill already introduced in class in a specific Early Childhood grade (PreK through third grade). You should carefully follow the instructions on the handout "Rubric for Learning Center Smart Box". (possible 100 %.)

CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY

- **Attend all class meetings for the entire class period; you must be present during each entire class meeting and actively participating in order to receive credit for attendance, so be sure to sign in at the end of each class meeting. You may have one (1) unexcused absence in this course. After that, any absence from class without a written documented excuse from a physician or clinic for your illness or the illness of your child, without an Order of Service from the memorial service of an immediate family member (husband/wife, child, brother/sister, parent, or grandparent), or without a written excuse from your employer that you had to work during class time in an emergency situation on the job will result in 5 course points being deducted for each absence from class (You must attend the entire class period for your attendance to be counted; be sure to sign in at the end of every class.)**

COURSE GRADING

The Course Evaluation is based upon the following:

90 % - 100 % = Course Grade of an A

80 % - 89 % = Course Grade of a B

70 % - 79 % = Course Grade of a C

60 % - 69 % = Course Grade of a D

Any overall course average below 60 % = Course Grade of an F

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology in you face-to-face/web-enhanced ECE 460 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. (**This course section IS 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 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. **(see Class Attendance Policy, page 2 of this syllabus)** 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 and remember to sign in at the end of each class meeting.

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.

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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
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.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*).

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Note: ECE 460 students will receive Weekly Assignment Sheets according to the overall progress of the class. Please keep these and the Course Syllabus close at hand and accessible for quick reference of assignments, chapter readings, presentation due dates, Mid Term and Final Exam dates, etc.

