



**ECE 366 01E – EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2015**

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**Office Location:** Commerce, Ed. South #221

**Office Hours:** 8-10 Online M-F Before and After Class

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<b>COURSE INFORMATION</b>
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**Materials – Text, Readings, Supplementary Readings**

Kostelnik, M.J., et. al. *Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum, (latest edition)* Pearson Education Inc, 2011.

**Course Description**

This course explores early childhood organizational plans, procedures, physical facilities and surveys appropriate materials and equipment. Emphasis is placed on the process of designing appropriate learning environments for young children. 3 semester hours

**Course Goal:**

To help students recognize appropriate ECE environments that promote active hands-on learning, respect children as individuals, and allow for the development of the whole child.

**Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives**

This class is listed by the University as an early childhood education course and will enable students:

1. To clarify developmentally appropriate principles and practices of early childhood education
2. To identify behavioral characteristics of young children to meet individual, developmental and diversity needs

3. To equip and supply an early childhood classroom
  4. To plan and organize a child centered environment
  5. To build communication skills with parents and paraprofessionals
  6. To associate ECE TExES competencies with course content
- The learner will be an active and engaged participant in discussion forums by analyzing, constructing/creating, and evaluating information presented within the textbook, external readings/resources, student research, and class activities.
  - The learner will demonstrate an understanding of the methods used in education by creating a DAP Book, highlighting the technology employed, and the appropriateness and effectiveness in the study of early childhood education.
  - The learner will also demonstrate understanding of the course materials through objective examinations.

<b>Course Requirements</b>
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### **Chapter Quizzes**

Each chapter will be assessed with a quiz.

### **Observation in an ECE program model**

Students are required to observe in an early childhood class room that reflects one of the early childhood models described in class.

### **Classroom Inventory**

Students will assess a classroom according to materials, behavior plans, floor plans and teaching methods.

### **Cooperative Learning Activity**

Students will work together to create a tool that can be used to build relationships with families.

### **Assessment Activity**

Students will read and evaluate the article “The Whole Child” and use it to reflect upon what they have learned in class.

### **Attendance &**

### **Participation:**

Class attendance – Required

Class participation – Asking questions, making comments, participating in cooperative activities  
 Online participation – Reading discussions, giving other students feedback and opinion

**Texting during class is NOT advised or allowed. Grade points will be deducted. Similarly, grade points will be added for those who do not text in class and follow class guidelines.**

### **Grading**

Grading in this class will include only points so that students can determine at any time in the class where they stand. The grade book will be available through eCollege and students may access it at anytime they wish.

Grades will be determined as follows:

<b>Grading Scale</b>	
A = 90 – 100%	
B = 80 - 89%	
C = 70 - 79%	
D = 60 - 69%	
F = below 60%	

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology in your web-enhanced 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 Log 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@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.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 Policies

#### Attendance & Participation:

Class attendance and participation is one of the most important, yet underrated elements of a student’s education. There are numerous elements that go into class participation:

1. Good attendance (According to University rules, students may be dropped from the class for excessive unexcused absences. For this class that will be considered 3 unexcused absences.)
2. Arrive on time and stay until class is dismissed.
3. Frequent and relevant contributions to class discussion.
4. Reading assigned work and course material.
5. Polite and civil interactions with all members of the class \**“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. Turn off all electric devices, specifically cell phones, pagers, PDA's, and computers. Students who fail to do so may be asked to leave the class.

Students are required to attend all class meetings or participate in online instruction, as offered by the instructor. Recovering missed lecture content or assignment information is the responsibility of the student. Office appointments will not be used to substitute for class attendance or online study. Fellow students may provide notes for recovery of missed information. Prior to class time, reading assignments must be completed and any other assignments must be submitted at the beginning of the class period. Participation in class activities, including discussion groups and in-class assignments, is a component of attendance. Failure to prepare and participate effectively will negatively impact the learning processes devised for the class. Ineffective participation on a consistent basis may result in instructor's use of alternative instructional methods, such as pop-quizzes and reading reports, among others.

### **Participation Evaluation Scale:**

- 100% = full participation in small and large group
- 75% = partial participation in small and large group
- 50% = prompt attendance only or tardy with full participation
- 25% = tardy and some participation
- 0% = tardy no participation or no attendance

### **Late Assignments**

Assignments are due on specific dates, as assigned. Assignments will be accepted after the due date, however a **30 point deduction** will be applied to the grade. For example, if an assignment is due by 12:00 PM on Sunday in the drop box of eCollege and is not placed in the drop box until 1:00 AM, there will be a 30 point deduction.

### **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 you to drop, it is YOUR responsibility to drop the course. Once a grade of DP or DF has been submitted, it cannot be changed.

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.

### **Student Conduct**

All students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. You are adults and will be treated as such. Discriminatory, rude, and inappropriate language will not be

tolerated in this class and students will be asked to leave or drop the class (these same rules apply for online discussions). 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.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly work free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution.

Texas A&M University-Commerce has explicit rules and regulations governing academic dishonesty and academic misconduct. As the University states, "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." These policies are stated in detail in the Student's Guide Handbook. Each student is expected to read this document and abide by the contained policies. These university policies will be followed in this class. The minimum penalty for an act of academic dishonesty will be the assignment grade of 0 on the examination or homework assignment. The maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

Texas A&M University-Commerce further 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.

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it. 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>

## **University Policies**

### **Requests for Special Accommodations**

Requests from students with disabilities for reasonable accommodations must go through the Academic Support Committee. An individual instructor cannot decide to make accommodations for you without that Committee's approval.

### ***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](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu)  
[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)