



## ECE 537.01W – CREATIVE EXPRESSION IN THE ARTS COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring, 2018

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### COURSE INFORMATION

#### Materials – Text, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Isenberg, Joan & Mary Jalongo. *Creative Thinking & Arts-Based Learning*, 6th edition. Pearson, 2014.



(Required)  
(children painting)

ISBN: 978-0-13-285336-1



(Recommended)  
(three children's faces)

ISBN: 978-1-938113-08-6

NAEYC (Eds). *Expressing Creativity in Preschool*. Washington DC: National Association for the Education of Young Children, 2015.

#### Course Description

This course explores the theory, content and practice of integrating the performing arts into the curriculum design and early learning environments. Emphasis is placed on aesthetic development of young children through play, visual art, music, movement and creative dramatics. 3 semester hours

#### Course Goal

To help students design early childhood curricula that fosters creative expression in the arts.

#### Campus Gun Law (effective fall, 2016)

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses: Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

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

1. To understand the rationale and content of the fine arts in early childhood education
  2. To review research literature associated with childhood play, creative art, music & drama
  3. To assess outdoor play environments appropriate for young children
  4. To develop dramatic play opportunities for young children
  5. To promote music and movement exploration in early childhood classrooms
  6. To create diverse avenues for artist expression during the early years
- 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 online activities.
  - The learner will demonstrate an understanding of the arts by observing, participating and creating developmentally appropriate activities.
  - The learner will also demonstrate understanding of the course materials through objective examinations.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Activities / Assessments

This course is made up of a series of assignments and assessments to assist you in achieving the course and module learning objectives. Each day you will work on various combinations of assignments, activities, discussions, readings, research, and projects.

### Journal Article: 20 points total

Course Objective/Learning Outcome # 2: The learner will review research literature associated with childhood art, music, and movement.

The purpose of the article review is for students to become familiar with professional literature about the fine arts in early childhood education. For this assignment students are required to find an article about art, music or movement as they are applicable to young children. Select a peer-reviewed, professional journal article (newspaper, online, or magazine articles are **not** acceptable) through the library website that interests you. Read the article and write a review about what you read. The journal article should **not** be more than 5 years old (2013 and newer). The review should be at least 1+ computer-generated page in length. Include citation data as outlined in the form below using the modified APA format.

#### Citation Reference Requirements

Author/s. Title of article. *Journal name*. Date, year, page numbers (beginning - end).

Diffily, D. The Project Approach: A Museum Exhibit Created by Kindergartners. *Young Children*. January, 1996, 72-75.

**Doc Share** article in pdf format in eCollege.

**Dropbox** written article review in eCollege.

**Assessment Method: Journal article rubric**

**Early Childhood Fine Arts Webliography: 30 points total**

**Course Objective/Learning Outcome # 4-6:** The learner will understand the rationale and content of the fine arts in early childhood education.

Create an annotated webliography of useful YouTube videos appropriate for this course. Select one YouTube video (*not previously chosen*) for **each** of the early childhood fine arts listed under Webliography in eCollege. Post a total of three (3) videos (visual art, music or movement, and drama). Fill in **all** entry data lines and describe the YouTube video in a short paragraph.

**Assessment Method:** Webliography entry

**Literature Review (3): 10 points each – Total 30 points**

**Course Objective/Learning Outcome # 6:** The learner will create diverse avenues for artist expression during the early years.

The purpose of the literature review is for students to become familiar with children’s literature focused on the visual arts. For this assignment students are required to review three art-related children’s literature books appropriate for use in early childhood settings. See Chapter 3 Art assignment online. Use the literature template provided online. [Doc Share](#) literature reviews in eCollege.

**Assessment Method:** Literature template

**Playscape Assessment: 50 points**

**Course Objective/Learning Outcome # 3:** The learner will assess outdoor play environments (playscapes) appropriate for young children.

Visit a playground such as Frisco Commons in Frisco or Kid Quest at DeBusk Park in Mesquite and assess the playscape using the playground rating scale provided online. Write a two-page written evaluation that addresses each of the sections of the playground rating scale. In addition, include pictures of the playground evaluated. [Dropbox](#) playscape paper in eCollege.

**Assessment Method:** Playground Rating Scale

**Story Drama Presentation: 70 points total**

**Course Objective/Learning Outcome # 4:** The learner will develop dramatic play opportunities for young children.

Select an appropriate children’s literature book for presentation to young children in public education. **Adapt** the **storybook** to a creative dramatics format. Using the drama template online include book jacket cover, book citation, script, costumes, and props necessary for classroom presentation plus 3 center-based hands-on activities to enhance concepts introduced through the story drama.

[Doc Share](#) drama lesson in eCollege.

**Assessment Method:** Story Drama Template

### Online Class Discussions (5): 10 points each – Total 50 points

**Course Objective/Learning Outcome # 2:** To review research literature associated with childhood play, creative, art, music/movement & drama

The purpose of a discussion board is for students to enhance critical thinking, and writing skills while providing personal reflections and relevant experiences. These online discussion topics will be available in the eCollege course shell until the **assigned due date**. In order to encourage full class participation, students will be required to post an initial discussion of at least 75 to 100+ words to the assigned chapter topic and respond to any other student's initial posting with at least 50 to 75+ word response by the indicated due date. Since discussion boards have **two** parts, there will be **no partial credit given for only posting or only responding**.

Discussion postings must be substantive **not repetitive** or the student will not be given full credit. Minimum word postings and responses are generally **not** adequate to receive maximum points. If it is apparent to the professor that students have not spent enough time or effort in writing their responses, for example, "I agree. You are absolutely right" followed with a restatement of the post does not constitute an appropriate response. If you experience any issues with posting your discussion, you must contact the toll-free eCollege Helpdesk at 1.866.656.5511 immediately so that your issue is documented with a helpdesk ticket number.

#### Assessment Method: Discussion Board Rubric

### Online Quizzes (5): 10 points each – Total 50 points

**Course Objective/Learning Outcome # 1:** The learner will understand the rationale and content of the fine arts in early childhood education.

There will be a total of 5 chapter quizzes which cover the required textbook readings and the content of the PowerPoint presentations. Chapter quizzes are to be completed online by the dates posted in the syllabus. Each quiz is created from a question pool and each student will get a different set of 5 questions on each quiz. The quizzes will be timed for **15 minutes each** and grades are made available to students following the submission of the quiz. Quiz answers are not available after submission but there is more than enough time to jot down your answers so you can double check against the text book and PowerPoint presentations.

If you lose Internet connectivity during the quiz, log back in immediately and continue on with the exam. Save your answers often (preferably after each answer). If you experience any issues while taking the exam, you must contact the toll-free eCollege Helpdesk at 1.866.656.5511 immediately so that your issue is documented with a helpdesk ticket number. Considerations regarding quiz issues will be made by the instructor on an individual basis based on the documentation provided.

#### Extra Credit Opportunity:

There will be an opportunity to earn extra credit during the semester. Once this opportunity has expired, there will **NOT** be any other extra credit opportunity given. Every person in class has the same opportunity to earn extra credit. Extra credit is not assigned to *only* 1 person, so that s/he may receive a higher grade or pass the class.

## 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 any time they wish.

*Grades will be determined as follows:*

Course Evaluation	
Journal article	20 points
Webliography (3)	30 points
Discussion Boards (5)	50 points
Quizzes (5)	50 points
Literature Reviews (3)	30 points
Playscape Assessment	50 points
Story Drama	70 points

Grading Scale	
A = 90 – 100%	270 – 300 points
B = 80 - 89%	240 – 269 points
C = 70 - 79%	210 – 239 points
D = 60 - 69%	180 – 209 points
F = below 60%	below 180 points

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

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

- To fully participate in online courses, you will need to use a current, Flash enabled browser. For PC users, the suggested browser is Internet Explorer 9.0 or 10. For Mac users, the most current update of Firefox is suggested.
- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
  - sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - speakers or headphones.
- Depending on your course, you might also need a:
  - microphone
  - webcam

(For courses where interactive tools are used, like VoiceThread or ClassLive Pro, headphones are suggested for use with recording and playback. We recommend a webcam with an integrated

microphone, such as the Microsoft LifeCam Cinema. All devices should be installed and configured before class begins.)

- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. Java can be downloaded at: <http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp> (link opens in new window).
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
- You will need some additional free software for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - Adobe Reader
  - Adobe Flash Player
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.
- For additional information about system requirements, please see: <https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical> (link opens in new window).

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 facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio (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.tamuc.edu/login.aspx> (link opens in new window).

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) (link opens in new window).

## 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) (link opens in new window) 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.).

**Note:** Personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, an Internet cafe, or a bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, etc.

### **Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio**

Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure **MUST** be followed?

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org) (link opens in new window) or 1.866.656.5511
2. Students **MUST** file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number
3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should advise me of the problem via e-mail with the helpdesk ticket number
4. At that time, I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you

**NOTE:** Your personal computer/access problems are not a legitimate excuse for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. You are strongly encouraged to check for compatibility of your browser **BEFORE** the course begins and to take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform. **ONLY** Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate.

### **Internet Access**

An Internet connection is necessary to participate in discussions and assignments, access readings, transfer course work, and receive feedback from your professor. View the requirements as outlined in Technology Requirements above for more information.

### **myLeo Support**

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu) (link opens in new window) or call us at 903.468.6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at <https://leo.tamuc.edu> (link opens in new window).

### **Learner Support**

Go to the [One Stop Shop](#) (link opens in new window) created to serve you by attempting to provide as many resources as possible in one location. Go to the [Academic Success Center](#) (link opens in new window) focused on providing academic resources to help you achieve academic success.

<b>COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES</b>
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## **Course and University Policies**

### **Attendance & Participation**

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

1. Good attendance
2. Relevant contributions to course discussions
3. Reading assigned work and course material

4. Polite and civil interactions with all members of the course [“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)]

Students are required to participate in online instruction. Recovering missed course content or assignment information is the responsibility of the student. Reading assignments must be completed and any other assignments must be submitted prior to the stated date and time. Participation in course activities, including discussion groups and small group assignments, is a component of attendance. Failure to prepare and participate effectively will negatively impact the learning processes devised for the course.

### **Assignments and readings**

Material from course assignments may not always be found in your text. Use of online discussions and class activities will be included in most class sessions. Please note that all questions on the examinations will be taken from the text, as well as the PowerPoint presentations, and discussions. Typically, you will be expected to read 1 chapter per topic. It is advised that you do not wait until the night before the exam to start the reading material. It is recommended that you stay current with chapter readings, and read the assigned chapter/s before each class session.

If you would like to review an exam, contact me via e-mail to set up an appointment. If you are having problems in class, contact me immediately. I am better able to help you if you come to me early. Please understand that you should not come to me at the end of the semester, unhappy with your grade, asking for a way to change it. Grades will not be changed.

### **Late Assignments**

Assignments are due on specific dates, as assigned. Assignments will be accepted after the due date **with the exception of online discussion boards, quizzes and exams**. However, a 10 % deduction will be applied to assignments 1 day late, and an additional 5 % for each day thereafter. For example, if an assignment is due by 5:00 PM on Sunday in the drop box of eCollege and is not placed in the drop box until 6:15 PM on Sunday, there will be a 10 % deduction; if the paper is turned in on Wednesday the paper will start to be graded with a grade of 80%.

### **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>  
(all links above open in new window)

## **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@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

(all links open in new window)