

## **Education: Early Childhood Education (EDEC)**

### **EDEC 239 INTRODUCTION TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (3)**

Introduction to the theory and practice of early childhood education (from birth to age eight). Topics include: an overview of historical and contemporary models of early childhood education, principles of developmentally and culturally appropriate practices design of appropriate learning environments, collaboration with diverse families and communities, and professional ethics and development. Course requires 15 hours of participant observation in the field. Grade only.

### **EDEC 331 PRACTICUM IN CHILD STUDY (4)**

This course is for students who have an interest in understanding the development and learning of young children within early childhood settings. During the first part of the course, students explore the field of child development by learning observational techniques, observing individual children, and participating in their classrooms. During the second part of the course, students use the information gained from observational studies to focus on the educational opportunities for social and emotional development within an early childhood classroom. This course can be used in partial fulfillment of requirements for the California Child Development Permit, and it satisfies the requirement for prerequisite fieldwork for admission to the SSU credential programs. Each student will spend at least 45 hours (approximately 3 hours per week) observing and participating in a preschool, kindergarten, or primary classroom that has been approved by the instructor. Grade only.

### **EDEC 420 CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN FAMILY, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY (3)**

Students will explore the physical, cognitive, social, emotional, moral, and language development of children from birth through adolescence. The course covers major theories of child development, including critiques and application of the theories as they relate to children from a variety of cultural and family backgrounds. The impact of child-rearing beliefs, poverty, gender issues, and language development are studied as they relate to developmentally-based practices in educational settings. Students will learn effective school-family communication practices for a diverse society, individualized curriculum to meet the needs of diverse learners, and community resources available to support families. This course is a pre-requisite to the Multiple Subjects credential program, can be applied to the Child Development Permit, and satisfies GE category E (the Integrated Person). Grade only.

### **EDEC 431 CHILD STUDY AND CURRICULUM PRACTICE: PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN (3)**

Classroom observation and participation in preschool and kindergarten settings. Twelve hours per week for seven weeks in each setting. Topics include classroom environment, lesson planning, teaching strategies, discipline, and child study and observation. Grade only. Prerequisite: admission to Multiple Subject CLAD Early Childhood Emphasis Credential program or consent of instructor. Must be taken concurrently with EDUC 476 for Multiple Subject CLAD ECE Emphasis students.

### **EDEC 437 INTEGRATED MULTICULTURAL CURRICULUM IN PRESCHOOL THROUGH ELEMENTARY (4)**

Students will learn to plan and implement developmentally and culturally appropriate curriculum for children in preschool and the early primary grades. The focus is on helping children construct knowledge through an integrated approach that includes all curriculum areas, with emphasis on the development of literacy and mathematics skills and concepts. Students learn to use play-based and teacher-initiated activities to create well-balanced curriculum that aligns with the California Preschool Learning Foundations and the California Curriculum Frameworks for grades K-2. Students will learn to use assessment to evaluate curriculum effectiveness and to inform future curriculum decisions. This course can be used in partial fulfillment of requirements for the California Child Development Permit, and it satisfies the requirement for prerequisite fieldwork for admission to the SSU credential programs. Each student will spend at least 45 hours (approximately 3 hours per week) observing and participating in a preschool, kindergarten, or primary classroom that has been approved by the instructor. Grade only.

### **EDEC 505 ACTION RESEARCH IN PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY CLASSROOMS (3)**

Techniques for conducting ethnographic action research in preschool and elementary settings. Theory and research relating to children's construction of friendships and peer group processes are discussed. Special emphasis is placed on inclusion and exclusion in classroom peer cultures. Grade only.

### **EDEC 530 TEACHING TO DIVERSITY (3)**

Since most aspects of education are influenced by culture, this course is designed to analyze education as a cultural process. The multicultural nature of today's society in California and the United States makes it imperative for educators to include multiple approaches to teaching and learning. This course reviews theoretical and practical perspectives of cultural diversity, crosscultural contact and culturally sensitive pedagogy, particularly for limited English proficient students. Grade only. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

### **EDEC 531 THE ROLE OF PLAY IN DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING (3)**

Students will examine theories from developmental psychology, education, and anthropology to look at the role of play in human experience, from infancy to adulthood. The history of play in educational practice and its relationship to concepts such as ritual, work, and friendship are traced through the study of games, traditional rhymes, fairy tales, and humor, from a variety of cultural perspectives. Topics include play's relationship to learning in all areas of development and academic disciplines, effects of technology and culture on children's play, gender development and play, play environments, play therapy, and play as a tool for developmentally and culturally sensitive curriculum and assessment. Grade only. Prerequisite: graduate student in Education or permission of instructor. Taught fall semester of odd years.

### **EDEC 532 SOCIAL-MORAL DEVELOPMENT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (3)**

Students will explore theories and research addressing social and moral development from infancy through middle childhood. Topics include: attachment and its role in social and moral development, research on the development of prosocial behavior and the ability to take the perspective of others, cultural value differences, gender identity and gender role socialization, development of friendships, resiliency and at-risk children, curriculum that promotes children's social and emotional development, and working with parents to promote children's social and emotional development. Students will plan, implement, and report on action research projects that answer specific questions dealing with social, moral, and emotional development in early childhood education. Grade only. Prerequisite: graduate student in Education or permission of instructor. Taught fall semester of even years.

**EDEC 534 FIRST AND SECOND LANGUAGE CURRICULUM IN PRESCHOOL AND PRIMARY (3)**

Students explore the nature and development of developmentally and culturally appropriate practice in schools with diverse populations, including the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing in first and second languages. From observations of children's language, play and projects in a variety of settings, students will explore the socio- and psycholinguistic underpinnings of communicative competence, emerging literacy and conceptual development in both home and second languages. Strategies for linking children's home and school experiences with holistic, interactive and integrated curriculum will be emphasized as well as a variety of strategies for specially designed academic instruction in English (SDAIE). Grade only.

**EDEC 535 LEAD ADVOCACY FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (3)**

A critical examination of current policy issues related to the inclusion of families in schools, including bilingual education, family literacy programs, Head Start and Even Start, and coordinated services for families and children from diverse cultural, linguistic and socioeconomic background within school settings. Each student will propose and complete a field-based project touching upon one or more of these areas of professional expertise as part of the development of a leadership and advocacy portfolio for the course. Applicable to the Child Development Permit.

**EDEC 537 AUTHENTIC ASSESSMENT IN PRESCHOOL AND PRIMARY PROGRAMS (3)**

This course examines how and what we can learn about children from birth through the primary grades in terms of their cultural backgrounds; physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development; language and literacy development; and academic performance. Different methods of studying and assessing children in both their first and second languages are explored, including observational techniques, clinical interviews, ethnographic methods, and portfolio development. The integration of curriculum and assessment to meet the needs of children and families from diverse cultural, linguistic, and economic backgrounds is stressed. Grade only. Prerequisite: graduate student in Education or permission of instructor. Taught spring semester of odd years.

**EDEC 538 THE DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGE AND THINKING: INFANCY THROUGH MIDDLE CHILDHOOD (3)**

This course addresses the development of children from birth through middle childhood with emphasis on the relationships between language development and cognitive development. We will study the ideas of major theorists: Piaget, Erikson, Bruner, Vygotsky, Mead, and others who address the development of children's representational thinking, language, and cross-cultural and family influences on development and learning. We will also explore current research on brain development in the first five years of life from a critical perspective and with an emphasis on practical implications. We will study current research and theories of cognitive, social, and emotional development as related to oral, written, and spoken language development in home and in school/care environments. The development of both first and second languages will be examined. Grade only. Prerequisite: graduate student in Education or permission of instructor. Taught spring semester of even years.

**EDEC 539 RESEARCH EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (3)**

Critical analysis and evaluation of qualitative and quantitative research in Early Childhood Education, and implications for curriculum in schools and care programs serving children infancy through the primary grades of elementary school are addressed. Research and policy studies addressing quality indicators in programs for young children across all areas of curriculum are included, as well as factors such as the physical environment, schedules, and teachers' professional development. The focus is on integration of research findings and methodologies to improve the quality of programs designed to serve young children and their families. Grade only. Prerequisite: permission of instructor or acceptance to Master of Arts in Education program.

**EDEC 578 PROJECT CONTINUATION (1-3)****EDEC 593 APPROACHES TO SCHOOLING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (3)**

Historical and philosophical perspectives on the care and education of young children from early centuries to the present day, including models from Europe, China, Japan, Africa and Latin America. Topics include the roles of the child and the teacher, design of curriculum and environments for learning, and approaches to diversity in classrooms and communities. Grade only.

**EDEC 595 SPECIAL STUDIES (1-4)**