

Introduction to Early Childhood Education

Instructor: Cheryl Wright, PhD

Course: FCS 2600 Intro to Early Childhood Education

Department: Family and Consumer Studies

Credit Hours: 3

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on child development and childcare during the early years.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Describe “what is good education” for young children and families.
2. Compare and contrast the different types of early childhood education.
3. Outline various methods of fostering play and creativity in the classroom for young children.
4. Articulate how to develop an early childhood curriculum that includes cross-cultural, nonsexist education.
5. Describe how to encourage social competence in young children.
6. Compare and contrast the conventional teaching method for young children and the emergent approach particularly in regard to the development of literacy skills.
7. Implement a daily routine for young children that supports the physical, social, emotional, cognitive and creative selves of the child.
8. Describe the benefits of standards and assessments for young children and families.
9. Articulate the value of including family members in the classroom and various ways of making the classroom “family-friendly”.
10. Communicate why both emotional health and physical health are fundamental to the well-being of young children and how to construct an environment to foster the health of both simultaneously.

ASSIGNMENTS:

This is a writing intensive course with weekly writing assignments based on readings and videos.