

ED 120

Play

3 Credits

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ED 120 Version: 22



Play

Calendar Description

This course is an overview of the significance of play in the development of the child. It includes nature and development of play in the environment and explores how early childhood educators co-construct meaningful play experiences with the child and their family. Special consideration is given to designing responsive environments and focusing on children's natural disposition to learn in both indoor and outdoor play spaces.

Rationale

This is a required course for Early Learning and Child Care Certificate students and an optional course for Child and Youth Care and Educational Assistant students. The course provides the foundation for understanding the importance of play for children. The course is based on the skills of observation, creating inviting and safe play spaces, co-constructing meaning, and documenting learning stories while appreciating the theoretical foundation involved with play.

Prerequisites

None

Co-Requisites

None

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

1. explain and support the importance and nature of play.
2. summarize the historical and theoretical foundations of play.
3. discuss images of the child in society and describe the image of the child within the framework of the "mighty learner and citizen".
4. describe and practice the observation and documentation techniques using objective language.
5. demonstrate thoughtfulness in creating responsive environments and recognizing the importance of routines and transitions.

6. demonstrate creating and transforming a play space to invite co-inquiry and co-construction with children.
7. interact with children and document the experience through the lens of reflective practice.
8. recognize and identify areas of learning and development in play.

Resource Materials

Required Text(s):

Dietze, B., & Kashin, D. (2019). *Playing and learning in early childhood education*. (2nd ed.).

Pearson Canada Inc.

Reference Text(s):

Makovichuk, L., Hewes, J., Lirette, P., & Thomas, N. (2014). *Flight Alberta's early learning and care framework*. <https://flightframework.ca/>

Pimento, B., & Kernested, D. (2010). *Healthy foundations in early childhood settings*. (4th ed.).

Thomson Nelson.

Conduct of Course

This course includes lectures, discussions, Pinterest and readings designed to provide students with theoretical knowledge and to assist students in developing an understanding of the importance of play in children's lives. Students must have access to children to complete the course assignments. A clear criminal record check with a vulnerable sector check must be provided to the agency that the students work with to complete the assignments. Assignments are designed as opportunities to live the learning and encourage the development of their philosophical knowledge of Early Learning and Child Care - Learning through play.

Evaluation Procedures

Students are expected to do all assignments.

Play experiences assignment 1	30%
Mini quizzes	20%
Play experiences assignment 2	35%
Pinterest assignment	<u>15%</u>
Total	100%

Grade Equivalents and Course Pass Requirements

A minimum grade of D (50%) (1.00) is required to pass this course.

Letter	F	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Percent Range	0-49	50-52	53-56	57-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95-100
Points	0.00	1.00	1.30	1.70	2.00	2.30	2.70	3.00	3.30	3.70	4.00	4.0

Students must maintain a cumulative average grade of C (GPA - Grade Point Average of 2.00) in order to qualify to graduate.

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for success in any course. Absence for any reason does not relieve a student of the responsibility of completing course work and assignments to the satisfaction of the instructor. Frequent absences may result in the student being placed on probation. Further absences may result in suspension from the program.

In cases of repeated absences due to illness, the student may be requested to submit a medical certificate.

Instructors have the authority to require attendance in classes.

Course Units/Topics

Module I The Importance of Play

Unit 1 Importance of Play

Unit 2 Play Theories and Contemporary Issues

Module II Children's Play

Unit 1 Views of the Child

Unit 2 Practice of Relationships

Unit 3 Diversity/Inclusion

Module III Observation of Children's Play

- Unit 1 Guidelines for Observation
- Unit 2 Written Observations
- Unit 3 Types of Observations
- Unit 4 Subjective/Objective Language

Module IV Responsive Environments

- Unit 1 Components of the Environment
 - 1) Routines
 - 2) Transitions
- Unit 2 Creating the Space
 - 1) Materials and Loose Parts
 - 2) Outdoor Space
 - 3) Play Structures
 - 4) Exploring Our Community
- Unit 3 Curriculum Connections
 - 1) Links to Curriculum Goals
 - 2) Play Based Development
- Unit 4 Documentation/Communication
 - 1) Reflective Practice



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