

Virginia Western Community College

CHD 120

Introduction to Early Childhood Education

Prerequisites

None

Course Description

Introduces early childhood development through activities and experiences in early childhood, pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and primary programs. Investigates classroom organization and procedures, and use of classroom time and materials, approaches to education for young children, professionalism, and curricular procedures.

Lecture 3 hours. Total 3 hours per week.

3 credits

Semester Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Required Materials

1. Textbook
2. Internet access
3. Canvas

Textbook:

Choice

Early Childhood Education Today (RRPHE). 15th edition; Morrison. ISBN: 9780135754283

Other Required Materials:

None

Course Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Describe and illustrate theoretical and historical bases of early childhood education
- Classify and interpret developmental characteristics of young children from infancy through age eight
- Compare and contrast physical, cognitive, social, and emotional differences among children from infancy through age eight when planning appropriate curriculum
- Classify and critique characteristics of developmentally appropriate materials and activities
- Explain the importance of guiding daily routines and group activities for young children
- Practice techniques for creating and maintaining appropriate environments and curriculum which meet the needs of all young children
- Articulate the importance of culture in planning classroom experiences, communicating with families, and guiding behavior of young children
- Identify and explain basic health, safety, and nutritional needs of children
- Discuss positive guidance and behavior management strategies
- Describe the teacher's role in reporting suspected child abuse
- Define and demonstrate professional ethics and confidentiality when working with children and families
- Identify and apply learning standards as they relate to early childhood education: the Virginia Foundation Blocks, the Child Development Milestones, the Virginia Standards of Learning, and Core Competencies for Early Childhood Professionals.

Topical Description

1	Legal and professional requirements in an early childhood setting
2	Emerging professional identity and educational philosophy
3	Professional organizations, periodicals, and journals and advocacy practices in the field of Early Childhood education

Notes to Instructors

1. All students must complete 10 hours of classroom observation. Programs must include the following: infant/toddler, preschool, Montessori, primary.

[ADA Statement \(PDF\)](#)

[Title IX Statement \(PDF\)](#)