

Professional Development Course Syllabus

Course Number: ED 550

Course Title: **VESi:Early Childhood: Program Planning**

Instructor: Aumony Dahl, M.Ed. Semester Credit(s): **3** Total Cost for Credit: **\$480.00**

Deadline to submit student registrations and payment to NNU: First day of class

1. Educational Goals for the Course:

- This course will discuss numerous considerations for planning and implementing a comprehensive, research-based curriculum for young children. Various perspectives on the history and theory behind early childhood education and child development will be examined, in addition to discussing various forms of diversity among children. We will also discuss what curriculum is, and identify guidelines presented by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) for appropriate curriculum for young children through eight years of age. We will take an overall look at the basic steps for creating an appropriate curriculum, planning a daily schedule, and creating lesson plans and activities for early childhood programs. In addition to focusing our attention on appropriate curricular approaches, we will touch briefly on several curricular approaches to avoid.
- The course will take a more in-depth look at appropriate curriculum for various age groups such as infants and toddlers, preschoolers, and primary school children. Curricular considerations for integrating specific content areas such as language and literacy, math and science, and social studies and expressive arts will also be discussed.

2. Instructional Learning Objectives:

- Identify the general guidelines for early childhood curriculum, assessment, and evaluation as presented by NAEYC.
- Explain the key components of a developmentally appropriate program (DAP) for young children.
- Discuss numerous ways to make adaptations, accommodations, and modifications for students with special learning needs.
- Explain the three principles for learning presented by the National Research Council (1999) that directly apply to classroom teaching for children of all ages.
- Discuss research-based positions and standards for various curricular content areas.
- Identify and plan key components of an integrated early childhood curriculum that fosters curiosity and promotes the process of inquiry.
- Describe a variety of ways to integrate language and literacy, mathematics and science, and social studies and expressive arts activities in meaningful ways throughout the early childhood curriculum.
- Provide the most current requirements for earning a CDA Credential or NAEYC Accreditation.

3. Course Requirements:

- Read and complete all information presented.
- Complete all the examinations, showing a competent understanding of the material presented in those subsections with 70% accuracy or better.
- Complete course evaluation.

4. Dates, Times and Location of Proposed Course:

(1 Semester Credit Equals 15 Professor Contact Hours plus an additional 30 Hours Outside Work)

TBD and will meet accreditation standards for a three-semester credit course. Ending date must be specified at the time of registration and must be within 6 months of start date

5. Due Dates for Completion of Course Requirements: Within 6 months of registration.

6. Learning Resources and Required Text:

Early Childhood: Program Planning, Aumony Dahl, M.Ed; Virtual Education Software, inc. ©2008
Technology Requirements: The software program is designed to be loaded onto the hard drive of your personal computer from a compact disk (CD). The software is designed to operate on Mac OS 9 or OS 10x, 256MB of RAM and 5MB of free hard disk space, 15" or larger color monitor with a minimum resolution of 800x600, CD driver 4x minimum speed and a printer connected to your computer OR Windows 2000 XP Home, Professional, or newer, 256MB of RAM and 5MB of free hard disk space; 15" or larger color monitor with a minimum resolution of 800x600, CD driver 4x minimum speed and a printer connected to your computer. Please contact VESi if you have any questions about the compatibility of these systems.

7. Evaluation Procedure: Pass/Fail

As this is a self-paced computerized instruction program, you may review course information as often as necessary. You will not be able to exit any examinations until you have answered all questions. If you try to exit the exam section before you complete all questions your information will be lost. You are expected to complete the entire exam in one sitting.

11/12/09