EDU 122 Introduction to Early Childhood Education

Course Abstract

Course ID and Name: Introduction to Early Childhood Education EDU 122

Department: History and Social Sciences
Chairperson or Course Coordinator: Timothy Hack
Office Location: RH 128
E-mail Address: thack@middlesexcc.edu
Telephone: 732.906.2590

Prerequisites: PSY 123 (Introduction to Psychology)   **Co-requisites:** N/A

Course Description:
This course provides an introduction to the field of early education (Pre-K-3). It includes a review of historical, cultural, and societal influences on education as well as current trends in the field. It also explores the role of the educator, the educational setting, and addresses general teaching approaches, educational theory, and classroom management issues. Students will complete 25 observational hours in an early childhood educational setting.

General Education Status:

Credits: 3   **Lecture Hours:** 3   **Lab Hours:**

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

1. Discuss the various responsibilities of an effective teacher including the development and implementation of lesson plans in an early childhood setting.
2. Define and recognize various educational philosophies and the importance of developing a personal educational philosophy statement.
3. Identify and describe historical, societal, legal, ethical, cultural, and contemporary influences on education.
4. Articulate the importance and value of national and state educational standards.
5. Develop oral, visual, and written summaries of educational concepts.
6. Identify and discuss essential components of an effective and developmentally appropriate learning environment.

Course Content Areas:

Educator
Characteristics of an effective educator; Teaching philosophy; Teacher qualifications and overview of certification process; Teacher evaluation

Field of Education and Educational Setting
Overview of early childhood general and special education school settings; Importance of early childhood educational experiences and early intervention for children with developmental delays; Role of Board of Education; Historical, social, and cultural influences on education; Legal (ex. Brown vs. Board of Education; IDEA, NCLB) and Ethical issues in education; Current trends and contemporary issues (ex. Authentic assessment); Common Core Standards

Teaching and Assessment
Physical characteristics of educational setting; Teaching approaches for the young child; Classroom management strategies; Teaching with technology; Bloom's taxonomy and planning lessons; Evaluating learning through assessment and standardized testing; Working with parents and the community