Course Title: Foundational Issues in Early Childhood
Semester Course Prefix and Number: EDUC 1515
Old Quarter Course Prefix and Number: 
Course Outline
Submitted By: Dawn Olson
Approval Date: December 2006
Revision Date: 
Number of Credits: 3
Number of Lecture Credits: 3
Number of Lab Credits: 
Number of Lab Hours: 
Number of Studio/Demonstration/Internship Credits: 
(Numbers must be approved by AASC or SGC)

Course Purpose Code:

0 – Developmental Courses
1 – Non-transferable, General Education
2 – Technical course related to career programs
3 – College course which has the primary goal of applying certain concepts (e.g. vocal ensemble)
4 – Other college course not considered a part of general education (MNTC) (e.g. computer science, health, physical education)
5 – Course which is intended to fulfill the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MNTC) requirements or intended for transfer.
9 – Continuing Education/Customized Training specialized credit course (not occurring in 0-5)

Catalog Description:
This course will explore historical and cultural foundations of early childhood programs while examining theoretical models and strategies that will enable students to develop positive interactions with young children.

Prerequisites and/or recommended entry skills/knowledge:
Course Prerequisite(s): None
Reading Prerequisite: College level
Composition Prerequisite: College level
Mathematics Prerequisite: None

Career Programs and Transfer Majors Accessing this Course:
Students wishing to pursue a degree in education or early childhood studies.

Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal(s) partially met by this course if applicable:
(Notes: No more than two goals may be met by any one course. Curriculum Committee review and the Chief Academic Officer’s approval are required.)
0. None
1. Communications
2. Critical Thinking
3. Natural Sciences
4. Mathematical/Logical Reasoning
5. History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences
6. The Humanities and Fine Arts
7. Human Diversity
8. Global Perspectives
9. Ethical and Civic Responsibility
10. People and the Environment
Learning Outcomes: (including any relevant competencies listed in the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum)

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
- Analyze a variety of early childhood theories
- Define and demonstrate developmentally appropriate learning experiences for children birth through age eight
- Articulate and demonstrate differentiated instruction

Student Assessment Methods:
- Compile a journal and write three reflection papers regarding early childhood theories
- Develop a position statement on developmentally appropriate practice
- Submit four developmentally appropriate lesson plans and implement them in an early childhood setting
- Peer and cooperating teacher evaluations
- Exams

Use of Instructional Technology: (includes software, interactive video and other instructional technologies):
- DVDs, digital camera, Desire 2Learn

Outline or Statement of Major Course Content:
- History of early childhood education
- Theories of early childhood: Piaget, Erickson, Vygotsky, Dewey, Montessori
- The Reggio Emilia approach to early childhood
- The National Association for the Education of Young Children
- Developmentally appropriate practice
- Differentiated instruction
- From theory to practice

Additional Special Information: (special fees, directives on hazardous materials, etc.)

Transfer Information: (Please list colleges/majors that accept this course in transfer.)
- UMD Unified Early Childhood Degree

Approvals:

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Distribution: Original – Administrative Office
Copies: Curriculum Committee Chair, AASC Chair, Transfer Specialist, Originating Faculty Member, Scheduler, Records, Student Services, Learning Center, Library
Revised: October 2006