



Course Descriptions

Early Childhood Education

EDU 119 Introduction to Early Childhood Education

This course introduces the foundations of culturally responsive, equitable and inclusive early childhood education, planning intentional developmentally appropriate experiences, learning activities, and teaching strategies for indoor and outdoor environments for all young children, guidance techniques, and professionalism. Topics include theoretical foundations, national early learning standards, NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development, state regulations, program types, career options, professionalism, ethical conduct, quality inclusive environments, guidance techniques, and curriculum responsive to the needs of each child/family. Upon completion, students should be able to implement developmentally appropriate environments, guidance techniques, schedules, and teaching strategies across developmental domains to support culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse children and their families in inclusive settings, and design a personal career/professional development plan.

EDU 131 Child, Family, and Community

This course covers the development of partnerships among culturally, linguistically and ability diverse families, children, schools and communities through the use of evidence-based strategies. Emphasis is placed on developing skills and identifying benefits for establishing and supporting respectful relationships between diverse families, programs/schools, and community agencies/resources reflective of the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct and the Code of Ethics for North Carolina Educators. Upon completion, students should be able to identify appropriate relationship building strategies between diverse families, children birth through adolescence, schools, and communities and demonstrate a variety of communication skills including appropriate use of technology to support every child.

EDU 144 Child Development I

This course includes the theories of child development, observation and assessment, milestones, and factors that influence development, from conception through approximately 36 months. Emphasis is placed on knowledge, observation and assessment of developmental sequences in approaches to play/learning, emotional/social, health/physical, language/communication and cognitive domains. Upon completion, students should be able to compare/contrast typical/atypical developmental characteristics, explain biological and environmental factors that impact development, and identify evidence-based strategies for enhancing development for children that are culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse.

EDU 145 Child Development II

This course includes the theories of child development, observation and assessment, milestones, and factors that influence development, from preschool through middle childhood. Emphasis is placed on knowledge, observation and assessment of developmental sequences in approaches to play/learning, emotional/social, health/physical, language/communication and cognitive domains. Upon completion, students should be able to compare/contrast typical/atypical developmental characteristics, explain biological and environmental factors that impact development, and identify evidence-based strategies for enhancing development for children that are culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse.

EDU 146 Child Guidance

This course introduces evidence-based strategies to build nurturing relationships with each child by applying principles and practical techniques to facilitate developmentally appropriate guidance. Topics include designing responsive/supportive learning environments, cultural, linguistic and socio-economic influences on behavior, appropriate expectations, the importance of communication with children/families including using technology and the use of formative assessments in establishing intentional strategies for children with unique needs. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate direct/indirect strategies to encourage social skills, self-regulation, emotional expression and positive behaviors while recognizing the relationship between children's social, emotional and cognitive development.



EDU 151 Creative Activities

This course introduces developmentally supportive, diverse, equitable, and inclusive creative learning environments with attention to divergent thinking, creative problem-solving, evidence-based teaching practices, and open-ended learning materials and activities that align with the NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development. Emphasis is placed on best practices providing process-driven culturally diverse, learning experiences in art, music, creative movement, dance, and dramatic play integrated across all domains and academic content in indoor/outdoor environments for every young child age birth through age eight. Upon completion, students should be able to observe, examine, create, adapt, and advocate for developmentally appropriate creative learning materials, experiences, and environments for children that are culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse.

EDU 153 Health, Safety and Nutrition

This course covers promoting and maintaining the health and well-being of every child. Topics include health and nutritional guidelines, common childhood illnesses, maintaining safe and healthy learning environments, health benefits of active play, recognition and reporting of abuse/neglect, and state regulations. Upon completion, students should be able to apply knowledge of NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development for health, safety, nutritional needs and safe learning environments.

EDU 158 Healthy Lifestyles-Youth

This course covers maintaining the health and well-being of all school-age children. Topics include health, safety, nutrition, physical activities and environments that promote development, fitness, and healthy lifestyles. Upon completion, students should be able to plan developmentally appropriate, safe/healthy physical activities that support the healthy development of school-age children, be able to plan and identify healthy eating choices that support healthy development as well as design safety policies and procedures and environments that promote healthy lifestyles.

EDU 163 Classroom Management and Instruction

This course examines classroom management and evidence-based instructional strategies that create supportive learning environments to provide culturally, linguistically and developmentally appropriate guidance for school-age populations. Topics include classroom management and organization, teaching strategies, individual student differences and learning styles, ongoing systematic observation, and developmentally appropriate classroom guidance techniques. Upon completion, student should be able to utilize developmentally appropriate behavior management, utilize high-quality instructional strategies that enhance the teaching/learning process and promote students' academic success.

EDU 175 Introduction to Trade and Industrial Education

This course introduces the philosophy, scope, and objectives of industrial education. Topics include the development of industrial education, employment opportunities, current events, current practices, and emerging trends. Upon completion, students should be able to describe the history, identify current practices, and describe current trends in industrial education.

EDU 177 Instructional Methods

This course covers instructional methods in technical education with emphasis on competency-based instruction. Topics include writing objectives, industrial methods, and determining learning styles. Upon completion, students should be able to select and demonstrate the use of a variety of instructional methods.

EDU 179 Vocational Student Organizations

This course covers planning and organizing vocational youth clubs by understanding the structure and operating procedures to use club activities for personal and professional growth. Topics include self-assessment to set goals, club structure, election and installation of officers, club activities, function of committees, running meetings, contest preparation, and leadership skills. Upon completion students should be able to set personal goals, outline club structure, elect and install officers.

EDU 187 Teaching and Learning for All

This course introduces students to knowledge, concepts, and best practices needed to provide developmentally appropriate, effective, inclusive, and culturally responsive educational experiences in the classroom. Topics include growth and development, learning theory, student motivation, teaching diverse learners, classroom management, inclusive environments, student-centered practices, instructional strategies, teaching methodologies, observation/assessment techniques, educational planning, reflective practice, collaboration, cultural competence, ethics, professionalism, and leadership. Upon completion, students should be able to identify the knowledge, skills, roles, and responsibilities of an effective educator as defined by state and national professional teaching standards.



EDU 216 Foundations of Education

This course introduces the examination of the American educational systems and the teaching profession. Topics include the historical and philosophical influences on education, various perspectives on educational issues, and experiences in birth through grade 12 classrooms. Upon completion, students should be able to reflect on classroom observations, analyze the different educational approaches, including classical/traditional and progressive, and have knowledge of the various roles of educational systems at the federal, state and local level.

EDU 234 Infants, Toddlers, and Twos

Prerequisite: EDU 144

This course covers the development of high-quality, individualized, responsive/engaging relationships and experiences for infants, toddlers, and twos. Emphasis is placed on typical and atypical child development, working with diverse families to provide positive, supportive, and engaging early learning activities and interactions through field experiences and the application of the NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate responsive curriculum planning, respectful relationships and exposure to a variety of developmentally appropriate experiences/materials that support a foundation for healthy development and growth of culturally, linguistically and ability diverse children birth to 36 months.

EDU 235 School-Age Activities

This course introduces developmentally supportive, inclusive, and creative learning environments for school-age programs, focusing on diverse, equitable, and engaging experiences in art, music, movement, and dramatic play. Emphasis is placed on fostering divergent thinking, creative problem-solving, and integrating process-driven activities across academic subjects in both indoor and outdoor settings. Upon completion, students should be able to observe, analyze, design, adapt, and advocate for creative learning opportunities that reflect the cultural, linguistic, and ability diversity of school-age children, ensuring accessibility and meaningful engagement in developmentally appropriate and inclusive educational experiences.

EDU 250 Teacher Licensure Preparation

Corequisite: Take one set: ENG 111 and MAT 143; ENG 111 and MAT 152; ENG 111 and MAT 171

This course provides information and strategies necessary for transfer to a teacher licensure program at a senior institution. Topics include entry level teacher licensure exam preparation, performance based assessment systems, requirements for entry into teacher education programs, the process to become a licensed teacher in North Carolina, and professionalism including expectations within the field of education. Upon completion, students should be able to utilize educational terminology and demonstrate knowledge of teacher licensure processes including exam preparation, technology based portfolio assessment, and secondary admissions processes to the school of education at a senior institution.

EDU 252 Math and Science Activities

This course introduces discovery experiences in math and science. Topics include concepts, facts, phenomena, and skills in each area. Upon completion, students should be able to identify, plan, select materials and equipment, and implement and evaluate developmentally appropriate curriculum materials.

EDU 259 Curriculum Planning

Prerequisite: EDU 119

This course is designed to focus on using content knowledge to build effective developmentally appropriate approaches that are culturally responsive, equitable, and ability diverse for young children. Topics include components of curriculum, a variety of curriculum models, authentic observation and assessment, and planning developmentally appropriate experiences and indoor/outdoor environments aligned with the NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development. Upon completion, students should be able to understand, evaluate, and use developmentally appropriate curriculum to plan for the individual/group needs of young children.

EDU 261 Early Childhood Administration I

Corequisite: EDU 119

This course provides an overview of essential administrative components for managing early childhood programs, including child development, program frameworks, North Carolina child care rules and regulations, effective leadership practices, reflective supervision, and the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct. Emphasis is placed on personnel management, financial planning, reflective supervision strategies, child development principles, ethical decision-making, and ensuring compliance with state regulations to maintain high-quality learning environments. Upon completion, students should be able to apply program standards, manage staffing and budgets, implement reflective supervision to support professional growth, integrate child development knowledge into program



planning, uphold ethical responsibilities following the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct, and navigate regulatory requirements to support successful early childhood program operations.

EDU 262 Early Childhood Administration II

Prerequisite: EDU 261

Corequisite: EDU 119

This course is designed to prepare students for leadership roles in licensed child care facilities in North Carolina by focusing on curriculum development, program assessment, and resource management for centers and families. Emphasis is placed on best practices in early childhood curriculum, quality improvement strategies, advocacy, and leadership in early learning environments. Upon completion, students should be able to implement developmentally appropriate curriculum, assess program effectiveness, support families with relevant resources, and advocate for policies that enhance early childhood education and program quality.

EDU 263 School-Age Program Administration

This course introduces the methods and procedures for development and administration of school-age programs in the public or proprietary setting. Emphasis is placed on the construction and organization of the physical environment. Upon completion, students should be able to plan, develop and administer a quality school-age program.

EDU 270 Effective Instructional Environments

This course is designed to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to create, manage, and assess effective instructional environments, learning attitudes, and behaviors for today's diverse learning population. Topics include organizing the learning environment, fostering positive learning attitudes, supporting healthy stakeholder partnerships, engaging students using effective differentiated instruction, guiding, and managing student behaviors, and assessing student progress. Upon completion of this course, learners will demonstrate effective dispositions of the professional educator that include managing schedules, spaces, and resources, promoting supportive learning mindsets, engaging students with diverse instructional strategies, guiding student behaviors to maximize both the instructional and social climate, and analyzing and effectively responding to student progress.

EDU 271 Educational Technology

This course introduces the appropriate and ethical use of technology that is inclusive of digital and analog materials/tools to enhance teaching and learning in all educational settings. Emphasis is placed on the developmentally appropriate use of technology with children, ethical issues, digital citizenship, instructional strategies, assistive technology, and the use of technology for professional development and communication with families. Upon completion, student should be able to demonstrate professional and ethical implementation of various modes of technology in culturally responsive and equitable ways to support diverse children, families and communities.

EDU 272 Technology, Data, and Assessment

This course is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills to utilize digital instructional technologies and technology-based assessments to plan and implement appropriate educational experiences and interventions in the classroom. Topics include educational technology to enhance instruction, instructional technologies for teaching, technology-based assessment, formative and summative assessments, data to inform practice, and ethical practices for technology and assessment. Upon completion, students will be able to demonstrate effective integration of educational technology into classroom practice, appropriate use of technology-based assessments, and practical application of data to inform educational planning and interventions.

EDU 277 Integrated Curriculum and Instructional Strategies: Math/Science

This course is designed to provide learners with the content knowledge, instructional methods/materials, and assessment techniques needed to provide research-based math and science K - 12 instruction. Topics include essential math and science concepts and skills, developmentally appropriate pedagogy, culturally responsive instruction, standards-based outcomes, technology enhanced lesson planning, formative/summative assessments, research-based interventions, authentic learning experiences, and reflective practice. Upon completion, learners will be able to plan, implement, assess, and reflect on developmentally appropriate math and science instruction aligned to the NC Standard Course of Study, other professional and national standards.

EDU 278 Integrated Curriculum and Instructional Strategies: Social Studies/ELA

This course is designed to provide learners with the content knowledge, instructional methods/materials, and assessment techniques needed to provide research-based social studies and ELA K -12 instruction. Topics include essential social studies and ELA concepts and skills, developmentally appropriate pedagogy, culturally responsive instruction, standards-based outcomes, technology enhanced lesson planning, formative/summative assessments, research-based interventions, authentic learning experiences, and reflective



practice. Upon completion, learners will be able to plan, implement, assess, and reflect on developmentally appropriate social studies and ELA instruction aligned to the NC Standard Course of Study, other professional and national standards.

EDU 279 Literacy Development and Instruction

This course is designed to provide students with concepts and skills of literacy development, instructional methods/materials and assessment techniques needed to provide scientifically-based, systematic reading and writing instruction into educational practice. Topics include literacy concepts, reading and writing development, developmentally appropriate pedagogy, culturally-responsive instruction, standards-based outcomes, lesson planning, formative/summative assessment, recognizing reading difficulties, research-based interventions, authentic learning experiences, classroom implementation, and reflective practice. Upon completion, students should be able to plan, implement, assess, evaluate, and demonstrate developmentally appropriate literacy instruction aligned to the NC Standard Course of Study and other state and national standards.

EDU 280 Language and Literacy Experiences

This course provides evidence-based strategies for enhancing language and literacy experiences that align with NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development. Topics include developmental sequences for children's emergent receptive and expressive language, print concepts, appropriate observations/assessments, literacy enriched environments, quality selection of diverse literature, interactive media, and inclusive practices. Upon completion, students should be able to select, plan, implement and evaluate developmentally appropriate language and literacy experiences for children who are culturally, linguistically and ability diverse.

EDU 281 Instructional Strategies in Reading and Writing

This course covers concepts, resources, and methods for teaching reading and writing to elementary through middle-grade children. Topics include the importance of literacy, learning styles, skills assessment, various reading and writing approaches and instructional strategies. Upon completion, students should be able to assess, plan, implement and evaluate school-age literacy experiences as related to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study.

EDU 283 Educator Preparation Practicum

This course is designed to allow learners to demonstrate acquired skills and competencies in a developmentally appropriate learning environment. Topics include dispositions of effective teachers, portfolio assessment development, reflective practice, teaching methods, assessment strategies, and professional practices based on state and national Teaching Standards. Upon completion, learners should be able to provide a portfolio assessment with evidence of ethical/professional standards, respect for a diverse population in learning environments, content knowledge, appropriate guidance intervention, and grade-level technology enhanced lesson planning/assessments through practices in the classroom environment.

EDU 284 Early Childhood Capstone Practicum

Prerequisite: Take one set: (1) EDU-119, EDU-144, EDU-145, EDU-146, EDU-151; (2) EDU-119 PSY-244 PSY-245 EDU-146 EDU-151; (3) EDU-119, EDU-144, PSY-245, EDU-146, EDU-151; (4) EDU-119, PSY-244, EDU-145, EDU-146, EDU-151

This course is designed to allow students to demonstrate acquired skills in a three star (minimum) or NAEYC accredited or equivalent, quality early childhood environment. Emphasis is placed on designing, implementing and evaluating developmentally appropriate activities and environments for all children; supporting/engaging families; and modeling reflective and professional practices based on national and state guidelines. Upon completion, students should be able to apply NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development to demonstrate developmentally appropriate plans/assessments, appropriate guidance techniques and ethical/professional behaviors, including the use of appropriate technology, as indicated by assignments and onsite faculty assessments.