

**Three Rivers Community College**  
**ECE K231 Early Language and Literacy Development**  
**Course Syllabus**

**Jennifer DeFrance, MA Ed.**

[jdefrance@trcc.commnet.edu](mailto:jdefrance@trcc.commnet.edu)

Phone Number:

Office Number:

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesdays or by appointment

**Course Description:**

Prerequisite: ENG\* K101 , ECE K101 and ECE K182 are recommendedThe course introduces students to language and literacy development in the young child from birth to eight years old. Students will explore the early childhood language arts curriculum including speaking, listening, writing, and reading skills. An emphasis will be on the influence of child development milestones on an emerging literacy development. This course will also include experience in the creation of a literacy-rich environment that engages children in developmentally-appropriate language areas.

**Required Texts:**

Machado, Jeanne. Early Childhood Experiences in Language Arts (8<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Thompson Delmar Learning. 2007. ISBN 10:1-4180-0026-4

Additional readings will be assigned throughout the semester.

**Course Objectives:**

Explain language development in young children.

Identify teaching techniques and activities that promote language and literacy acquisition for all young children.

Understand the variety of techniques available to encourage young children's language and literacy development.

Develop a literacy-rich environment with consideration for the diverse needs of young children and their different learning styles.

Select quality books for children.

Promote language development through a print rich environment and variety of activities.

**Upon successful completion of this course the student will:**

Develop literacy tools to apply to everyday routines with young children.

Understand the importance of connecting children's language and culture to the early

childhood program.

Create respectful, reciprocal relationships with families and the community. (NAEYC Standard 2)

Use developmentally effective teaching and learning strategies and have sound knowledge of academic disciplines or content areas to give children experiences that promote development and learning. (NAEYC Standard 4)

**Policies:**

Class attendance is required. The greatest amount of learning occurs during class time which is not covered by required assignments. Two late arrivals or early departures will count as one missed class. For each class missed ten points will be deducted, upon the fourth absence you may be dismissed from the class. Attendance is taken at the beginning of class. Lateness is disruptive, discourteous and usually unwarranted. Please be on time.

The student is responsible for all materials covered in class as well as the assignments. If a student misses a class it is the student's responsibility to get the notes from another student. Do not call the Instructor and ask for a review of the class. Learn to rely on your syllabus and / or another student. You may want to share your contact information with other students to help facilitate this process.

Active participation in class discussions and activities is required. Students are expected to complete assigned readings prior to class and come to class prepared to discuss them. Throughout the course there will be other written assignments to help guide your studies which will be handed in and counted as part of your participation grade. *Yes - grades are important. They allow you to advance to other classes, graduate, and eventually get a great job. However, the value of learning itself is so important. Acquiring knowledge, especially about a subject you are passionate about, is very empowering. Learning for the sake of learning increases your confidence and in fact makes you want to learn more. Thus it's important to participate, get involved in class discussions and ask questions.*

Spelling and grammar will be included as part of the grade for all written work. Thus, proper spelling and careful proofreading are important. Please see the assignment instructions / grading rubrics for requirements. Extra credit projects will not be

accepted. Students are urged to devote their time and energy to fulfilling stated class requirements.

Make-ups for scheduled tests is not allowed, unless arrangements are made with the instructor in advance. Make-ups must be done in a timely manner.

It is assumed that all assignments will be completed and turned in on time. Fifteen points will be deducted from a late assignment. Assignments will not be accepted beyond a one-week extension.

Lap top computers and tape recorders may be used during class time, with prior permission and for the purpose of note taking only. Calculators and computers are prohibited during exams. Cell phones, pagers, ipods, and other similar devices must be turned off during class.

Students with disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss options with the instructor as early as possible. You will need to provide written documentation of your disability to the Student Services Counselors (Disabled Student Counselor). Appropriate accommodations will be provided to students who have completed this procedure.

As part of the course, students may be required to spend additional time observing and/or working with children in actual or simulated child development settings.

If you have problems with the course or material, please see me or call to arrange for an appointment. Students who are not able to complete the course need to speak to me immediately as we will try to work together to have you complete the class successfully.

This syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class. *Please refer to the Institutional Policies available in the Office of the Dean of Student Development and Services as well as on line, which include regulations regarding student conduct and the disciplinary code.*

**Points given for requirements are as follows:**

Literacy Assignment	100 points
Observation Assignment	100 points
First Test (Chapters 1 - 7)	100 points
Second Test (Chapters 8 - 12)	100 points
Third Test (Chapters 13 - 16)	100 points
Fourth Test (Chapters 17 - 19)	100 points
Final Presentation	200 points
Attendance	100 points
Participation ( <i>article reviews included</i> )	100 points
<hr/>	
Total:	1000 points

**Final Grade:**

To determine your final grade take the total number of points and divide by ten.

		A	96 - 100	A-	90 - 95
B+	87 - 89	B	83 - 86	B-	80 - 82
C+	77 - 79	C	73 - 76	C-	70 - 72
D+	67 - 69	D	63 - 66	D-	60 - 62
F	under 59				

