

**Three Rivers Community College**  
**ECE K182 Child Development**  
**Course Syllabus**

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**Course Description:**

Prerequisite: ENG\* K101 eligibility or permission of the Program Coordinator based on ECE work experience.

This course presents the basic principles, current research, and traditional theories of child development, from the prenatal period to the onset of adolescence, with an emphasis on the earlier years of childhood. Students will be guided in the development of a scientific and objective attitude toward the interpretation of child behavior and will study various methods of conducting research in child development. They will observe children and analyze their behavior in each of the following areas: physical abilities and motor skills, cognitive abilities, as well as social and emotional development.

**Required Texts:**

Charlesworth, Rosalind. Understanding Child Development (7<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Thompson Delmar Learning. 2008. ISBN 10:1-4180-3810-5

Additional readings will be assigned throughout the semester.

**Course Objectives:**

Develop an understanding of the diverse theoretical frameworks of child development.  
Increase understanding of child behavior (both typical and atypical) and how children differ in their development and approaches to learning.

Understand and interpret how children grow and develop through successive stages, including all developmental domains.

**Course Outcomes:**

Students will articulate the major theoretical approaches in child development, develop a personal learning theory and conduct research to promote understanding of how theory relates to best practice.

Students will understand what young children are like and what the multiple influences are on their development and learning. (NAEYC Standard 1)

Students will learn analyze the importance of involving all families in their children's development and learning. (NAEYC Standard 2)

Students will analyze the importance of being a continuous and collaborative learner. (NAEYC Standard 5)

## **Policies:**

Class attendance is required. The greatest amount of learning occurs during class time, where group activities and interactive assignments allow for learning not covered by the text and 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 asked to withdraw 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** contact 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. Students **must utilize the Blackboard Learning System**, to review course materials, correspond with the Instructor and other Students, and view articles and other materials for the course. 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.

Extra credit projects will not be accepted. Students are urged to devote their time and energy to fulfilling stated class requirements. With prior permission, there may be an opportunity to redo and resubmit an assignment, and this will be decided on a one-on-one basis.

Take home tests will not be accepted beyond the scheduled due date. Make-ups for in class, 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. Late assignments cannot be rewritten or resubmitted.

Lap top computers and tape recorders may be used during class time, with prior permission and for the purpose of note taking only. Computers and other forms of technology are prohibited during tests. Cell phones, pagers, ipods, and other similar devices must be turned off during class. Texting or using your cell phones during class is not acceptable and are a cause for students being asked to leave the class.

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.

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.

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:**

Theory Assignment	100 points
Observation Assignment	100 points
First Test (Chapters 1 - 7)	50 points
Second Test (Chapters 8 - 17)	75 points
Third Test (Chapters 18 - 32)	75 points
Attendance	50 points
Participation ( <i>article reviews included</i> )	50 points
<b>Total:</b>	<b>500 points</b>

**Final Grade:**

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

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

*Never under estimate the power of a loving teacher.*

*Taken from Teachers touch tomorrow.*