

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

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Course Description:

Prerequisite: ENG* K101 , ECE K101 and ECE K182 are recommended

The 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 (8th Ed.). Thompson Delmar Learning. 2007. ISBN 10:1-4180-0026-4

Additional readings will be assigned throughout the semester.

Course Objectives:

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.

Course Outcomes:

Students will be able to promote language development through a print rich environment and identify teaching techniques and activities that promote language and literacy acquisition for all young children.

Students will understand the importance of connecting children's language and culture to the early childhood program to 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, 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:

Literacy Assignment	100 points
Final Presentation	100 points
First Test (Chapters 1 - 7)	50 points
Second Test (Chapters 8 - 14)	75 points
Third Test (Chapters 15 - 19)	75 points
Attendance	50 points
Participation (<i>article reviews included</i>)	50 points
Total:	500 points

Final Grade:

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

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