

## **CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

## **CHILD DEVELOPMENT: COURSE #734**

### **Contact Information**

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### **The Department's Educational Philosophy**

Students are encouraged to explore current child development theories and application to current practices through readings and observations in the preschool classroom. Student's reflection of observations and experiences is an essential component of the learning process.

### **Guiding Principles**

Students should respect young children's physical, social and emotional needs, as well as be accepting of their similarities and differences. Developing an understanding and knowledge of young children's daily behavior to help facilitate positive interactions with them is essential.

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**Course Frequency:** Full-year course, three periods per week

**Credits Offered:** Two and a half

**Prerequisites:** Child Development Lab (Course #735) concurrently or with teacher/counselor permission, and teacher or counselor recommendation

### **Background to the Curriculum**

This course has been offered at the high school as the companion course to working in the preschool (Course #735). With counselor/teacher recommendation it can be taken as a stand-alone course. It is designed for students who are interested in working with young children in future careers, such as teaching, psychology, social work and the medical fields. The focus in the beginning of the year is on the preschool-aged child, and the remainder of the course examines the developmental domains of children from prenatal to age 8.

### **Core Topics/Concepts/Skill**

Develop an understanding of young children in the physical, social/emotional and cognitive developmental domains.

## Course-End Learning Objectives

<u>Learning objectives</u>	<u>Corresponding state standards, where applicable</u>
<p><i>Students will:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1] Develop an understanding of the components of a developmentally-appropriate preschool setting.</li><li>2] Explore and examine how children learn through play and apply these findings when interacting with children.</li><li>3] Become familiar with various techniques used to help facilitate children's physical, social, and emotional growth.</li><li>4] Learn techniques for responding to and respecting children's needs.</li><li>5] Acquire beginning knowledge of the normal range of developmental patterns and stages in the young child, as well as the many differences that can occur.</li><li>6] Understand the use of space and how it influences the learning environment.</li><li>7] Learn about and appreciate the importance and impact of early prenatal care.</li><li>8] Acquire information on child development theorists and examine their contributions to current practices.</li><li>9] Follow the cognitive, physical and social development of a preschooler through study and compilation of a portfolio of child's work throughout the school year.</li></ol>	

### Assessment

- Tests on lectures and presentations
- In-class writing assignments, projects and research papers
- Participation in class discussions

**Technology and Health Learning Objectives Addressed in This Course**

**(This section is for faculty and administrative reference; students and parents may disregard.)**

<b><u>Course activity: skills and/or topics taught</u></b>	<b><u>Technology standard(s) addressed through this activity</u></b>

**Materials and Resources**

Text: Puckett, Margaret B. and Black, Janet K., The Young Child – Development from Prebirth through Age Eight, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (2001), Merrill Prentice Hall.

- Numerous current articles in press relating to child development
- Guest lecturers from local schools and child care organizations
- Field trips to local child care facilities and neonatal care facilities.