



Infant and Toddler Care and Program Development ECED 4203 X20 Part of Term B

Online

**Midwestern State University
Gordon T. & Ellen West College of Education
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Professor Information

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** Please feel free to contact me via cell phone BUT you need to leave a voice or text message so that I can get back to you.

Required Reading

Wittmer, D. S. & Petersen, S. H. (2018). *Infant and Toddler Development and Responsive Program Planning*. (4th ed.).

Instructor Response Policy

Please feel free to contact me via cell phone BUT you need to leave a voice or text message so that I can get back to you. I will respond within 24 hours M-F

Course/Catalog Description

Implementation of developmentally appropriate program development for infants and toddlers, focusing on safety, responsive caregiving, and the physical, cognitive, language and social and emotional developmental of young children.

WCoE Conceptual Framework

The outcomes for graduates of professional programs are based upon knowledge, skills, and dispositions in the following elements:

- Learner Development - understand how learners grow and develop, recognizing that patterns of learning and development vary individually within and across the cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical areas, and design and implements developmentally appropriate and challenging learning experiences.
- Learning Differences - understand individual differences and communities to ensure learning environments that enable each learner to meet high standards.
- Learning Environment - work with others to create environments that support individual and collaborative learning, and that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self motivation.
- Content Knowledge - understand the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline(s) he or she teaches and creates learning experiences that make the discipline accessible and meaningful for learners to assure mastery of the content.
- Application of Content - understand how to connect concepts and use differing perspectives to engage learners in critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative problem solving related to authentic local and global issues.
- Assessment - understand and use multiple methods of assessment to engage learners in their own growth, to monitor learner progress, and to guide the teacher's and learner's decision making.
- Planning for Instruction - plan instruction that supports every student in meeting rigorous learning goals by drawing upon knowledge of content areas, curriculum, cross-disciplinary skills, and pedagogy, as well as knowledge of learners and the community context.
- Instructional Strategies - understand and use a variety of instructional strategies to encourage learners to develop deep understanding of content areas and their connections, and to build skills to apply knowledge in meaningful ways.
- Professional Learning and Ethical Practice - engage in ongoing professional learning and use evidence to continually evaluate his or her practice, particularly the effects of his or her choices and actions on others (learners, families, other professionals, and the community), and adapts practice to meet the needs of each learner.

- Leadership and Collaboration - seek appropriate leadership roles and opportunities to take responsibility for student learning, to collaborate with learners, families, colleagues, other school professionals, and community members to ensure learner growth, and to advance the profession.

Objectives

1. Demonstrate comprehension of responsive caregiving and identify key characteristics of programs that foster positive relationships with infant and toddlers. (NAEYC 1, Texas Infant, Toddler, and Three-Year-Old Early Learning Guidelines: Responsive Caregiving)
2. Identify and explain essential infant and toddler program elements that promote sound nutrition practices, healthy routines, and environmental safety and self-care habits. (NAEYC 1,4 Texas Infant, Toddler, and Three-Year-Old Early Learning Guidelines: Physical Health and Motor Development)
3. Demonstrate the ability to plan curriculum and assessment that promotes learning and development in each of the following domains: social, emotional, physical, language, and cognitive. (NAEYC 3,5; Texas Infant, Toddler, and Three-Year-Old Early Learning Guidelines: Physical Health and Motor Development, Social and Emotional Development, Language and Communication Development, Cognitive Development)
4. Distinguish appropriate and effective practices for infants and toddlers with disabilities. (NAEYC 1,2,4, Texas Infant, Toddler, and Three-Year-Old Early Learning Guidelines: Caring for Young Children with Disabilities or Special Needs)
5. Demonstrate knowledge of how to set-up and develop an appropriate physical environment for programs with infants and toddlers, that fosters health, comfort, learning, and safety. (NAEYC 1,6)
6. Explain the significance of establishing positive and collaborative family and community partnerships. (NAEYC 2)

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Standards

Standard 1 - Child Development and Learning in Context

Early childhood educators (a) are grounded in an understanding of the developmental period of early childhood from birth through age 8 across developmental domains. They (b) understand each child as an individual with unique developmental variations. Early childhood educators (c) understand that children learn and develop within relationships and within multiple contexts. They (d) use

this multidimensional knowledge to make evidence-based decisions about how to carry out their responsibilities.

Standard 2 - Family-Teacher Partnerships and Community Connections

Early childhood educators understand that successful early childhood education depends upon educators' partnerships with the families of the young children they serve. They (a) know about, understand, and value family characteristics. Early childhood educators (b) use this understanding to create respectful, responsive, reciprocal relationships with families and to engage with them as partners in their young children's development and learning. They (c) use community resources to support young children's learning and development and to support children's families, and they build connections between early learning settings, schools, and community organizations and agencies.

Standard 3 - Child Observation, Documentation, and Assessment

Early childhood educators (a) understand that the primary purpose of assessments is to inform instruction and planning in early learning settings. They (b) know how to use observation, documentation, and other appropriate assessment approaches and tools. Early childhood educators (c) use screening and assessment tools in ways that are ethically grounded and developmentally appropriate to document developmental progress and promote positive outcomes for each child. In partnership with families and professional colleagues, early childhood educators (d) use assessments to document individual children's progress and, based on the findings, to plan learning experiences

Standard 5 - Knowledge, Application, and Integration of Academic Content in the Early Childhood Curriculum

Early childhood educators have knowledge of the content of the academic disciplines (e.g., language and literacy, the arts, mathematics, social studies, science, technology and engineering, physical education) and of the pedagogical methods for teaching each discipline. They (a) understand the central concepts, the methods and tools of inquiry, and the structures in each academic discipline. Educators (b) understand pedagogy, including how young children learn and process information in each discipline, the learning trajectories for each discipline, and how teachers use this knowledge to inform their practice. They (c) apply this knowledge using early learning standards and other resources to make decisions about spontaneous and planned learning experiences and about curriculum development,

implementation, and evaluation to ensure that learning will be stimulating, challenging, and meaningful to each child.

Standard 6 – Professionalism as an Early Childhood Educator

Early childhood educators (a) identify and participate as members of the early childhood profession. They serve as informed advocates for young children, for the families of the children in their care, and for the early childhood profession. They (b) know and use ethical guidelines and other early childhood professional guidelines. They (c) have professional communication skills that effectively support their relationships and work young children, families, and colleagues. Early childhood educators (d) are continuous, collaborative learners who (e) develop and sustain the habit of reflective and intentional practice in their daily work with young children and as members of the early childhood profession.

Texas Infant, Toddler, and Three-Year-Old Early Learning Guidelines

Caring for Young Children with Disabilities or Special Needs:

1. It is important that providers are sensitive and responsive to the needs of all young children. Providers that care for infants, toddlers, and three-year-olds with disabilities or special needs should try to learn more about the particular need or disability, but should be careful not to make assumptions about an individual child based on his or her need or diagnosis.
2. As providers, the most critical first step one can take in respecting children with disabilities is a willingness to do so. It is important to discuss the needs of every child with their parents; providers should work with parents to support and to meet each child's unique needs. They can do so by taking the time to learn about children's unique needs and seek ways to support those needs.
3. Early care and education providers can be a valuable support to families in identifying various developmental delays or warning signs. A provider's knowledge and awareness related to early childhood development and to each of the children in her care are both valuable assets in the early diagnosis and prevention of developmental delays or disabilities. As a provider, it is important to bring any signs of delay or health concerns to the child's parents immediately, in consultation with a director or supervisor.

Physical Health and Motor Development

1. Young children's physical and motor development affects their cognitive and social development, readiness for school, and adult health. Therefore, good physical health and motor development is necessary for overall development. Physical development pertains to children's physical growth, while motor development refers to movements of large muscles (gross motor) and small muscles (fine motor).
2. The Physical Health and Motor Development domain is broken into three important component areas. The first component, health and well-being, refers to children's formation of healthy routines, such as eating nutritiously, physical activity, and developing self-care habits. This component includes information on young children's healthy routines and self-care activities, as well as important knowledge about young children's development with regard to safety.
3. The second component, gross motor skills, refers to large muscle development through control of movements. This component discusses the skills young children demonstrate that tell us they are developing in this area and what caregivers can do to support that development.
4. The third component, fine motor skills, refers to small muscle development through control over movements, such as reaching, grasping, coloring, and turning pages in a book. Infants need sufficient and appropriate 23 materials to practice grasping and reaching, which are important steps towards increasing precision in fine movement.
5. Providing a safe, appropriate environment, unstructured time to experiment with materials and body movements, and planning daily activities that encourage young children to move their growing bodies and make healthy food choices all support young children's physical development and well-being.

Social and Emotional Development

1. Social and emotional development is a broad domain which encompasses many skills that form the foundation all children need in order to become healthy, happy, and successful adults. The Infant, Toddler, and ThreeYear-Old Early Learning Guidelines include four components in this domain: Trust and Emotional Security (Attachment), Self-Awareness, SelfRegulation, and Relationships with Others.
2. Early childhood is a critical developmental period when the brain is especially sensitive to caregiving experiences. Young children who receive warm, consistent, responsive care develop a sense of emotional security and

confidence that allows them to be open to exploring their world, trying new activities, and forming friendships.

3. One of the most important developmental tasks of infancy is to establish basic trust and emotional security within consistent, loving relationships with one or a small number of caregivers. Through such early relationships, infants learn that their world is safe and interesting, that someone will be attentive to their physical needs (for example, feed them when they are hungry or change their diapers when they are soiled), comfort them when they are scared or fussy, and respond to them with warmth and playfulness when they want to play and interact.
4. Self-awareness is another important component of social and emotional development. Individuals who have a clear and positive sense of identity and who can recognize and talk about their feelings are better able to form healthy relationships with others and to resist negative peer pressure.
5. Self-regulation is the ability to modulate one's own behaviors and expression of emotions as appropriate for different situations. Children use self-regulation skills when they calm themselves by sucking their thumbs, when they tolerate waiting a few minutes for their turn to use a toy, when they allow a teacher to comfort them after saying good-bye to Mommy or Daddy in the morning, when they sit and focus on a book being read to them, and when they refrain from hitting another child who has moved into their space.
6. One of the most important developmental tasks of infancy is to establish basic trust and emotional security within consistent, loving relationships with one or a small number of caregivers.
7. When addressing the four components of social and emotional development, it is important to be aware that children are socialized within their families, which may have different norms and expectations for expressing emotions and controlling behavior.

Language and Communication Development

1. The Language and Communication domain includes three components describing how young children learn to: understand language, communicate with others, and demonstrate emergent literacy skills. The development of language and communication skills begins long before children say their first word. Even very young infants are learning a great deal about their home language or other languages in their environment and caregivers can do many things to help support language development. Speaking to children about their daily routines, objects in their environments, their feelings, and

sharing books with children are all important ways to support language development.

2. The first Language and Communication component is listening and understanding. This component includes indicators related to what words mean, how to make different forms out of a root word (for example, happy, happily, unhappy), and how to put words together in sentences. It also includes indicators related to listening and responding to the communication of others.
3. The next component is communication and speaking. This is, in some ways, the other side of listening and understanding. This component includes indicators related to how young children use sounds, gestures, and words to get their needs met. It focuses on how young Language and Communication Development 50 children learn language and begin to use it.
4. Emergent literacy is the last component of the Language and Communication domain. Emergent literacy relates to the knowledge and skills associated with books and writing.

Cognitive Development

1. The Cognitive Development domain includes four components that describe how young children develop and demonstrate abilities in: exploring the world around them, solving problems, remembering and retaining information, and pretending and using their imagination. Cognitive development is often thought of as growth in children's thinking, reasoning, and understanding. Positive early experiences that support cognitive development contribute to lifelong traits, such as curiosity, persistence, and independence.
2. The first Cognitive Development component is exploration and discovery, which includes indicators of development for how young children explore their environment and demonstrate the building blocks of inquiry and curiosity through playing with cause and effect relationships and understanding patterns.
3. The next component in the Cognitive Development domain is problem solving. This component includes indicators related to young children's use of imagination and creativity in approaching problems and tasks.
4. Memory is the third component of the Cognitive Development domain, and it includes indicators related to how infants and toddlers store and use information. In this component, young children anticipate routines, remember familiar people, and use their memory to inform their daily lives.
5. Finally, imitation and make believe is the last component of the Cognitive Development domain. It includes indicators related to young children's use of

their imagination and play to imitate actions and experiment with different roles and ideas.

Responsive Caregiving

1. Most caregivers know that young children have both physical and emotional needs. Physical needs include things like eating, sleeping, having their diapers changed or going to the potty, and being taken to the doctor when they are sick. Emotional needs include things like warmth and affection, opportunities for play and socialization, and comfort when feeling distressed. Young children may be kept dry and well fed, but if caregivers treat them harshly or ignore their communicative signals, those children are at high risk for poor developmental outcomes. One of the best ways to ensure that a child's emotional needs are met is to provide responsive caregiving.
2. One aspect of responsiveness is voice tone: infants begin to attend to voice tones very early. Talking or singing in a warm, soothing, or pleasing tone can calm a fussy infant and convey loving feelings.
3. Facial expressions are another way to be responsive to children's feelings and signals, such as smiling back at a smiling infant or matching a young child's surprised expression as a toy pops out of a box.
4. Giving affection, such as kissing, hugging, or rubbing a child's back can be responsive and loving too.
5. Talking with young children about their interests and ideas is a great way to be responsive - ask open-ended questions that invite them to have a conversation or make choices.
6. Caregivers should also try, as much as possible, to allow young children to explore freely within a safe environment, and should set limits in a calm, positive manner when needed.

Assessment

Students will demonstrate mastery of these standards by their participation in class, completion of class assignments, projects and assessments relating to infant and toddler care and programming.

Grading Procedures

Grades	Grade Description
A 90 - 100%	Work is outstanding and exemplary
B 80 - 89%	Work that is above the minimum requirements
C 70 - 79%	Work meets expected level of performance for most students
D 60 - 69%	Work that falls short of minimum criteria

Grades	Grade Description
F 59% or below	Work that falls well below the expected level of performance for most students

Assignments

Course Assignments 10%

Complete all course activities related to class and chapters.

Programs for Infant Toddler Care Paper 20%

Students will watch all 6 videos from PITC in Center-Based Programs and the examples of primary care, small groups, continuity of care, individualized care, responsive care, and care for children with special needs. After watching the videos, students will write a 2-3 page paper connecting what they observed in the videos to Chapter 13 Routines, Environments, and Opportunities: Day to Day the Relationship Way.

Nutrition Research Guide 20%

You will create a nutrition guide focused on children ages 0-36 months of age. The guide should be in the form of a brochure using cava or google slides to allow enough room for nutrition research, food suggestions, and pictures. All age ranges should be represented and the information provided should be referenced in APA formatting. The guide should provide information about nutritional needs at each stage and suggested foods for each age range. See the drop box for more details.

Weekly Lesson Plan 20%

Each student will create a week long thematic lesson plan that addresses developmental domains and content areas (cognitive, motor, language/literacy, music/creative/symbolic/dramatic/outdoor & social/emotional) that are implemented in the toddler classroom (ages 12-35 months). Use the template provided to fill in the weekly activities and schedule.

IFSP Activities 20%

Students will practice the job of an early intervention specialist. First you will review IFSP plans for two children and answer questions about each. Then students will create list of detailed activities to accompany goals on an IFSP, and use the family's and child's listed strengths to help guide the planned activities.

See the template and more detail in the module.

Positive Guidance Presentation 10%

After reading Chapter 14 you will create a presentation using canva, google slides, or powerpoint focused on a relationship-based approach to guidance for infants and toddlers. See module for more details.

Attendance Policy

You are expected to complete all coursework and fully participate in the online course.

Other Class Policies

- Late Assignment Policy - Assignments need to be turned in on the due date and time. If for some reason you are unable to bring in an assignment, you must e-mail it, or send it in with a friend when it is due. Points will be deducted each day it is late. Extenuating circumstances must be discussed with the instructor at least 2 days.
- Change of Schedule- A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the [Schedule of Classes](#) each semester.
- Refund and Repayment Policy- A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exists in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).
- Services for Students with Disabilities- In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Wellness Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in

order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

- **Campus Carry Rules/Policies-** Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)
- **Smoking/Tobacco Policy-** College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by MSU TEXAS. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.
- **Alcohol and Drug Policy-** To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.
- **Campus Carry-** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).
- **Active Shooter-**The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [Safety / Emergency Procedures](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled "Run. Hide. Fight." which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)
- **Obligation to Report Sex Discrimination under State and Federal Law-**Midwestern State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. State and federal law require University employees to report sex discrimination and sexual misconduct to the University's Office of Title IX. As a faculty member, I am required to report to the Title IX Coordinator any allegations, personally observed behavior, or other direct or indirect knowledge of conduct that reasonably may constitute sex discrimination or

sexual misconduct, which includes sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, or stalking, involving a student or employee. After a report is made, the office of Title IX will reach out to the affected student or employee in an effort to connect such person(s) with resources and options in addressing the allegations made in the report. You are also encouraged to report any incidents to the office of Title IX. You may do so by contacting:

Laura Hetrick
 Title IX Coordinator
 Sunwatcher Village Clubhouse
 940-397-4213

laura.hetrick@msutexas.edu

You may also file an online report 24/7 at [Online Reporting Form](#)

Should you wish to visit with someone about your experience in confidence, you may contact the MSU Counseling Center at 940-397-4618. For more information on the University's policy on Title IX or sexual misconduct, please visit [Title IX Website](#)

- **Grade Appeal Process** Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the *Midwestern State University MSU Catalog*
- **Notice-** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.
- **Inclement Weather-** In the case of campus closure due to inclement weather, key decision-makers will monitor weather projections and communicate with local news agencies and WFISD leadership to make a delay or cancellation decision. Notification occurs through official campus channels and in communication with the local news networks. MSU channels include MSU Alert, MSU Safety app, Postmaster, and website headers. MSU Police and the Office of Marketing and Public Information. Information for all channels can be found at MSU Ready. This online course will continue as scheduled, but if assessment deadlines coincide with the closure dates, deadline will be delayed until after the campus reopens. The timeline is as follows:

Event	Time	Day	Decision
Inclement weather occurs during regular work/class day	3:30 PM	Day of inclement weather	Cancel classes/events after 5 PM
Overnight inclement weather expected	8 PM	Day before inclement weather	Close campus or delay opening
Delay called the day before but change to closure due to the extent of weather impact	6:15 AM	Day of delay	Close campus

Event	Time	Day	Decision
No cancellation or delay decision made the night before	5:30 AM	Day after no decision made the night before	Close campus or delay opening

Please note: By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The "limited right" shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.