



Course Syllabus: Foundations of Early Childhood Education and Care
West College of Education
ECED 3113 Section x10
Fall 2025 August 25, 2025 - December 11, 2025

Contact Information

Instructor: Beth Barnard

Office: Bridwell 309

Student Hours: Tuesdays 9:30 am - 11:30am, Wednesdays 10 am - 11:30 am, Thursdays 10 am - 11:30am, by appointment

Office phone: (940) 397-4063

E-mail: Elizabeth.barnard@msutexas.edu

Instructor Response Policy

The best way to contact me is via email. I will check my email daily between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Every effort will be made to respond within 24 hours; however, this does not apply to weekends or holidays. You are welcome to visit my office during office hours (see above), or we can set up a time to talk virtually, on the phone, or in person outside those hours. I am typically pretty flexible.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

No textbook required—module readings located in D2L.

Recommended: NAEYC Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP): latest edition (DAP manual summary link: [NAEYC DAP](#)).

Course Description

An introduction to the field of early childhood education, including historical perspectives, characteristics of young children, developmentally appropriate practices, early care, types of programs, family connections, and current issues.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Course Competencies

ECED 3113 builds mastery of the following competencies/learning outcomes (Competencies are aligned to the TExES Examination Frameworks/Standards, PK-3, EC-6 Core subjects, STR, Educator Standards, Technology Standards for Teachers, INTASC, and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Knowledge and implementation of PK guidelines and PK-3 TEKS, and NAEYC standards geared instruction and developmentally appropriate practices are required:

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of EC-3 students and EC-3 student learning.
2. Demonstrate understanding of foundational concepts and factors that influence development to age 8.
3. Create safe, accessible, and engaging learning environments and instructional settings for learners to age 8.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the developmental processes and characteristics of young children to age 8.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the professional practices and responsibilities of the Early Childhood profession.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the role and importance of family in EC-3 learning and development.
7. Describe how play promotes children's learning.
8. Examine appropriate goals, objectives, and curriculum for ECE programs.
9. Explain how to meet the needs of all children.
10. Demonstrate and apply an understanding of developmentally appropriate practices, research/evidence-based assessments/instructional practices (ELAR, Physical Education, Health Education, Fine Arts, and Science of Teaching Reading).
11. Describe and analyze effective parent/family collaboration programs.
12. Research societal issues that affect children, families, and schools.
13. Explain how early literacy foundations impact student's academic success
14. Analyze and understand the importance of fostering collaborations with families and other professionals to promote students' ability in all developmental areas.

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

Instructor is available to meet by appointment. Please email Mrs Beth with any questions you have. Responses/answers will be provided via email or a time can be set up for a phone call or appointment.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Artificial Intelligence

Advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI) have now provided generative and creative applications such as Chat GPT, Google Bard, Guru, Microsoft Copilot, and others. Certainly, these tools can be quite useful in the learning process; however, the

content they generate does not represent the effort and learning of the student. Submitting AI generated work in place of the original and genuine work of the student will be considered a form of academic misconduct.

Grading/Assessment

1. *Learning Assignments/Assessments* (Related Module Assignments) (370 points):

Everyone will be required to complete all course assignments related to the course. The Drop Box icon contains full descriptions and documents related to module learning assignments. These assignments will be submitted via the D2L DropBox link on or before the due date (see course outline). Please have your assignments completed by the pacing guide deadlines (see course outline). Each assignment should be thoroughly examined using information from past experiences and the text. They should also be free of grammatical errors, titled, and double-spaced. Please see the course outline and D2L for specific pacing due dates and assignments. These assignments will be the basis for class activities. See D2L and course outline for specific module assignments and instructions.

Module	Assignment/Points
1	Culturally Responsive Pedagogy VIP (10 points)
2	Theorist Presentation (40 points)
3	Milestone Tracker (40 points)
4	Case Study Reflection (30 points)
5	DAP Observation Report (30 points)
6	Early Learning Environment IRIS Module (25 points)
7	Play Analysis Essay (30 points)
8	Play Based Lesson Plan (40 points)
9	Literacy Activity Demo (30 points)
10	Parent Communication Guide (25 points)
11	Learning Modification Activity (30 points)
12	Issue Research Presentation (40 points)

0. *Portfolio and Reflection* (80 points):

Following completion of all 12 modules, students will create a digital portfolio using some of their favorite and best assignments to turn in for a portfolio grade. These assignments will be chosen and assigned together before the end of the semester. Each student will also submit a course reflection, sharing what parts of the course content will be most helpful to them in future work, highlighting areas they wish to continue to explore more thoroughly. See D2L for specific grading rubric.

Total Points for Final Grade (CBE):

All course assessments/activities must be passed with an 80% or above in order to complete each competency module. Candidates will have a maximum of three (3) attempts to pass each assessment/activity. Students must earn an evaluation of "proficient" or above on each criterion of the competency assessment in order to pass each assessment. Final grades in all CBE courses will be based on the following scale:

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	405-450
B	360-404
C	315-359
D	270-314
F	Less than 270

Participation and Module Completion (CBE):

The format for ECED 3113 is competency-based, which allows you to work through the modules and complete readings, assignments, and assessments at your own pace during the 8 week semester. Keep in mind all course modules must be completed before the end of the term, so there are time frames that must be met in order to finish the course by the end of the term. Although Competency-Based Education (CBE) Programs offer a great deal of flexibility to you as a learner, there is a need to stay on track, build the necessary competencies, and complete course assignments so that you make satisfactory academic progress toward your degree. Below is a helpful pacing guide. If you follow this guide and plan accordingly, you will keep on track and not fall behind.

Submitted Work

Correct spelling and use of appropriate grammatical skills are expected on each written assignment or project. Most of the assignments/projects will be typed and utilize an appropriate style (*Times New Roman, 12 point font, double spaced*). Assignments that are handwritten need to be eligible, neat and clean. **Unacceptable work will be returned, un-graded, or lead to reduction in grade.** In addition, plagiarized or copied work will receive a grade of ZERO with no make-up allowed.

Extra Credit

No extra credit assignments will be given or accepted.

Written Work

All written work should be completed in a professional style. Using correct spelling and grammar are important writing skills you must know well because your students will learn from you. Therefore, all written assignments will have 10% -20% of the grade based on spelling and grammar. Expectations are for quality work.

Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).

Deadline to file for graduation: Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Although in general students are graded on intellectual effort and performance rather than attendance, absences may lower the student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the faculty member. In those classes where attendance is considered as part of the grade, the instructor should inform students of the specifics in writing at the beginning of the semester in a syllabus or separate attendance policy statement. An instructor who has an attendance policy must keep records on a daily basis. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to being dropped from the class. Instructor's records will stand as evidence of absences. A student with excessive absences may be dropped from a course by the instructor. Any individual faculty member or college has the authority to establish an attendance policy, providing the policy is in accordance with the General University Policies.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ***Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered a reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.*** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. ***Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!*** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world that is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Inclement Weather

In the event of Inclement Weather, please check D2L for updates to class responsibilities and calendar. Fully online courses may continue as scheduled, but should communicate course practices in syllabus statements and news items on D2L.

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 Clark Student 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](#).

College Policies

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

Update as needed. 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.

Appendix A-Standards/Competencies List

[NAEYC Standards](#)

Standard 1.

Child Development and Learning in Context

Standard 2.

Family-Teacher Partnerships and Community Connections

Standard 3.

Child Observation, Documentation, and Assessment

Standard 4.

Developmentally, Culturally, and Linguistically Appropriate Teaching Practices

Standard 6.

Professionalism as an Early Childhood Educator

WCOE Standards (InTASC):

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 diverse cultures and communities to ensure inclusive 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.

Texas Teacher Standards (TAC chapter 149)

(2) Standard 2—Knowledge of Students and Student Learning. Teachers work to ensure high levels of learning, social-emotional development, and achievement outcomes for all students, taking into consideration each student's educational developmental backgrounds and focusing on each student's needs.

(A) Teachers demonstrate the belief that all students have the potential to achieve at high levels and support all students in their pursuit of social-emotional learning and academic success.

(i) Teachers purposefully utilize learners' individual strengths as a basis for academic and social-emotional growth.

(ii) Teachers create a community of learners in an inclusive environment that views differences in learning and background as educational assets.

(iii) Teachers accept responsibility for the growth of all of their students, persisting in their efforts to ensure high levels of growth on the part of each learner.

(C) Teachers facilitate each student's learning by employing evidence-based practices and concepts related to learning and social-emotional development.

(i) Teachers understand how learning occurs and how learners develop, construct meaning, and acquire knowledge and skills.

(ii) Teachers identify readiness for learning and understand how development in one area may affect students' performance in other areas.

(iii) Teachers apply evidence-based strategies to address individual student learning needs and differences, adjust their instruction, and support the learning needs of each student.

(4) Standard 4— Learning Environment. Teachers interact with students in respectful ways at all times, maintaining a physically and emotionally safe, supportive learning environment that is characterized by efficient and effective routines, clear expectations for student behavior, and organization that maximizes student learning.

(A) Teachers create a mutually respectful, collaborative, and safe community of learners by using knowledge of students' development and backgrounds.

(i) Teachers embrace students' backgrounds and experiences as an asset in their learning environment.

(ii) Teachers maintain and facilitate respectful, supportive, positive, and productive interactions with and among students.

(iii) Teachers establish and sustain learning environments that are developmentally appropriate and respond to students' needs, strengths, and personal experiences.

(6) Standard 6—Professional Practices and Responsibilities. Teachers consistently hold themselves to a high standard for individual development, pursue leadership opportunities, collaborate with other educational professionals, communicate regularly with stakeholders, maintain professional relationships, comply with all campus and school district policies, and conduct themselves ethically and with integrity.

(A) Teachers reflect on their teaching practice to improve their instructional effectiveness and engage in continuous professional learning to gain knowledge and skills and refine professional judgment.

(i) Teachers reflect on their own strengths and professional learning needs, using this information to develop action plans for improvement.

(ii) Teachers establish and strive to achieve professional goals to strengthen their instructional effectiveness and better meet students' needs.

(iii) Teachers engage in relevant, targeted professional learning opportunities that align with their professional growth goals and their students' academic and social-emotional needs.

(D) Teachers model ethical and respectful behavior and demonstrate integrity in all situations.

(i) Teachers adhere to the educators' code of ethics in §247.2 of this title (relating to Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators), including following policies and procedures at their specific school placement(s).

(ii) Teachers communicate consistently, clearly, and respectfully with all members of the campus community, including students, parents and families, colleagues, administrators, and staff.

(iii) Teachers serve as advocates for their students, focusing attention on students' needs and concerns and maintaining thorough and accurate student records.

Content Standards – Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3

[19 TAC §235.13(b)] Child Development.

The Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers use their understanding of young children's characteristics and needs, and of multiple interacting influences on children's development and learning, to create environments that are healthy, respectful, supportive, and challenging for each child. Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers must:

- (1) know and understand young children's characteristics and needs, from birth through age 8;
- (2) know and understand the multiple influences on early development and learning; and
- 3) use developmental knowledge to create healthy, respectful, supportive, and challenging learning environments for young children.

[19 TAC §235.13(g)] Fine Arts, including Theatre, Art, and Music.

The Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers demonstrate understanding of Kindergarten-Grade 5 Theatre, Art, and Music TEKS, with an emphasis on Kindergarten-Grade 3, and Fine Arts Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines and apply knowledge of developmentally appropriate, research- and evidence-based assessment and instructional practices to promote students' development of grade-level skills.

[19 TAC §235.13(h)] Health Education.

The Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers demonstrate understanding of Kindergarten-Grade 5 Health Education TEKS, with an emphasis on Kindergarten-Grade 3, and Physical Development Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines and apply knowledge of developmentally appropriate, research- and evidence-based assessment and instructional practices to promote students' development of grade-level skills.

[19 TAC §235.13(i)] Physical Education.

The Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers demonstrate understanding of Kindergarten-Grade 5 Physical Education TEKS, with an emphasis on Kindergarten-Grade 3, and Physical Development Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines and apply knowledge of developmentally appropriate, research- and evidence-based assessment and instructional practices to promote students' development of grade-level skills.

Test 292 - Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3

Domain I Child Development

Competency 001 (Foundations of Child Development): Understand foundational concepts of early childhood development from birth to age 8 and factors that influence student development.

A. Demonstrate knowledge of key theoretical foundations, curriculum and program models, and scientifically based research regarding the development and learning of students from birth to age 8 (e.g., Bruner, Piaget, and Vygotsky; Montessori, Reggio Emilia, constructivist, social-learning, and environmental

theories) upon which developmentally appropriate practices in early childhood education are based.

B. Demonstrate knowledge of characteristics, progressions, and variations of development in the physical, cognitive, social, language, sensory, aesthetic, and emotional domains and of the interrelationships between these domains and student learning.

C. Demonstrate knowledge of exceptionalities, including common health conditions, and factors related to over- and underrepresentation of specific student populations in special education and gifted and talented programs and use this knowledge to promote child development, learning, social skills, and emotional resilience skills for all students.

D. Demonstrate knowledge of the specific needs of English learners (ELs) and of practices that build on home language systems to develop academic and social skills.

Competency 002 (The Early Learning Process): Understand the developmental processes and characteristics of learning of young children from birth to age 8.

A. Demonstrate knowledge of the learning processes of young children, including the multiple functions, value, and role of play in constructing knowledge, building social skills and relationships, and developing problem-solving skills.

B. Demonstrate knowledge of the continuum of teaching strategies for promoting learning—from child-initiated activities to adult-guided instruction; methods to capitalize on incidental and spontaneous opportunities for teaching; and ways to use the environment, daily routines, and interactions to support learning and development (e.g., developmentally appropriate homework practices).

C. Demonstrate knowledge of the influence of stress and trauma, protective factors, resilience, and supportive relationships on the cognitive and emotional development of young children.

D. Demonstrate knowledge of risk factors impacting mental health in young children, including identifying behaviors that signify the need to intervene and/or engage in collaboration with others in order to provide responsive and developmentally appropriate intervention and support.

F. Demonstrate knowledge of the roles of parents/guardians as primary caregivers and informal teachers of children, including factors in the home and community that may affect children's development and learning.

Competency 003 (Family Engagement): Understand the role and importance of the family in supporting the learning and development of young children from prekindergarten to grade 3

C. Demonstrate knowledge of evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks and provide families with tools to enhance and extend children's learning at home (e.g., home visits by teachers and school staff, consistent in-person and written communication on student progress).

Domain II –The Instructional Setting

Competency 004 (Social Skills, Emotional Development, and Behavior Support): Understand how to create positive environments and relationships that help

develop interpersonal skills, autonomy, and initiative to explore and learn in young children from prekindergarten to grade 3.

A. Demonstrate knowledge of factors related to the development of executive function and self-regulation skills in young children, including motivation, autonomy, and decision-making and self-help skills.

C. Demonstrate knowledge of developmentally appropriate and effective individual and group management strategies, including best practices for teaching and supporting young children with additional behavioral needs and factors contributing to equitable and inequitable responses to behavior.

D. Demonstrate knowledge of the role of positive relationships and supportive interactions as a crucial foundation for teaching, and in developing social skills and emotional resilience, with a focus on children's individual strengths, needs, and interests.

E. Demonstrate knowledge of the relationships between communication, behavior, and learning, as well as the ability to use developmentally appropriate and culturally responsive positive behavior strategies, conflict resolution skills, and instructional methods to manage classroom behavior.

Competency 005 (The Instructional Setting): Understand how to create positive learning environments that promote the development and learning of young children in prekindergarten to grade 3.

A. Apply knowledge of strategies for structuring the physical environment and selecting appropriate learning curricula, materials, and technologies to promote active participation and independence in young children.

B. Apply knowledge of practices for creating and adapting safe indoor and outdoor learning environments that encourage active involvement, initiative, responsibility, and a growing sense of autonomy in young children.

D. Apply knowledge of methods for creating a physical environment and instructional procedures that are linguistically and culturally responsive and meet the needs of all young children, including those with exceptionalities (e.g., disabilities, gifts, talents) and English learners (ELs).

Domain III –Educating All Learners

Competency 006 (Differentiation Strategies in Planning and Practice):

Understand how to identify and implement developmentally appropriate strategies and practices to effectively teach and engage young children from prekindergarten to grade 3.

C. Apply knowledge of activities and instruction that build on students' individual interests, primary language, experiences, and prior knowledge; respond to students' strengths and needs; and promote the development of prerequisite skills and positive dispositions toward learning in the content areas.

Competency 007 (Culturally Responsive Practices): Understand how to identify and implement culturally responsive, developmentally appropriate practices to effectively teach and engage young children from prekindergarten to grade 3 across all content areas.

A. Demonstrate knowledge of strategies and practices that acknowledge and respect diversity (e.g., cultural, economic, linguistic) and support inclusion in order to promote students' overall development and learning, including

understanding of the benefits of primary and secondary languages and bilingualism to learning.

B. Recognize the role personal bias plays in potential learning expectations for students in order to promote safe, positive, and supportive interactions and learning environments for all students.

Domain V- Learning Across the Curriculum

Competency 013 (Fine Arts, Physical Education, and Health): Understand foundational skills, concepts, and methods to provide developmentally appropriate instruction for fine arts, physical education, and health to students in prekindergarten to grade 3.

A. Demonstrate knowledge of the Fine Arts domain of the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines and of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for Fine Arts (Art, Music, and Theatre) (Kindergarten through Grade 5), as well as ways to scaffold and sequence skills and concepts to teach fine arts to young children.

B. Apply knowledge of developmentally appropriate strategies and meaningful activities, including children's literature, for promoting children's creativity, knowledge, and skills in visual arts, music, creative movement, dance, and theater.

C. Apply knowledge of how to use the fine arts to help children achieve desired outcomes in various developmental domains (e.g., with regard to individual expression and motor skill development, language development, written expression, expressing feelings, awareness of the body, acknowledging one's own and others' cultures).

D. Demonstrate knowledge of methods for selecting and using technology resources to teach students strategies for creating, selecting, viewing, and sharing visual art, music, dance, and theater.

E. Demonstrate knowledge of the Physical Development and Health domain of the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines, the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for Physical Education (Kindergarten through Grade 5), and the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for Health Education (Kindergarten through Grade 5), as well as ways to scaffold and sequence skills and concepts to teach physical education and health to young children.

F. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of physical skills (e.g., fine- and gross-motor skills, locomotor skills, non locomotor skills, perceptual awareness, object handling) and the instructional implications of children's varied levels of physical skills development.

G. Apply knowledge of the components of fitness (e.g., muscular strength, flexibility) and activities for promoting children's health and fitness, physical skills development, and enjoyment of physical activity.

H. Demonstrate knowledge of the principles of nutrition and the role of nutrition in children's fitness, health, development, and readiness for learning.

Pedagogy & Professional Responsibilities - Early Childhood:
Prekindergarten-Grade 3

Standard 19 TAC §235.11(c) Knowledge of Student and Student Learning.

Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers work to ensure high levels of learning, social-emotional development, and achievement outcomes for all students, taking into consideration each student's educational and developmental backgrounds and focusing on each student's needs. Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers must:

- (1) create a community of learners in an inclusive environment that views differences in learning and background as educational assets;
- (4) understand the role of language and culture in learning and know how to modify their practice to support language acquisition so that language is comprehensible and instruction is fully accessible;
- (5) understand how learning occurs and how learners develop, construct meaning, and acquire knowledge and skills; and
- (6) identify readiness for learning and understand how development in one area may affect students' performance in other areas.

Standard 19 TAC §235.11(d) Content Knowledge and Expertise.

Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers exhibit an understanding of content, discipline, and related pedagogy as demonstrated through the quality of the design and execution of lessons and the ability to match objectives and activities to relevant state standards. Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers must:

- (6) promote literacy and the academic language within the discipline and make discipline-specific language accessible to all learners;

Standard 19 TAC §235.11(e) Learning Environment.

Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers interact with students in respectful ways at all times, maintaining a physically and emotionally safe, supportive learning environment that is characterized by efficient and effective routines, clear expectations for student behavior, and organization that maximizes student learning. Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 classroom teachers must:

- (1) embrace students' backgrounds and experiences as an asset in their learning;

Test 293: Science of Teaching Reading

Domain 1- Reading Pedagogy

Competency 001 (Foundations of the Science of Teaching Reading): Understand foundational concepts, principles, and best practices related to the science of teaching reading.

B. Demonstrate knowledge of the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines related to reading and the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for English Language Arts and Reading (ELAR) (Kindergarten through Grade 5).

P. Demonstrate knowledge of the critical role that families play in young children's reading development, strategies for promoting collaboration with

families to support all students' development in reading, and ways to empower families to engage in at-home reading with their child and to facilitate their child's reading development in various areas (e.g., using new vocabulary, practicing decoding skills and oral reading fluency).

[ELAR Standards \(Core Subjects EC-6\)](#)

Art Standard V: The art teacher understands how children develop cognitively and artistically and knows how to implement effective, age-appropriate instruction.

Music Standard VII: The music teacher understands how to plan and implement effective music instruction and provides students with learning experiences that enhance their musical knowledge, skills, and appreciation.

Music Standard VIII: The music teacher understands and applies appropriate management and discipline strategies for the music class.

Health Standard I: The health teacher applies knowledge of both the relationship between health and behavior and the factors influencing health and behavior.

Health Standard III: The health teacher plans and implements effective school health instruction and integrates health instruction with other content areas.

Theatre Standard I: The theater teachers know how to plan and implement effective theater instruction and assessment and provide students with learning experiences that enhance their knowledge, skills and appreciation in theater.

[ELAR Test Framework \(Core Subjects EC-6-391\)](#)

Fine Arts, Health, and Physical Education:

Competency 001—(Visual Arts): The teacher understands the concepts, processes and skills involved in the creation, appreciation and evaluation of art and uses that knowledge to plan and implement effective and engaging visual arts instruction.

A. Knows how to involve students in activities that promote enjoyment and understanding of visual arts by providing students with a wide range of opportunities to create and respond to visual arts so that they develop visual arts literacy.

B. Knows and understands how perception is developed through observation, prior knowledge, imaginative and cognitive processes and multisensory experiences.

C. Selects and uses instructional strategies, materials and activities to help students deepen and expand their ability to perceive and reflect on the environment.

Competency 002—(Music): The teacher understands the concepts, processes and skills involved in the creation, appreciation and evaluation of music and uses that knowledge to plan and implement effective and engaging music instruction.

A. Knows how to involve students in activities that promote enjoyment and understanding of music by providing students with a wide range of opportunities

to make and respond to music so that they develop music literacy (e.g., concert attendance, authentic performance opportunities).

K. Applies knowledge of music content and curriculum based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and of students in early childhood through grade six to plan and implement effective, developmentally appropriate instruction, including instruction that promotes students' creativity and performance skills as well as students' ability to use critical-thinking and problem-solving skills in music contexts (e.g., sequential instruction, music composition, improvisation, concert etiquette).

L. Manages time, instructional resources and physical space effectively for music education.

Competency 003—(Health): The teacher uses knowledge of the concepts and purposes of health education to plan and implement effective and engaging health instruction.

A. Understands health-related behaviors, ways that personal health decisions and behaviors affect body systems and health and strategies for reducing health risks and enhancing wellness throughout the life span.

C. Knows and understands stages of human growth and development, including physical and emotional changes that occur during adolescence.

J. Knows how to use various social and communication skills to build and maintain healthy interpersonal relationships (e.g., tolerance, respect, discussing problems with parents/caregivers, showing empathy).

K. Understands health care responses to threats to safety, internal injury, early detection and warning signs of illness.

L. Selects and uses instructional strategies, materials and activities to help students build healthy interpersonal relationships (e.g., communication skills) and demonstrates consideration and respect for self, family, friends and others (e.g., practicing self-control).

M. Understands the influence of various factors (e.g., media, technology, peer and other relationships, environmental hazards) on individuals (e.g., idealized body images, unhealthy weight-loss plans), family and community health.

N. Demonstrates knowledge of sources of health information and ways to use information to make health-related decisions.

O. Selects and uses instructional strategies, materials and activities to help students understand the roles of health care professionals, the benefits of health maintenance activities and the skills for becoming health-conscious consumers.

P. Applies knowledge of health content and curriculum based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and of students in early childhood through grade six to plan and implement effective, developmentally appropriate health instruction, including relating the health education curriculum to other content areas.

Competency 005—(Theatre): The teacher understands the concepts, processes and skills involved in the creation, appreciation and evaluation of theater and uses that knowledge to plan and implement effective and engaging theater instruction.

D. Integrates instruction in theater with instruction in other subject areas.

I. Manages time, instructional resources and physical space effectively for theater education.

Course Calendar Fall 2025

<u>Week - Dates</u>	<u>Topic/Chapter</u>	<u>To Do</u>
Week 1: August 25 - Aug 31, 2025	Welcome/Introductions	Become familiar with our course - Welcome slide in google
Week 2: September 1 - Sep 7, 2025	Module 1: What is Early Childhood Education? (M1 - Demonstrate knowledge of PK-3 students and PK-3 student learning)	Discussion (10 points)
Week 3: September 8 - Sep 14, 2025	Module 2: Historical & Theoretical Foundations (M2: Demonstrate Understanding of Foundational Concepts and Factors that Influence Development to Age 8)	Theorist Presentation/Infographic (40 points)
Week 4: September 15 - Sep 21, 2025	Module 3: Child Development (Birth-8): Physical & Cognitive (M7: Demonstrate and apply understanding of DAP, Research/Evidence-based assessment and instructional practices in PK-5 health, physical education, and fine arts.)	Milestone Tracker (40 points)
Week 5: September 22 - Sep 28, 2025	Module 4: Child Development: Social-Emotional & Moral	Case Study Reflection (30 points)

Week 6: September 29 - Oct 5, 2025	Module 5: Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) (M4: Demonstrate an understanding of the developmental processes and characteristics of young children to age 8)	DAP Observation Report (30 points)
Week 7: October 6 - Oct 12, 2025	Module 6: Learning Environments & Classroom Design (M3: Create Safe, Accessible, and Engaging Learning Environments and Instructional Settings for PK-3.)	Early Learning Environment - IRIS Module (25 points)
Week 8: October 13 - Oct 19, 2025	Module 7: Play as Learning	Play Analysis Essay (30 points)
Week 9: October 20 - Oct 26, 2025	Module 8: Curriculum & Learning Standards	Lesson Plan - Play Based Lesson (40 points)
Week 10: October 27 - Nov 2, 2025	Module 9: Literacy & Science of Teaching Reading (STR) (M8: Demonstrate an understanding of foundational concepts, principles and best practices - STR)	Literacy Activity Demo (30 points)
Week 11: November 3 - Nov 9, 2025	Module 10: Working with Families & Communities (M6: Demonstrate an understanding of the role and importance of family in EC-3 learning and development.)	Parent Communication Guide (25 points)
Week 12: November 10 - Nov 16, 2025	Module 11: Supporting All Learners	Learning Modification Activity (30 points)

Week 13: November 17 - November 23	Module 12: Societal Issues & Professional Responsibilities (M5: Demonstrate an understanding of professional practices and responsibilities)	Issue Research Presentation (40 points)
Week 14: November 24 - November 30	Thanksgiving Break	Rest and enjoy your break.
Week 15: December 1 - Dec 5, 2025	Review	Catch up on any modules you are behind on.
Finals: December 6 - Dec 11, 2025	Finals	Complete final reflections (50 points) and portfolio (30 points).