

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2022

CD1011 (A2): Introduction to Early Learning and Child Care – 2 (2-0-0) 30 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR: Melanie Barry

PHONE: 780.539.2793

OFFICE:

E-MAIL: mbarry@nwpolytech.ca

OFFICE HOURS: As per appointment

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course offers a broad overview of the field of early learning and childcare. Students will investigate historical factors that have shaped early childhood theory and practice and will examine a variety of program models and their goals. The roles and responsibilities of the early childhood educator and determinants of quality early childhood programs are also discussed. This course also introduces students to some of the agencies and resources that support the professional growth of early childhood educators.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS: Bertrand, J. (2021). *Becoming and being an early childhood professional*. Cengage Canada.

DELIVERY MODE(S): Classroom instruction will include a combination of lectures, discussions, small and large group work. Audio-visual materials and other resources will also be used.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course intends to provide students with:

- An overview of the field of early learning and childcare.
- The opportunity to investigate historical factors that have shaped early childhood theory and practice
- Information pertaining to a variety of program models and their goals.
- An examination of the roles and responsibilities of the early childhood educator
- Discussion of the determinants of quality early childhood programs
- An introduction to some of the agencies and resources that support the professional growth of early childhood educators

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Identify historical influences on current early childhood theory and practice.
- Explain the need and benefits of affordable, accessible, high-quality childcare and early education programs in Canada
- Outline the defining characteristics of various childcare and early education programs (e.g. play school, family day care, out-of-school care, preschool, etc.) existing in Canada today and the challenges and rewards of working in each
- Describe a variety of contemporary program models, their goals and philosophies, e.g. Montessori, Waldorf, Reggio Emilia, High Scope, Aboriginal Head Start, Forest Preschools
- Identify the characteristics of high-quality early childhood programs, including the attributes required of the early childhood educator.
- Demonstrate understanding of ethics and professionalism in Early Learning and Child Care.
- Demonstrate an awareness of key agencies and resources available to early learning and childcare professionals in Canada to support their professional growth in the field.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

25%	Assignment #1	October 3, 2022
25%	Assignment#2	November 28, 2022
20%	Test #1	November 7, 2022
20%	Test #2	December 12, 2022
10%	In-Class Tasks	Weekly

GRADING CRITERIA: (The following criteria may be changed to suite the particular course/instructor)

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Date	Topic
September 12	Introduction Becoming an Early Childhood Educator
September 19	Early Childhood Educators
September 26	The Working Environment
October 3	Early Childhood Programs
October 10	Fall Break No Classes
October 17	Early Childhood Education Curriculum
October 24	Early Childhood Education Curriculum
October 31	Test #1
November 7	Quality in Early Childhood Education Programs
November 14	Quality in Early Childhood Education Programs
November 21	The Roots of Early Childhood Education in Canada
November 28	The Roots of Early Childhood Education in Canada
December 5	The Modern Profession Advocacy
December 12	Test #2

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with basic rights and responsibilities. Please refer to NorthWestern Polytechnic Calendar regarding rights and responsibilities.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.