



## **DEPARTMENT OF EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME**

### **COURSE OUTLINE - WINTER 2014**

#### **CD 1330 UNDERSTANDING CHILDREN'S PLAY - 3 CREDITS, 45 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Caterina Amaro B.Sc      **PHONE:** 587-297-3767  
**OFFICE:** [Click here to enter text.](#)      **E-MAIL:** [camaro@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:camaro@gprc.ab.ca)  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Wednesday 7:00pm-8:00pm

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: CD1000**

#### **REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Although a text is NOT required for this course, a number of readings/resources will be placed on moodle; it is your responsibility to become familiar with this learning tool and to check it regularly

#### **CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides an introduction to the central role of play in early learning and child care settings, with an emphasis on developmentally appropriate, culturally sensitive practices. This course focuses on a number of topics including the nature value, and types of play, as well as important theories and issues regarding play. Students will also learn about the role of the practitioner in play, including the use of appropriate observation and documentation to understand and support children's development through play.

### **CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS/ DELIVERY MODE(S): 3**

Classroom instruction will include a combination of lectures, as well as small and large group work. Audio-visual material and additional resources will also be used.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

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

- Understand the importance of play in children's life and how it benefits them.
- Classify children's play episodes, using the categories of play identified by Parten and Piaget.
- Identify specific skills that are learned through play activities
- Use appropriate and objective observation and documentation tools and techniques to understand, and interpret children's play.
- Articulate the role of the practitioner in facilitating, supporting, and extending children's play.
- Identify how to meet developmental goals with play activities
- List ways that a provider can support and encourage learning through play

### **TRANSFERABILITY:**

**\*\* 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**

### **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at [www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/\\*\\*](http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/**)

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

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

<b>GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE</b>			
<b>GRADING CONVERSION CHART</b>			
<b>Alpha Grade</b>	<b>4-point Equivalent</b>	<b>Percentage Guidelines</b>	<b>Designation</b>
<b>A<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>90 – 100</b>	<b>EXCELLENT</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>85 – 89</b>	
<b>A<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>80 – 84</b>	<b>FIRST CLASS STANDING</b>
<b>B<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>77 – 79</b>	
<b>B</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>73 – 76</b>	<b>GOOD</b>
<b>B<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>70 – 72</b>	
<b>C<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>67 – 69</b>	<b>SATISFACTORY</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>63 – 66</b>	
<b>C<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>60 – 62</b>	
<b>D<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>55 – 59</b>	<b>MINIMAL PASS</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>50 – 54</b>	
<b>F</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0 – 49</b>	<b>FAIL</b>
<b>WF</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline</b>

# **Course Evaluation:**

(How do you get marks):

- Assignment 1: "Back to basics, What is play?" 10%
- Assignment 2: "Types of play, PART 1" 10%
- Assignment 3: "Types of play, PART 2" 10%
- Assignment 4: "Observations" 10%
- In class assignments (Group Work) 10%
- Quizzes 10%
- First Exam 10 %
- Final Exam 15%
- Attendance /participation 15%

If a student misses more than 20% of scheduled classes, a grade of '0' will be assigned. ALL of the evaluations must be completed in order to pass the course.

**ASSIGNMENTS 40%** For confidentiality, use the child's initials or a pseudonym rather than the child's real name.

## **Assignment 1: "Back to basics, What is play?"10%**

***Due date: February 3rd, 2014***

**Objective:** Understand the importance of play in children's life and how it benefits them and identify specific skills that are learned through play activities.

### **Description:**

- ✓ Observe 2 children while playing during free play or outside (observe each child at least for 20 minutes).
- ✓ Take pictures of each child engaged in play.
- ✓ Take notes of what each child SAID and DID, and write down with detail what they did (in an objective way).
- ✓ Identify the skills that each child learned through play
- ✓ Give your instructor a written summary of this. **(Template provided by instructor)**

- ✓ *\*Please note, that if you take pictures of the children at your practicum placement, you must have signed permission, from the child's parent to use their picture. This MUST be submitted with your assignment. If it is not, a '0' will be given.*

## **Assignment 2: "Types of play, PART 1" 10%**

**Due date: February 24th, 2014**

**Objective:** Classify children's play episodes, using the categories of play identified by Mildred Parten.

### **Description:**

- ✓ Go to a classroom and observe the children in the room while playing.
- ✓ As soon as you identify a type of play, take a picture of it! (you will need to have the photos on your written assignment. You will need at least 5 photos, but you can provide more (1 for each type of play).
- ✓ Complete the template. **(Template provided by instructor)**
  - Describe why you think that specific type of play corresponds to the photo that you took and specify what the children were doing at that moment.
- ✓ *\*Please note, that if you take pictures of the children in the classroom, you must have signed permission, from the child's parent to use their picture. This MUST be submitted with your assignment. If it is not, a '0' will be given.*

## **Assignment 3: "Types of play, PART 2" 10%**

**Due date: March 17th, 2014**

**Objective:** Classify children's play episodes, using the categories of play identified by Jean Piaget.

### **Description:**

- ✓ Go to a classroom and observe the children in the room while playing.
- ✓ As soon as you identify a type of play, take a picture of it! (you will need to have the photos on your written assignment. You will need at least 5 photos, but you can provide more (1 for each type of play).
- ✓ Complete the template. **(Template provided by instructor)**

- Describe why you think that specific type of play corresponds to the photo that you took and specify what the children were doing at that moment.
- ✓ *\*Please note, that if you take pictures of the children in the classroom, you must have signed permission, from the child's parent to use their picture. This MUST be submitted with your assignment. If it is not, a '0' will be given.*

## **Assignment 4: "Observations" 10%**

**Due date: April 7th, 2014**

**Objective:** Use appropriate and objective observation and documentation tools and techniques to understand, and interpret children's play.

### **Description:**

- ✓ Choose one child to observe in one of your practicum sites OR in the Children's Centre Demonstration Preschool Program. (If you are not registered in CD 1045, you will have to make arrangements to observe a child in the Children's Centre. You may not complete these observations on your own child for this last assignment )
- ✓ Using the information you have gained in class and the various handouts about observing and recording children's behavior as resources, complete two 20- minute observations of the child at play.
- ✓ Create a Running Record (using Instructor's template)
- ✓ Create an Anecdotal Record (using Instructor's template)

## **IN CLASS ASSIGNMENTS (GROUP WORK) 10%**

We will have 2 IN CLASS, group assignments. Each group assignment will be worth 5% of your final grade.

## QUIZZES 10%

- **Quiz 1:** We will have a small quiz during class, this quiz will be worth 5% of your final grade. It will be in partners and will be related to the 2 categories of the TYPES OF PLAY.
- **Quiz 2:** We will have a small quiz during class, this quiz will be worth 5% of your final grade. It will be in partners and will be related to THE ROLE OF THE ADULT.

## FIRST EXAM 10%

***Due date:*** March 3rd, 2014

Study questions will be provided for this exam. Regular attendance is strongly recommended.

## FINAL EXAM 15%

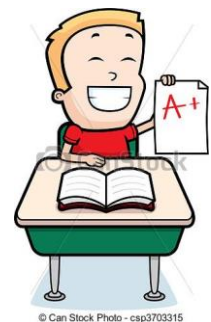
***Due date:*** April 28th, 2014

Study questions will be provided for this exam. Regular attendance is strongly recommended.

## ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION 15%

Attendance in this class is mandatory. Students are expected to arrive on time to class. A sign-in sheet will be used every time we meet. It is the responsibility of the student and the instructor to engage in appropriate adult behaviors that positively support learning. This includes, but is not limited to treating others with dignity and respect.

A variety of in class activities will be marked; these will include: group games, activities related to observation and recording (with videos and photos provided by instructor), short quizzes and group activities. If you are absent from class you will not have the opportunity to complete the work. Arriving late or leaving early will affect your score at the end of the class.



Additionally, you will be expected to check into moodle on a weekly basis and complete any assignments/readings posted.

## COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Date	Topic	Important Dates
January 13th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions</li> <li>• Overview of course</li> <li>• Your play as a child</li> </ul>	
January 20th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play: Definition and Characteristics</li> <li>• Explain assignment #1</li> </ul>	
January 27th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role of play and DAP</li> <li>• Play Learning Development</li> </ul>	IN CLASS ASSIGNMENT/ GROUP WORK (What's play-Visual representation ?)
February 3rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment #1 review</li> <li>• Types of Play (Cognitive-Piaget)</li> <li>• Types of play class activities</li> </ul>	Assignment #1 <b>"Back to basics, What is play?"</b>
February 10th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Types of Play (Social-Parten)</li> <li>• Types of play class activities</li> <li>• Explain assignment #2</li> </ul>	
February 17th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz</li> <li>• Types of play review (Recognition, games)</li> <li>• Facilitating, Supporting and Extending Children's Play</li> </ul>	St. Patrick's Day  QUIZ #1 (TYPES OF PLAY)
February 24th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment #2 review</li> <li>• The role of the adult</li> <li>• Study questions will be provided this day</li> </ul>	Assignment #2 <b>"Types of play"</b>



March 3rd	Explain assignment #3	<b>First Exam</b>
March 10th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Issues that influence children's play</li> <li>• Facilitating, Supporting and Extending Children's Play</li> </ul>	
March 17th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review Assignment #3</li> <li>• The role of the adult</li> </ul>	Assignment #3 <b>"Types of play, PART 2"</b>
March 24th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observing and Recording</li> <li>• Analyze videos and photos</li> </ul>	IN CLASS ASSIGNMENT/ GROUP WORK (Observing and Recording)
March 31st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objectivity</li> <li>• Objective vs. Subjective Game</li> </ul>	QUIZ #2 (THE ROLE OF THE ADULT)
April 7th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyze videos and photos</li> <li>• Review Assignment #4</li> <li>• Objectivity</li> </ul>	Assignment #4 <b>"Observations"</b>
April 14th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation</li> <li>• Summary in PLAY, Types of play)</li> </ul>	
April 21st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review for Final Exam (Study questions will be provided this day)</li> <li>• End of the course party</li> </ul>	
April 28th		<b>Final Exam</b>