



The University of Southern Queensland

Course Specification

Description: Early Childhood Education I

Subject	Cat-Nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
ECE	2023	20728	1, 2003	EXT	1.00	TWMBBA

Academic Group:	FOEDU
Academic Org:	FOE004
HECS Band:	1
ASCED Code:	070101

STAFFING

Examiner: Lindy Austin

Moderator: Di Small

RATIONALE

Early childhood education is made up of a complex and diverse array of programs and services. Recently, economic, political and sociological changes stemming from equal opportunity and women's issues have resulted in early education, particularly the provision of day care, being an important community concern. Updated regulations to guide early childhood standards, and in turn the quality of education and care received by the children, have been established as a result of these social changes. Early childhood educators must be competent in the skills required in child care centres and be able to understand the nature of political and social change affecting the provision of services.

SYNOPSIS

This course provides an introduction to the many early childhood services available to children birth-8 years, with a specific focus on child care. It will provide a brief overview of the history of early education in Australia, and review the more recent developments in the child care field. The major focus will be in the development of care programs and environments for young children with an emphasis on children birth to 3 years.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- be equipped to identify and discuss the early childhood services;
- be familiar with the history of early childhood services in Australia;
- be aware of the socio-economic and political parameters of day care;
- be familiar with a variety of different ways to organise and develop learning environments for young children;

- be equipped to create interesting and developmentally sound and socially responsive environments for young children;
- develop programmes for young children which are developmentally sound and socially interactive;
- use appropriate interpersonal and teaching skills for nursery and toddler groups.

TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Overview of early childhood services	10.00
2. History of early childhood Services in Australia	10.00
3. Recent developments in the field of child care (political economic, social)	20.00
4. Management of child care centres	10.00
5. Creating responsive and aesthetic environments in child care	20.00
6. Creating individually appropriate and socially responsive programmes for children in child care	30.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:

Books can be ordered by fax or telephone. For costs and further details use the 'Book Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> by entering the author or title of the text.

Hutchins, T. & Sims, M 1999, *Program Planning for Infants and Toddlers: An Ecological Approach*, Prentice Hall, Sydney.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Arthur, L., Beecher, B., Dockett, S., Farmer, S. & Death, E 1996, *Programming and Planning in Early Childhood Settings*, 2nd edition, Harcourt Brace, Sydney.

Broinowski, I 1994, *Managing Child Care Centres*, TAFE Publications, Abbotsford, VIC.

Clarke, J. & Gray, M 1997, *52 Steps to Quality Care: A Manual for Assisting Staff in Early Childhood Centres to Achieve and Maintain Quality Care Using the Principles of Accreditation*, Pademelon, Castle Hill.

Faragher, J. & MacNaughton, G 1998, *Working with Young Children*, 2nd edition, TAFE Publications,

Fleet, A. & Clyde, M 1993, *What's in a Day: Working in Early Childhood*, Social Science Press, Wentworth Falls, NSW.

Gonzales-Mena, J. & Eyer, D 2001, *Infants, Toddlers and Caregivers*, 5th edition, Mayfield, Mountain View, CA.

Greenman, J. & Stonehouse, A 1997, *Prime Times*, Longman, South Melbourne, VIC.

- Hayden, J 1996, *Management of Early Childhood Services - An Australian Perspective*, Social Science Press, NSW.
- Hildebrand, V 1997, *Management of Child Development Centres*, 4th edition, Merrill/MacMillan, Upper Saddle River NJ.
- Hildebrand, V 1994, *Guiding Young Children*, 5th edition, Merrill/MacMillan,
- Hughes, F.P 1999, *Children, Play and Development*, 3rd edition, Allyn & Bacon, Boston.
- Hutchins, T 1995, *Babies Need More Than Minding*, Australian Early Childhood Association, Canberra.
- Mellor, E.J 1990, *Stepping Stones: The Development of Early Childhood in Australia*, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Publishers,
- Stonehouse, A 1988, *Trusting Toddlers*, AECA,
- Stonehouse, A 1994, *Not Just Nice Ladies: A Book of Readings on Early Childhood Care and Education*, Pademelon Press, NSW.
- Taylor, B.J 2002, *Early Childhood Program Management: People and Procedures*, 4th edition, Merrill/MacMillan, NJ.
- Turner, P.H. & Hamner, T.J 1994, *Child Development and Early Education: Infancy Through Preschool*, Allyn & Bacon, Boston.
- Wortham, S.C 2002, *Early Childhood Curriculum: Developmental Bases for Learning and Teaching*, 3rd edition, Merrill/MacMillan,

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	30
Directed Study	60
Private Study	70

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks Out of	Wtg(%)	Required	Due Date
INFLUENCES ON PROGRAMS	50.00	50.00	Y	05 May 2003
INFANT/TODDLER PROGRAMS	50.00	50.00	Y	13 Jun 2003

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Summative assessment items will be given a numerical score.
- 2 Course Grades will be calculated by aggregating the weighted result or numerical score for each summative assessment item.
- 3 All assessment items must be submitted and passed overall.
- 4 If assignments are submitted after the due date without an approved extension of time, University penalties may be applied.