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**CTEC 4911**

**Auburn University**

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| **Department** | Curriculum & Teaching |
| **Teaching Program** | Early Childhood Education Program |
| **Course Title** | Practicum in the Preschool |
| **Instructor** | Tamra Pickering, M.Ed. |
| **Email** | Msp0045@auburn.edu |
| **Office Hours** | By appointment |
| **Prerequisites** | Admission to Teacher Ed  CTEC 3200, CTEC 4200 |
| **Syllabus Prepared** | Aug. 1998, Revised Jan. 2007,  Aug. 2013/14, and Aug. 2020  \*\*Not to be distributed. |

**1. Course Description**

#### Catalog Description:

This course provides laboratory experiences with preschool children 3 through 5 years of age. Course assignments with children help students relate theory to practice.

**Texts**:

### See CTEC 3030 syllabus for reading requirements and recommendations.

\*\*Additional readings may be posted on Canvas.

**Course Objectives:**

The Early Childhood program provides the pre-service teacher the opportunity to construct knowledge and refine their practice through experiences that support empirical and theoretical decision-making. To this end, this course will provide pre-service teachers the opportunity to observe and participate in supervised practicum experiences [NAEYC 6.1] with young children of diverse ages and reflecting diverse family systems [NAEYC 6.2 & 6.3].

Students will implement, in an early childhood classroom, the strategies and techniques learned in previous classes. (See CTEC 4200 for detailed objectives).

Each student will use knowledge gained in CTEC 3030 and 4200 to construct materials and develop teaching strategies that will positively impact primary children's learning.

1. Each student will construct a basic understanding of the administration, organization, and operation of early childhood programs.
2. Students will plan, implement, and assess student learning through multiple interactions and activities, including **a minimum of four formal observations** (to be conducted by both the classroom teacher and university supervisor).

**2. COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

#### Part A – Attendance/Practicum Experience

1. **Attendance :** Each student will meet attendance requirements for the practicum experience. Excused absences must be documented and **must** be made up. **Unexcused or excessive absences will result in unsatisfactory completion of the practicum.** Should extreme illness cause absence, students are to notify the cooperating teacher and the practicum supervisor **before** 7:00 a.m. If the student is responsible for some portion of the day's work, lesson plans and materials must be sent to the cooperating teachers prior to the start of the school day.

* Effective participation requires that each Teacher Candidate be engaged fully with the learning experience in the practicum. This includes being *at your school placement and in the classroom ready to teach*. Initiate interactions with the classroom cooperating teacher in person and via electronic mail (if preferred), even if you do not receive a response. Assume the responsibility of gaining all that you can from this experience: be *on time*; stay engaged with students and teacher, respect the mobile device policy of the school (best to leave mobile phones in your car unless you have permission to use them to take photo documentation of children’s work). *Partially and fully missed days must be made up*.
* *Actively* observe & take notes from observations in your notebook – observations should include:
  + Sketch of classroom
  + Classroom management plan (documentation and interview with teacher)
  + Notes from each lesson you observe the classroom teacher leading – small and large group
  + Notes about each child in your classroom – name, interests, and activities observed

1. **Teaching:** See schedule and teaching requirements on calendar below. \*\*You must teach each scheduled day. If you miss a day, it must be made up. You will need to communicate with your cooperating teacher and the university supervisor prior to your absence and in order to make up your teaching time. You are required to keep a log of your attendance, which will be turned in at the end of the semester.

* Teacher Candidates will oversee some portion of the **reading *and* writing process**.
  + Plan ways to use shared reading and writing workshop methods to help advance the children’s ability and motivation in reading and writing with quality literature and non-fiction. Methods are to help each child acquire or refine strategies as readers and writers. The university supervisor and/or classroom teacher must evaluate all materials for lessons.
  + **A shared reading or story time** lesson must be **one of the four formal observations**, and can be conducted in small or whole group.
  + Plan one **content area** lesson for science, math or social studies. A content lesson must be **one of the four formal observations**, and may be conducted in small or large group.
  + Representation (writing, drawing, painting, clay, etc.) must be intentionally planned for and included in every observed lesson activity.

1. **Lesson Plans: Lesson plans are due to the cooperating teacher on Thursday of the week prior to lesson implementation.** This will allow the cooperating teacher time to review and analyze the lesson plans. Plan to debrief with your cooperating teacher on Thursday to discuss any changes or revisions that need to be made. **For each lesson, students can use either the “Possibility Plan” or “5-E Format” template found on Canvas. For the four observed lessons, a full 5-E format should be used.**

#### Observations: 4 total –

2 by Auburn University Supervisor

2 by Cooperating Teacher

\*More information below.

**Course Assignments: Total points possible = 360 points**

**\*Please note that this is a satisfactory/unsatisfactory course. Students must satisfactorily complete all components of the practicum to receive a satisfactory grade.**

1. **Professional Dispositions Checklist:** The classroom teacher will complete a Professional Dispositions Checklist twice during the semester, once by midterm and the second by the end of the semester.

Students will assist with classroom tasks of benefit to the teacher and children, such as *taking children to the bathroom, supervising arrivals and departures, monitoring centers, one-on-one tutoring, project work, assisting with attendance, etc.* This assignment is to continue throughout the semester and is to be evaluated by the classroom teacher/supervisor.

2 @ 15 points each **= 30 total**

1. **Teaching and Observations:** A minimum of **four** observations must be successfully completed, **two** *before* mid-semester (the classroom teacher will complete one and the university supervisor will complete one) and *at least* **two** *after* mid-semester (the classroom teacher will again complete one and the university supervisor will also complete one, or more if needed). Others may be required to be completed, at the classroom teacher’s or university supervisor’s discretion.
   * Students must arrange to be formally observed by the classroom teacher and university supervisor.
   * **It is the responsibility of the student to schedule all observations.** University supervisor will give sign up time slots, if one of these slots will not work for you, take initiative early to set up an alternate time. Have conversations early in the semester with your supervising teacher to set up times for observations.
   * Provide the observer with the Classroom Observation Form (found on Canvas) and an 5-E approved lesson plan (signed by the classroom teacher) for the observation *at least* 24 hours in advance.
   * After each of the 4 observations you must submit in the assignment link on Canvas
2. A copy of the lesson plan

10 points each = 40

1. The completed Classroom Observation Instrument

15 points each = 60

1. A written reflection of your lesson (minimum 1.5 pages typed)

15 points each = 60

**= 160 points total**

A) Students will be in charge of advancing children’s knowledge of **reading and writing concepts** through developmentally appropriate means – provocations, games, shared reading, shared writing, activities extending a lesson in a reading or writing curriculum adopted by the classroom/school, or a series of lessons involving objects as well as documentation (drawing, writing, etc.)

### i. The university supervisor and/or classroom teacher must evaluate all materials. Formal observations may be conducted via a small group or whole group setting.

1. **Professional Portfolio:** The student will use readings to design classroom activities, work together with the children, closely observe, and take photographs of the children’s creative efforts and symbolic play. The portfolio will contain evidence of student learning. You will document their representational thinking (i.e. art, writing, drawing, talking, and play), and document your learning from your learning stories, funds of knowledge, and the experiences you planned in response to this information (e.g. their artwork, documentation of their imaginative play, written notes/transcripts from observing/listening to their talking as they do art or play, etc). Further instructions for the professional portfolio will be provided and discussed.

**= 75 points total**

1. **Bi-Weekly Practicum Reflections**: Every other week, answer the following questions: (at minimum; other questions may be added over time).

What worked this week? (i.e., interactions with students, etc; planning & implementing lessons; communication with mentors/colleagues)

What didn’t work? (Same as above)

What would you like to see changed?

How have our readings entered your thinking/teaching/reflecting on children’s thinking?

What will you do differently to contribute to this change?

**= 30 points total**

1. **Project Investigation**: You will work with a small group of children to design a series of lesson plans and activities based on student interest. You will implement these lessons with children, reflect on their learning, adapt future lessons based on diagnostic assessment, and plan for remedial or extension activities. You will reflect on your project investigation with children and reflect on course readings to understand why projects and teaching based on student interest is an important part of the learning process for young children.

**= 35 points total**

1. **Practicum Notebook:** Students will keep a 3-ring binder in their classroom. It should stay in the classroom always and should be added to daily/weekly. Please keep your binder organized and tab each section.
   * lesson plans (original + revisions when required)
   * observation forms
   * reflections
   * evidence of student learning (assessment/evaluation, documentation of learning, professional development)
   * practicum attendance log
   * practicum lab student survey
   * professional disposition checklists
   * behavioral observations and plans (your teacher or school’s classroom behavior plan, observation notes, etc.)
   * other important forms from your Syllabus or Lab Manual
   * other documents or materials from your practicum that were important for your overall growth this semester

**= 20 points total**

1. **Participation and Professionalism:** Students will be expected to uphold the policies set forth by the College of Education Early Childhood department as stated within the Practicum Lab Manual. This means being professional at all times; prompt arrival to your placement; turning in assignments by the due date; interacting with children and showing initiative; upholding the mobile phone / smart watch policy as stated by your school, etc.

= **10 total points**

### Each objective must be achieved in order for the student to earn a satisfactory grade. Evaluations (S/U) will be based on the following: Grades are assigned as follows:

**Satisfactory (S) 70% or higher (255 accumulated points)**

**Unsatisfactory (U) Below 70%**

Students must satisfy all course objectives AND complete four successful observations in order to pass this course.

**3. UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE POLICIES**

#### Participation:

All students are expected to participate in all class discussions and participate in all exercises. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor if assignment deadlines are not met and for initiating arrangements for missed work.

#### Unannounced Quizzes:

There will be no unannounced quizzes.

#### Accommodations:

Students who need special accommodations in class, as provided for by the American Disabilities Act, should arrange a confidential meeting with the instructor during office hours the first week of classes – or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately. You must bring a copy of your Accommodation Memo and an Instructor Verification Form to the meeting. If you do not have these forms but need accommodations, make an appointment with the Program for Students with Disabilities, 1244 Haley Center, 844-2096.

#### Academic Honesty Policy:

All portions of the Auburn University student Academic Honesty Code (Title XII) will apply to this class. All academic honesty violations or alleged violations will be reported to the Office of the Provost, which will then refer the case to the Academic Honesty Committee.

#### Professionalism:

Faculty, staff, and students in professional settings are expected to demonstrate professional behaviors as defined in the College’s conceptual framework. These professional commitments or dispositions are as follows: Engage in responsible and ethical professional practices; contribute to collaborative learning communities; demonstrate a commitment to diversity; model and nurture intellectual vitality.

#### Writing Center:

The Miller Writing Center provides free support on any writing you are doing while at Auburn, whether for a course or not. Trained consultants are available to work with you as you plan, draft, and revise your writing. For students in distance courses and students temporarily away from Auburn’s campus, the Miller Writing Center offers synchronous online consultations. Please check the Miller Writing Center website ([www.auburn.edu/writingcenter)](http://www.auburn.edu/writingcenter)) for instructions and information about scheduling online appointments. If you have questions about the Miller Writing Center, please email [writctr@auburn.edu](mailto:writctr@auburn.edu) or call 334-844-7475 M-F 7:45am-4:45pm.

#### Student eHandbook:

Please refer to <http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_policies/>for all AU student policies.

* **Technology Requirements:**This course may require particular technologies to complete coursework. If you need access to additional technological support, please contact the AU Bookstore at [aubookstore@auburn.edu](mailto:aubookstore@auburn.edu)

**4. TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

Lab Placement Attendance Log (Tu/Th)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date:** | **Teaching Expectations:** | **Pre-Service Teacher Initials:** | **Cooperating Teacher Initials:** |
| 1/24 | Observe the classroom teacher, class schedule, classroom rules, and getting to know the students. |  |  |
| 1/26 | Observe the classroom teacher, class schedule, classroom rules, and getting to know the students. |  |  |
| 1/31 | Observe the classroom teacher, class schedule, classroom rules, and getting to know the students. |  |  |
| 2/2 | Observe the classroom teacher, class schedule, classroom rules, and getting to know the students. |  |  |
| 2/7 | Teach 1 lesson this week. All lessons should be created by teacher candidate and approved by cooperating teacher.  \*\*Calendar may be taken over but may not count toward this requirement. |  |  |
| 2/9 |  |  |  |
| 2/14 | Teach 1 approved lesson this week. |  |  |
| 2/16 |  |  |  |
| 2/21 | Teach 1 approved lesson this week. |  |  |
| 2/23 |  |  |  |
| 2/28 | Begin teaching 1 lesson per day. All lessons should be created by teacher candidate and approved by cooperating teacher. |  |  |
| 3/2 |  |  |  |
| 3/7 & 3/9 | Spring Break |  |  |
| 3/14 | Teach 1 approved lesson.  \*1st Professional Dispositions Checklist uploaded to Canvas by Friday, March 10, 2023 at 11:59 PM.  \*1st and 2nd observed lesson documents uploaded to Canvas by Friday, March 10, 2023 at 11:59 PM. |  |  |
| 3/16 | Teach 1 approved lesson. |  |  |
| 3/21 | Teach 1 approved lesson. |  |  |
| 3/23 | Begin teaching 2 lessons per day. All lessons should be created by teacher candidate and approved by cooperating teacher. |  |  |
| 3/28 | Teach 2 approved lesson. |  |  |
| 3/30 | Teach 2 lessons per day.  \*\*Discuss with your teacher about the possibility of teaching 1-2 full days in April. |  |  |
| 4/4 | Teach 2 approved lessons. |  |  |
| 4/6 | Teach 2 approved lessons. |  |  |
| 4/11 | Teach 2 approved lessons. |  |  |
| 4/13 | Teach 2 approved lessons. |  |  |
| 4/18 | Teach 2 approved lessons. |  |  |
| 4/20 | Teach 2 approved lessons. |  |  |
| 4/2 | Teach 2 approved lessons. |  |  |
| 4/27 | Teach 2 approved lessons. **Last Day!**  \*2nd Professional Dispositions Checklist and other paperwork uploaded to Canvas by Sunday, April 30 at 11:59 PM.  \*3rd and 4th observed lesson documents uploaded to canvas by Sunday, April 30 at 11:59 PM. |  |  |

