

California Community Colleges ECE Curriculum Alignment Project (CAP)

Official Course Alignment Document:

Principles and Practices of Teaching Young Children (Revised Sept 2015)

Course Description:
Historical context and theoretical perspectives of developmentally appropriate practice in early care and education. Examines the role of the early childhood educator, identification of best practices for environmental design, curriculum, and teaching strategies. Explores teacher child relationships, professional ethics, career pathways and professional standards.
Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):
1. Compare and contrast historical and current early childhood education perspectives, theories, and program types and philosophies.
2. Describe the role of the early childhood educator, including ethical conduct and professional pathways.
3. Identify quality in early childhood programs related to environment, curriculum, and teaching strategies.
CAP Objectives:
1. Describe developmentally appropriate practice.
2. Identify the historical roots, theories, standard, and approaches in early care and education.
3. Compare various program types and philosophies.
4. Discuss personal philosophies of teaching, career pathways, ethics, and professionalism.
5. Examine the developmental needs of children at various ages.
6. Describe characteristics of effective relationships, positive guidance, and teacher-child interactions.
7. Use indicators of quality to analyze various early childhood settings, and curriculum, and teaching strategies.
CAP Course Content and Topics:
1. Historical and current approaches <ol style="list-style-type: none">TheoriesProgram philosophiesDelivery systems and program typesLicensing and regulationsPersonnel requirementsQuality IndicatorsState and national standards
2. Roles of early childhood teachers <ol style="list-style-type: none">Attributes of effective early childhood teachersPersonal philosophy of teachingProfessionalism and ethicsCareer options and professional developmentProfessional organizationsCollaboration<ol style="list-style-type: none">FamiliesColleaguesOther professionals
3. Children's development <ol style="list-style-type: none">PhysicalCognitiveLanguage

CAP Principles and Practices of Teaching Young Children (cont'd)

- d. Social
- e. Emotional
- f. Influences on development

- 4. Indicators of developmentally appropriate practices
 - a. Curriculum
 - i. Interrelationship of planning, observation, and assessment
 - ii. Planning for individual needs
 - b. Environments
 - i. Impact on behavior
 - ii. Indoor and outdoor
 - iii. Adaptation
 - c. Teaching strategies
 - i. Communication
 - ii. Teacher-child interactions
 - iii. Guidance
 - d. Impact of culture and language
 - e. Strategies for family involvement