

**Nashville State Community College
Social and Behavioral Science
Early Childhood Education**

**Master Course Syllabus
Full 15-Week Term**

ECED 1310 – Introduction to Early Childhood Education

The purpose of the syllabus is to inform you how this course is organized, what the expectations are, and how you will be graded. In addition, there is important information about how the college will operate during severe weather and how the college will communicate with you. The syllabus is not a contract. Instead, it is meant to help you succeed in this course. If any of the content changes during the course term, you will be notified.

Course Information:

Course Title: Introduction to Early Childhood Education

Credits: 3

Class Hours: 3

Course Description:

An introduction to the early childhood profession, including an emphasis on professionalism and developmentally appropriate practice. Topics include an overview of history of early education; theoretical program models; different types of early childhood programs, community resources; professional organizations, and contemporary trends and issues in programs for children ages birth through eight. Field experience required.

Instructor Information:

Name:

Email:

Office Phone:

Alternative Phone #:

Office Location:

Office Hours: By ap

After you make an appointment, check the email you provided for confirmation. If you need to reschedule, the confirmation email provides instructions.

Scheduling QR Code for Appointments:

Instructor Zoom Room link:

Course Delivery Method

- **Online:** Course is fully online (asynchronous) and has no scheduled on-campus meeting requirements.

Required Textbook(s) & Other Materials:

Textbook(s): Gordon, A. M., & Browne, K. W. (2016). *Beginning Essentials in Early Childhood Education* (3rd ed.). Cengage.

ISBN: 978-1-305-08903-7

Once you have registered for your courses, you should make sure you have the correct textbook and materials for each course. Before courses begin, you can do this by looking up your courses on the [bookstore's website](https://www.bkstr.com/nscctestore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials) (<https://www.bkstr.com/nscctestore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials>) using your A# or by entering your course information. If you are registered with the Access Center and need an alternate format for the textbook and other course materials, please contact the Access Center at 615-353-3363 or accesscenter@nsc.edu.

Digital Course Materials: These ensure you pay less for your course materials and have easy access through D2L throughout the term. When you registered for this course, the charge for these materials appeared on your account. If you decide you do not want to purchase the course materials embedded in NS Online, you can opt out of the program **until the end of the second week of classes**. If you opt out, you will be responsible for purchasing the required course materials on your own. For more information, please visit www.nsc.edu/dcm.

Honors Option: Honors credit is available in some classes. If you are interested in participating in the Honors Program, please see your instructor within the first four weeks of class.

Course Outcomes: At the end of the term, this is what you should know and/or be able to do:

1. Recognize the foundation of the early childhood profession, its historical, philosophical, and social foundations and how these foundations influence current thought and practice. **(6a)**
2. Recognize the diversity of settings, teacher qualifications, types of employment, locations, etc., in the early childhood field. **(6a)**
3. Recognize professional journals, websites, organizations, and community agencies that support the early childhood professional. **(SS 5)**
4. Identify basic components of quality in an early childhood program setting. **(1a, 2a, 3b, 4b)**
5. Identify the goals and basic components of several prominent, theoretical curriculum models (Montessori, High Scope, Reggio Emilia, Project Approach, etc.) **(4b)**
6. Recognize the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct to resolve basic ethical dilemmas in early education. **(6b)**

NAEYC Initial Standards:

The AAS Degree in ECED at Nashville State is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The following NAEYC Initial Standards for Early Childhood Education Professional Preparation are addressed in this course:

Standard 1: Promoting Child Development and Learning

1a. Knowing and understanding young children's characteristics and needs, from birth through age 8

Standard 2: Building Family and Community Relationships

2a. Knowing about and understanding family and community characteristics

Standard 3: Observing, Documenting, and Assessing to Support Young Children and Families

3b. Knowing about and using observation, documentation, and other appropriate assessment tools and approaches, including the use of technology in documentation, assessment, and data collection

Standard 4: Using Developmentally Effective Approaches

4b. Knowing and understanding effective strategies and tools for early education, including appropriate uses of technology.

Standard 6: Becoming a Professional

6a. Identifying and involving oneself with the early childhood field

6b. Knowing about and upholding ethical standards and other early childhood professional guidelines

Supportive Skills

SS 5. Skills in identifying and using professional resources

Course Competencies:

The following are detailed course competencies, or specific skills or knowledge, intended to help you achieve the course outcomes:

- **Objective 1:** Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends)
- **Objective 9:** Learning how to find and use resources for answering questions or solving problems
- **Objective 10:** Developing a clearer understanding of and commitment to personal values

Topics to Be Covered:

- History of Early Childhood Education
- The Young Child: Typical & Atypical Development
- Types of Programs
- Families and Teachers: An Essential Partnership
- Environments & Standards of Quality
- Curriculum in Early Childhood Programs
- The Early Childhood Teacher as Professional
- Technology in Early Childhood Education
- Curriculum Models
- Curriculum Philosophies
- Issues and Trends in Early Education

Course Assessments: We will use the following assessments to demonstrate your understanding, knowledge, and skills:

- **Modules:** This course is designed in module format on the Content page. The module activities include a set of experiences (learning explorations) and assignments to support your active learning and engagement with the content. You are expected to work through and complete each item in each module. The modules are presented in an asynchronous format, meaning that you are able to work on your class readings and assignments at your own time and pace. You do not have to be online at any particular time during the week. However, there are important weekly deadlines you must meet. You must adhere to the course schedule in terms of completing and turning in assignments.

- **Readings/Quizzes/Reflections:** You are expected to read each assigned chapter and/or article and be prepared to have a quiz or reflection on the content covered.
- **Weekly Discussions:** There are 10 required discussion posts. Flip will be utilized to fully address the discussion topic with at least one reference to assigned readings and module content. Original post and replies to two (2) peers must be submitted on Mondays by 8:00 AM. The replies should add depth to the conversation and relate to the discussion topic.
- **Assignments/Field Experience:** There are four (4) required fieldwork assignments listed below. Each assignment must be turned in on the due date and follow the instructions to receive full credit. Also, you will be required to complete a grading rubric based on your work and turn it in with your assignment.
 - o Child Observation – video provided by instructor
 - o Parent Interview- interviewing a parent who has a child in an early education program
 - o Program Observation – observing an early childhood program for one hour via video or in person.
 - o Teacher Interview – interviewing a teacher in an early childhood program

**** Note:** All Fieldwork assignments are required: Child Observation, Program Observation, Teacher Interview, and Parent Interview. You are required to submit all four assignments to receive a passing grade in this course. If you fail to turn in any one of these, you will receive an F for the course. **These are major assessments in the course that demonstrate your knowledge and skill related to the course outcomes and NAEYC Standards. Completion of all is mandatory for passing the course.**

- **Exams:** The midterm and final exam will be multiple-choice, true/false, and short answer, covering materials presented in lecture, chapter readings, additional readings, and videos. Exams can be accessed under the Evaluation tab, then select Quizzes. No student will be allowed to take the exam early or late. There will be no make-up exams for students who are absent unless there is a documented medical emergency. **You do not go to the Testing Center to take exams.**

| Course Assessments Point Break Down Chart | | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Assignment Name</i> | <i>Number of Assignments</i> | <i>Total Points</i> |
| Getting Started Module Activities | 3 | 25 pts |
| Chapter Quizzes | 10 | 100 pts |
| Discussions (Original Post & Replies) | 10 | 50 pts |
| Child Observation (Fieldwork) | 1 | 25 pts |
| Parent Interview (Fieldwork) | 1 | 25 pts |
| Program Observation (Fieldwork) | 1 | 50 pts |
| Teacher Interview (Fieldwork) | 1 | 25 pts |
| Midterm Exam | 1 | 50 pts |
| Final Exam | 1 | 50 pts |
| | | 400 points |

Submitting Assignments:

You can turn in assignments one way in this class – by submitting to the Assignment Dropbox by the date listed on the Course Schedule. For example, if the assignment is due at 8:00 AM on Monday and turned in after 8:00 AM, it is considered late. In the dropbox you will see a due date and close date; the close date is the last day that an assignment can be submitted in the late submission window. Once an assignment dropbox has “closed” submissions will no longer be accepted. Your assignments will be graded online and once posted you will be able to see your grade and feedback. Assignments cannot be submitted through email unless there is a known issue with D2L.

Grading Policy:

All ECED majors working on a technical certificate or an AAS degree are required to receive a C or above in all ECED classes.

Grades are posted in the Gradebook on NS Online. To see your grades in this format, click on the "Evaluation" tab at the top navigation area of the course and select "Grades". All your grades are visible to you, and you can track your progress overall in the course.

It is expected that students follow instructions carefully, study the grading criteria, and ask questions if they do not understand an assignment. For each fieldwork assignment, you will be required to complete the grading rubric as a self-grading component of the assignment. The purpose of this self-grading is to focus your attention on the expectations for the assignment and enhance your own self-evaluation and critical thinking skills. Completing the rubrics will help you practice self-assessment and identify areas for improvement; these are very important skills for a professional in early education. Even though you may submit a self-scored rubric, the instructor will make the final determination on all grades and scores.

All Fieldwork assignments are required: Child Observation, Program Observation, Teacher Interview, and Parent Interview. You are required to submit all four assignments to receive a passing grade in this course. If you fail to turn in any one of these, you will receive an F for the course. **These are major assessments in the course that demonstrate your knowledge and skill related to the course outcomes and NAEYC Standards. Completion of all is mandatory for passing the course.**

Grading Scale:

| Letter Grade | Percentage Range | Points Range |
|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| A | 90-100% | 360-400 |
| B | 80-89% | 320-359 |
| C | 70-79% | 280-319 |
| D | 60-69% | 240-279 |
| F | Below 60% | Below 240 |

FA

If you stop attending class or if you are in an online class and stop submitting assignments, but do not turn in a withdrawal form by the deadline, you are still enrolled in class. You will be given a grade of FA, which means you have failed due to not attending class and not completing your assignments. Please

refer to the current academic calendar available on the Nashville State web site, looking for the date that indicates it is the “Last Day to Earn F for Attendance (FA).” If you stop attending your course after this date (*March 24, 2023*), you will receive an F.

FN

An FN is awarded if you have never attended your course or done any of the work in an online course.

Late Work Policy & Make-up Procedures for Missed Assignments and Work:

Students are encouraged to turn in all assignments on time. In the event that you miss a due date, you may **turn in the assignment late, up to one week beyond the due date, but no later. Ten percent (10%) of the points for an assignment will be deducted on late work.** No assignments will be accepted more than one week late, and no assignment will be accepted beyond the last class date. Late assignments are to be submitted to the Assignment Dropbox. You do not need to notify the instructor about late work; the Dropbox is pre-set to allow late submissions up to one week late. See example below about reduction of points.

EXAMPLE: An assignment worth 100 points is due Feb. 10th. The final date to submit is on Feb. 17th, a week later. If not turned in on Feb. 10th, then it is considered late and will have 10% (10 points) deducted from total score. You have up until Feb. 17th to turn in the assignment, but no later. As for grading, if you turned in late and earned 90, 10 points will be deducted, and your final score will be 80.

Attendance Policy

General Policy

- *Absences in a course may affect your final grade.*
- *Tardiness may also affect your final grade.*
- *You are responsible for all work/tests that occur during any missed course session(s) regardless of reason(s) for absence.*
- *If you are not well enough to attend a course session (class), you must notify the instructor as soon as possible before the scheduled course time.*
 - *If you are unable to notify an instructor before the scheduled course time, you must contact the instructor as soon as reasonably possible.*
- *If you have an unavoidable conflict with a scheduled course session, you must notify the instructor before the course session.*
 - *If you are unable to notify an instructor before the scheduled course time, you must contact the instructor as soon as reasonably possible.*

Instructor’s Policy

The attendance policy for this course is: **For financial aid** purposes, **attendance** is measured by participation in the course. Instructors can determine your level of participation in several ways. Some of those ways are:

- continued attendance (online students are expected to participate in the course at least 3 times a week)
- participating in D2L as prompted
- responding to an instructor's email
- posting to a discussion board/Flip platform
- completing and submitting assignments

Technology Statement

- All classes at the College are web enhanced. "Web enhanced" means that components of the course, such as assignments and online discussions, may be located online in the class D2L/NS Online course shell and used in the course, even if the course meets in a classroom on ground.
- You must have access to a computer and an internet connection to complete assignments, engage in online discussions, and access various course materials through D2L/NS Online course shells.
- You may also be required to use free video conferencing platforms (examples: Zoom, Teams, etc.) for course sessions and meetings.
- You will be responsible for appropriate dress while on video. This means that you are expected to dress as if you were in a classroom.
- You will be responsible for a distraction free environment while on video. This means that the professor and others in the course should not be able to hear noise in your home, such as cell phones, TVs, or barking dogs. The best way to do this is to keep yourself on "mute" until you need to speak.
- You will be responsible for making sure your background is neutral. Keep in mind that students and professors come from all around the world, and you are all a part of our community. Therefore, please avoid having images in your background that may be offensive to your classmates.
- Certain publisher materials, such as textbook figures, may not work on cellphones and may require a laptop or a tablet.
- If you have questions or concerns regarding access to a computer or internet resources, please contact your instructor. Additional information is available on the [access to internet and technology website](#).

Computer Labs

Computers are available for all Nashville State students to use at each campus during open hours. Open computer lab availability may vary from campus to campus.

You should check the NSCC website for current hours of operation.

D2L/NS Online and myNSCC

It is your responsibility to check your email in **both** D2L/NS Online course shells and your @my.nsc.edu (student email) on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and you. You are responsible for the information communicated through these email channels. D2L/NS Online emails contain specific course information and @my.nsc.edu emails contain important information from college offices, such as Financial Aid.

ADA Compliance Statement

If you need accommodations due to a disability, please do not hesitate to reach out to our Access Center. Disabilities for which you can receive accommodations include documented physical, emotional, and/or learning conditions. Nashville State is committed to supporting your success, and we encourage you to get assistance if needed. If you require accommodations for any courses in which you are enrolled, contact the Access Center at 615-353-3363, or e-mail accesscenter@nsc.edu.

Classroom Misconduct

Disruptive conduct is not allowed in the classroom. Disruptive conduct is any behavior that prevents students from learning and interferes with the ability of the instructor to teach. This may change from course to course; therefore, your individual instructors will give you guidance on what qualifies as “disruptive conduct” in their courses. Please review the [Nashville State Student Code of Conduct policy](#). Please be aware that children are not allowed in class or to be left unattended on campus.

Academic Misconduct

You have started this academic journey to prepare for a future career. Because of this, it is important that you learn the materials being presented in your courses. For this reason, cheating, in any form, robs you of your opportunity to learn and master the material that will enable you to succeed in that future career. Nashville State has a clear [Academic Misconduct Policy](#) that you are expected to follow. In addition, your instructors will clarify what Academic Misconduct looks like and the consequences for violations in each course that you take. The instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a “zero” for such violations or for the term grade.

- **Plagiarism** includes using the words or ideas of another as one’s own, either on purpose or unintentionally. This includes, but is not limited to, copying whole, portions, or the paraphrasing (rewording) of passages or information from any source in any academic exercise (written, digital, or oral) without giving credit to the author or source using an appropriate citation style. You must be able to prove that your work is your own.
- **Penalties for Plagiarism:** Cheating and plagiarism (using someone’s work without acknowledging the source from which it came) constitutes academic dishonesty. There are established college reporting procedures if a student is suspected of committing an academically dishonest act. In addition to other possible disciplinary measure that may be applied through regular college procedures as a result of academic dishonesty, **the instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a “zero” for the exercise, paper, or examination, or to assign an “F” for the course.** Students may appeal through the appropriate college grade appeal procedures.

Academic Early Alert System

If you are not doing well in your course, your instructor may send you an Early Alert through your @my.nsc.edu email. This email will go to your academic advisor and Student Success advisor, as well. If you get an Early Alert, contact your instructor immediately. Instructors send these when they want to help you figure out how to get extra support to pass the course. An Early Alert does not mean that you have already failed the course. Rather, it means you are in danger of failing the course if you do not change your learning strategy. Please use an Early Alert to your advantage and as an opportunity to improve your grade.

RAVE Emergency Alert System

You can log in to this free alert system to receive text messages about emergencies related to NSCC campuses through the [RAVE app \(https://www.getrave.com/login/nscc\)](https://www.getrave.com/login/nscc). The instructions for this are listed below.

- Your RAVE Username is your NSCC email address.
- If you've never received an email from RAVE with your password, or if you need to reset your password, select "Forgot your password?" and a new password will be emailed to you.
- Should the RAVE system indicate "user not found", select Register and create your own RAVE account.

Student Wellness

Your well-being is important to us. With this in mind, the college has several resources available to provide support when needed:

- [Free tutoring](#) can assist you beyond the classroom to help you make the most of your college education.
- [These resources](#) include NSCC email, scheduling, online courses, textbooks, tech check out and support, computer labs on campuses, academic advising, financial advising, COVID-19 information and procedures on campuses.
- [Services](#) that help with bus passes, food, childcare, textbooks, housing, financial counseling, personal counseling, suicide prevention, health insurance.

Equity Statement

Nashville State Community College strives to ensure that each student receives what that student needs to be successful, with goals of success beyond the classroom. We understand and practice ideals of equity and inclusion for our students by embracing a full spectrum of experiences, viewpoints, and intellectual approaches in order to overcome barriers to success.

Inclement Weather & Campus Closings

You get notices about campus closings in these places: text messages from RAVE and [the Nashville State website](#). Even when campuses are closed, you are still responsible for completing all assigned work. Check D2L/NS Online for a message from your instructor so you do not miss important assignments and due dates, which may change due to the campus closure.