COURSE SYLLABUS
SUMMER 2012
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY CORPUS CHRISTI
ECED 2310.001 SURVEY OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

INSTRUCTOR: Melissa McConnell
OFFICE: Faculty Center #232
PHONE: 825-2561
EMAIL: Melissa.mcconnell@tamucc.edu
HOURS: Mon. 12:30-1:30 / Wed. 2:30-4:00
By appointment If needed.
This class meets from 6:00-9:45 Mondays and Wednesdays.

YOU MUST CHECK YOUR ISLANDER EMAIL REGULARLY OR HAVE IT SENT TO YOUR MAIN EMAIL ACCOUNT! MANY TIMES CLASS NEWS MUST BE RELATED TO YOU AND THIS IS THE ONLY WAY I WILL CONTACT YOU. WE WILL ALSO ATTEMPT TO USE WEBCT!!

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
An overview of early childhood education including historical beginnings, theoretical basis and various settings. This course will introduce a variety of programs from childcare to kindergarten.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
This course is designed to enable the student to:
• Define the "whole child"
• Discuss the various historical influences upon modern day early childhood education programs
  • Define "early childhood education"
  • List historical figures and their importance in early childhood education
  • List current leaders in early childhood education
  • Discuss the ethics of early childhood education
  • Discuss the various national and international organizations associated with early childhood education
  • Discuss and identity the characteristics of Head Start, Reggie Emilia, Proprietary child care, high scope, and Montessori early childhood programs

TEXTS REQUIRED:

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES
Methods and activities for instruction will include: Lecture, discussions, cooperative groups, student presentations
INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS:
CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION—In order to socially construct knowledge I need all class participants to be present in class and actively involved in discussions and activities. Class attendance is mandatory and absences will influence your course grade. There are no excused absences. You will be counted absent whether or not you have informed me of your absence. If you have three or more absences, it is recommended that you drop the course. Four or more absences will result in course failure. Any extreme (death, immediate family only and hospitalization) and extenuating circumstances might be considered on an individual basis. Doctor appointments are not considered since you can schedule them around your classes.

During class, activities will be conducted interactively. If you miss the class, you will lose credit for that activity. **This matters in your final grade for the course.**

A sign in sheet will be put out at the beginning of class. You are responsible for signing in. The sign in sheet will be taken up 10 minutes after the class starts. **Do not come late to class or you will be counted absent.**

If a student is absent during an exam it cannot be made up. As well, your colleagues will be doing presentations, it is expected that you make up the audience. Your absence during other presentations will affect your presentation grade.

ASSIGNMENTS—All assignments are due on the due date. **Late assignments will only be given half credit.** Remember that this is your grade. **IT MATTERS FOR YOUR FINAL GRADE IN THE CLASS!**

YOU MAY NOT EMAIL ASSIGNMENTS. Be sure to allow yourself ample time to print your assignments in order to avoid any technological difficulties associated with printing assignments. Technological difficulties are not an excuse since you will be given plenty of time to complete assignments. This includes out of ink, computer not working, etc—there are computers for your use here at the university.

All assignments must be word-processed, double spaced, spell checked, and grammatically correct. **All citations and references must be in APA format. You are training to be a professional it is best that you begin to write like one.**

GRADING POLICY—I take the evaluation and grading of your work very seriously, and I know you work very hard to do your best in your courses. While it may take me a little longer to read your work and return it to you, I read papers more than once before assigning a grade to them. Work will not necessarily be returned the following class meeting. Patience is a virtue.
Early childhood has great expectations for its students and their ability to become the best teachers concerned for children. The grading policy is at a higher expectation for this reason. Grades will be determined by the following percentages:

- **A** = 92% - 100%
- **B** = 82% - 91%
- **C** = 72% - 81%
- **D** = 62% - 71%
- **F** = 62% AND BELOW

Extra points can be earned by attending and participating in the Islander ACEI meetings held each month. No more than 10 extra points can be used in this class. Additional points can be used for other ECED classes.

Class participation is necessary in this class. Many times class demos or activities are done to judge your learning. If it is noticed through the participation that students are not prepared, then a quiz will be given. So come to class prepared and ready to participate. It is essential that you read the chapters assigned for each class. Lectures and activities are based on these readings.

**COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:**

- **ONLINE MODULE (2)** 100
- **EXAMS (3)** 100
- **ETHICAL DILEMMA FOLDER** 100
- **DISCUSSION BOARD ON WEBCT (4)** 120

**CLASS PARTICIPATION:**

Students will be graded on their participation in class demonstrations and activities. There will be in-class activities pertaining to the information from the book and lectures. You cannot participate if you are not in class. So attendance is important. Missing more than two classes will drop your grade a letter grade.

**No cell phones during class.** You must turn off your phones so that discussions and lectures are not disturbed. This includes text messaging during class. Be professional and save this for after class.

It is expected that you act professional during class time. You are to be respectful of others who are talking, presenting, or participating in class assignments. All students will work together in groups cooperatively and professionally. The following will guide out class discussions:

**GROUND RULES FOR DISCUSSIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS:** Although I am certain most of us are clear about what democratic deliberation and civil discussion entails, I want to spell out in writing how I expect our discussions to precede, so that we may refer directly to them if the situation arises. 1. **RESPECT-**

  *We are not always going to agree or see everything the same way; each person has a right to and responsibility for his/her own feelings, thoughts, and beliefs.
  *When speaking of an occurrence or relaying one’s experience outside the class refrain from disclosing identities of those involved.
*Show courtesy.

2. COMFORT-
   * Students and professor should work together to make a safe, respectful, and comfortable atmosphere for associating.
   * I will not ask you to take any risks in class (such as sharing your own experience) that I am not willing to take myself. We are in this together! *No question is stupid! We all learn at different paces and styles. We learn by asking questions.

3. HONESTY-
   * You should feel comfortable and respected in the academic environment so that you speak honestly about your thoughts, ideas, and opinions.
   Mil work you submit must be your own. If you use someone else’s words or work other than your own please use the appropriate citation. (A?A).
   * World Wide Web-any work you find on the web must be cited. Provide the URL and the name of the website and the date it was accessed. Lessons found on the Web must be adapted and modified for your personal use.

ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT--
Learning and teaching take place in an atmosphere of intellectual freedom and openness. All members of the academic community are responsible for supporting freedom and openness through rigorous personal standards of honesty and fairness. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty undermine the very purpose of the university and diminish the value of an education.

Plagiarism is wholly unacceptable, and for the purposes of this course is defined as using in part or whole any material written or designed by someone other than the student. This includes lesson plans found on the internet and or provided by classroom teachers, unit activities, book descriptions, reviews, and any other work researched.

STATEMENT OF CIVILITY:
Texas A&M University Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules on the University, city, state, and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful, and courteous to all people regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE:
Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations for the course.

—–“–
LETS HAVE A SUCCESSFUL SEMESTER!