Capstone in Early Childhood Education
Fall, 2015
ECED 5346

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I. Course Description
This course will review basic information and tools for utilization of experimental methods, including basic statistics, experimental design and proposal writing. This course is designed to assist students in preparation for ECED 5349, Capstone in Early Childhood Education in which they will be responsible for conducting a self-generated research project. Prerequisites: Introduction to Research (EDFN 5301) or consent of the instructor.

II. Rationale
This course is designed to assist the student in preparing their research project under the guidance of the professor.

III. National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Standards for Graduate Level Professional Development Covered in ECED 5346:

A. Standard 6: Becoming a professional
   6c: Using professional resources, inquiry skills & research methods to engage in continuous, collaborative learning & investigation relevant to practice & professional role.
   6d: Integrating knowledgeable, reflective, & critical perspectives on early education based upon mastery of relevant theory & research.
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   6d: Integrating knowledgeable, reflective, & critical perspectives on early education based upon mastery of relevant theory & research.
   6f: Demonstrating a high level of oral, written & technological communication skills with specialization for specific professional role(s) emphasized in the program.

IV. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Graduate students will assume professional leadership roles in Early Childhood Education.

V. Course Objectives
A. Develop an action based research project;
B. Develop a literature review to support the research project;
C. Review pertinent research relating to the student’s research project;

VI. Course Topics

A. Qualitative research;
B. Literature review;
C. Analysis of research; and
D. 

VII. Instructional Methods and Activities

Methods and activities for instruction include:

A. Traditional Experiences (lecture/discussion; demonstration; guest speaker; on-line deliveries; video, etc)
B. Clinical Experiences (simulations; cooperative groups; student demonstrations or presentations; value clarifications)
C. Field Experiences

VIII. Evaluation and Grade Assignment

The methods of evaluation and the criteria for grade assignment are:

A. Research proposal = 50 points
B. Research literature draft = 50 points
C. Research article reviews = 20 points each
D. Final research project = 200 points
   100%-92% (400-368 points) = A
   91%-82% (367-328 points) = B
   81%-72% (327-288 points) = C
   71%-62% (287-248 points) = D
   61%-0% (247-0 points) = F

VIII. Textbooks

The textbooks adopted for this course is:

IX. Bibliography


