

**SYLLABUS**  
**ED. 401 Early Childhood Education Today**  
**Summer 1, 2010**

Instructor: Jerry Ann Harris, M.Ed. Early Childhood Education,  
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**Course Objectives:**

- 1- To understand the role of the professional educator in the area of early childhood education.
- 2- To become familiar with the issues and public policies that effect the field of early childhood education today.
- 3- To be knowledgeable of the history and major learning theories that have influenced early childhood education in the U.S.
- 4- To gain an understanding of how learning theories are implemented in an early childhood setting.
- 5- To be knowledgeable of programs and services available for children with special needs, multicultural backgrounds, and/or economically disadvantaged and their families.

**Text:**

Early Childhood Education Today (ISBN 9780135010525 Price: \$128.33)  
By George S. Morrison, 10th Edition, Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2007.

**Class Requirements:**

**Attendance & Participation:** Class participation is very important and is expected of each student. One class period is yours. No explanation is needed. A subsequent absence may require a four page, double-spaced,

word processed paper covering the content of the period missed. A third absence will result in your grade being dropped one letter grade. Any absence beyond three may result in an instructor's administrative drop from the class and a grade of "F".

**Assignments:**

Class Assignments due at each class period 100 points

Project 300 points

Research Paper: Technology in Early Childhood Classrooms, 8 pages with References 200 points

Oral Report based on research paper 100 points

**Grading Scale:**

A = 630-700

B = 554-629

C = 478-553

D = 407-477

F = 406 or less

**Additional Information:**

1- All written work will be graded for format, spelling, and grammar. Use Times Roman font, 12 point, double-spaced, with standard margins of 1 and 1/2 inches.

2- Late work will not receive full credit. Any work turned in after the assigned class period will be dropped one letter grade per day (not per class period). Work more than two days late may not be accepted. If you are unable to complete any of the assigned projects, please inform the instructor immediately.

3- Make-up tests will only be administered if the student has an urgent need to reschedule due to medical or family emergency. The instructor

must be informed **in advance** of the student's inability to sit for an exam. The instructor reserves the right to refuse make-up testing or to limit the maximum score earned.

4- If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor via e-mail or phone. It is also your responsibility to find out what assignments were missed, catch up on class notes, and have someone pick up any hand-outs you missed getting.

5- Class will begin on time. Promptness is strongly encouraged. Promptness is an indicator of professional behavior. Chronic tardiness and early departure are disruptive to the learning environment, such behavior can result in points reduction of grade.

6- Respect classroom setting, as well as, the rights and opinions of peers and instructors. Extracurricular conversations could result in points reduction of class grade.

**7- If it rings, sings, cheeps, beeps or buzzes please turn it off and put it away during class time.**

### **Academic Honesty:**

Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on exams, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, **plagiarism and copying or undocumented use of materials from any source (this includes internet information)** constitutes academic dishonesty. This behavior could be grounds for a grade of "F" in the course and/or disciplinary action. The student is responsible for reading and understanding the University Policy on Academic Integrity.

### **Disability Accommodations:**

Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M Texarkana Disability Services Office by contacting Mr. Carl Greig at Aikin Room 223 or by calling 903-223-3062.

## **Schedule of Activities:**

- June 1 Introduction/Class Overview  
Chapter 1: You and Early Childhood Education
- June 2 Chapter 2: Early Childhood Education Today
- June 3 Chapter 3: Observing and Assessing Young Children
- June 7 Chapter 4: The Past and the Present
- June 8 Chapter 5: Theories Applied to Teaching and Learning
- June 9 Chapter 6: Early Childhood Programs
- June 10 Chapter 7: Child Care
- June 14 Chapter 8: The Federal Government
- June 15 Chapter 9: Infants and Toddlers
- June 16 Chapter 10: The Preschool Years
- June 17 Chapter 11: Kindergarten Education
- June 21 Chapter 12: The Primary Grades
- June 22 Chapter 13: Technology and the Young Child
- June 23: Chapter 14: Guiding Children
- June 24: Chapter 15: Multiculturalism
- June 28: Chapter 16: Children With Special Needs
- June 29: Chapter 17: Parent, Family, and Community Involvement

June 30: Group Project Reports

July 1: Technology Papers/Oral Summations Due

July 6: Portfolio Review/Course Evaluation

NOTE: The instructor retains the right to make changes in the Schedule to support the needs of the class and pace of learning. You are responsible for keeping a personal copy of all assignments. Those turned into the instructor are kept for reference. All assignments will be evaluated on content as well as mechanics.

### **Projects Description**

**Class Assignments-** Assignments are coordinated with the individual chapters. Completed assignments will be placed in a portfolio, kept by the professor. Assignments will be worth 10 points each. Missed assignments may be turned in with an excused absence prior to the next class meeting. (Total points: 100)

**Group Project-** Topic: Educational Approaches assigned by professor. A four part written report. Each student will research and write a section. Section Titles: Founder of Approach; Educational Theory Foundation; Teacher's Role; and Student's Role. Each group will create a poster demonstrating the Educational Approach researched. Written report 200 points and Poster worth 100 points. (Total points: 300)

**Research Paper-** A eight page research paper on Technology and Young Children done in APA Style. (Total points: 200)

**Oral Report-** A five minute oral summation of research paper. (Total points: 100)

