

EDUCATION 464-4  
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Intersession  
Tuesday and Thursday  
8:30 - 12:20

Instructor: Janice Leyland  
Location: MPX 7610

OBJECTIVES:

Students will gain basic knowledge about the historical, philosophical, and psychological foundations of early childhood education. Through combining the study of major theories of childhood with practice in observation, students will examine the stages of growth and the development of consciousness in the young child. An examination of how children perceive their world will serve as a foundation for the development of programs for young learners.

OUTLINE OF TOPICS

- I. Foundations and Perspectives in Early Childhood Education:  
Historical, Philosophical, Cultural, Psychological
- II. Theories of Child Development and Approaches to Observation
  - a. Perceptual Development
  - b. Role and Value of Play
  - c. The Role of Fantasy
  - d. The Development of Oral Language
  - e. Self-expression as Seen Through Childrens' Art
- III. The Guidance of Young Children
- IV. Issues and Trends in Early Childhood Education

REQUIREMENTS

1. A term paper on an early childhood education topic
2. Observational reports of young children
3. An in-class presentation on a current issue in Early Childhood Education

READINGS

Required readings will be available from the instructor or on reserve at the library. Readings will include works by:

Mellor	Montessori
Bettleheim	Harwood
Tough	Arnheim
Piaget	Donaldson
Trevarthen	Pepler and Rubin
Cherfas	Egan

ELIGIBILITY

Education 464 is open to Early Childhood Education students and also to others who have a general interest in the field. Students should have a basic course in psychology or developmental psychology prior to registration. Students lacking such a background may contact the instructor for suggestions for self-study prior to registration.