*“Excuses are tools of incompetence used to build monuments of nothingness. Those who use them seldom amount to anything”*

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT 20**

Observation and Assessment—Monday and Wednesday 10-11:15

Amanda Taintor 638-3641 ext 3152/ (Amanda.taintor@reedleycollege.edu)

Office hours: M 3:00-4:00 T 10:00-11:00 W 8:00-9:00

**Course Outcomes:**

* Critically compare the purpose, value and use of formal and informal observation and assessment strategies and ethical implications within cultural an social contexts in early childhood settings
* Describe and evaluate the characteristics, strengths and limitations of common assessment tools with all children’s developmental, cultural and linguistic characteristics.
* Demonstrate systematic observation methods to provide data to assess the impact of the environment, interactions and curriculum on all domains of children’s learning and development.
* Assess the value of partnerships with families and other professionals in utilizing interpretations of observational data to inform teaching responses and strategies
* Embed activities related to assessment within play-based environments, curriculum and care routines for typically and atypically developing children.

**Required Text:**

Nilsen *Week by Week,* ed 4th Education Thomson/Delmar Learning, U.S., 2008

**ACCOMODATIONS**

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.), per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or section 504 of the Rehabilitation Ace, please contact me ASAP. I am happy to work with students to ensure and support your academic success.

**Blackboard Companion Course:**

*Although Blackboard is not a required part of this course and is provided simply as a courtesy to the students. It’s use will support you in your success of this course.*

You can visit the Blackboard companion for this course to review powerpoint presentations and discussion topics for any class meeting you may have missed or want to review. Blackboard will also be used to post reminders and notifications of class session cancellations. I will also use blackboard to post assignment requirements and when possible copies of articles handed out in class.

To visit Blackboard, simply click on the Bb link near the bottom of the Reedley College Web-page at [www.reedleycollege.edu](http://www.reedleycollege.edu).

**Having Problems?**

If at any time you find you are having trouble succeeding in this course, whether because of a change in your life circumstances or because of something you don’t understand about the material, please see me. There are a number of services available to assist Reedley College students in succeeding in their coursework. Please do not wait until the end of the semester if you are having difficulty.

**Class Policies and Procedures:**

*Attendance:*

Learning through sharing and classroom activities is a VERY large part of this class. You will not pass this class if you do not attend regularly. Regular attendance is EXPECTED. If you stop coming to class after the deadline, you will get an "F." If you choose to be dropped from this course it is **YOUR** responsibility to notify the records office by the drop deadline. If you miss more than 2 consecutive class lectures within the first 4 weeks of class you MAY be dropped from the course. Late arrivals and early departures will have a negative effect on your grade.



***Cheating/Plagiarism:* Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated. A student will receive no credit for the assignment if in the opinion of the instructor the individual has cheated**

It is your responsibility to respect the requirements and rules of this course. You will be held accountable for all announcements made in class whether you are present or not. It is NOT my responsibility to “fill you in” on what you missed. If you are absent you may come to my office hour and collect any handouts given during class. I will not bring extra handouts to class the next lecture. You need to get the phone number/email address of a fellow student(s) in order to get information in case of your absence.

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone#/email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone#/email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Late Work***: All assignments must be turned in on the due date at the **beginning** of class for full credit. If assignments are turned in after the first 10 minutes of class they are considered **LATE** and will lose points. The semester is broken up into four different units. Any work due during that unit MUST be turned in by the end of the unit.

**Submitting Assignments**: You can submit assignments to the instructor during class, to the main switch board before the class period or on blackboard in the course turnitin assignments section (if the assignment permits). NO EMAILED ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED!! YOU MAY NOT TURN ASSIGMENTS INTO THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT OFFICES!

***Missed Tests***: Inform the instructor as soon as you know you will miss a test day and arrangements will be made for you to take the test at another time. If you fail to inform the instructor before the test date, it will be too late for you to make up that test. Do not take this lightly. No excuses will be accepted.

***Retaining Returned Assignments***: Students disagreeing with the assigned final grade will be required to supply evidence to the contrary. Therefore, it is suggested that students retain all returned/graded assignments and tests until after they have signed-out on the final day of class.

***Accommodations for Students with Disabilities****:* If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

***Changing Syllabus Statement***: This course syllabus is equivalent to a contract between the instructor and the student. However, the information in this syllabus is subject to change at any time during the semester. All changes will be stated in class and students are responsible for noting such changes. In the event that you are absent on the day changes are made, it is your responsibility to find out the changes and adhere to them.

The student’s decision to attend the class denotes acceptance of:

* This syllabus as a contract outlining the student’s responsibilities to complete all required assignments by the due dates
* The policy that late assignments will not be accepted
* The changing syllabus statement
* The expectations of this course as outlined in this syllabus
* That final grades are determined on the basis of accumulated points from required assignments
* The policy that students are responsible for supplying evidence of any discrepancy in grades as determined by returned/graded assignments.

Students disagreeing with the above statements should withdrawal from this course section and enroll in a section of this course taught by another instructor.

**Important Dates:**

August 15 (M) - Start of Fall Semester

August 26 (F) -Last day to drop a full-term class for a refund

Sept. 2 (F) - Last day to register for a full term class

Sept 2 (F) - Last day to drop a full term class to avoid a “W”

Sept 5 (M) -Labor Day No classes held-campus closed**C:\Documents and Settings\at002\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\QYRW02WN\MC900151699[1].wmf**

Oct 14 (F) - Last day to drop with a “W”

November 11 (F) - Veterans day –No classes

November 24-25 (Th-F) -Thanksgiving Holiday –No Classes Campus closed

December 12-16 (M-F) -Final Exams week

December 16- (F) End of the Semester

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Total Points** | **Final Grade** |
|  | (90-100%) | A |
|  | (80-89%) | B |
|  | (70-79%) | C |
|  | (60-69%) | D |
|  | (0-59%) | F |
|  |  |  |

***Grades are confidential and will, under no circumstances, be discussed in class. I will be happy to discuss grades during my office hours listed in this syllabus****.*

## Point Break Down and Tally Sheet

**Assignments: Points Possible Points Earned**

Reflection Journal (10pt each) **Total 100** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

RJ 1 \_\_\_\_\_

RJ 2 \_\_\_\_\_

RJ 3 \_\_\_\_\_

RJ 4 \_\_\_\_\_

RJ 5 \_\_\_\_\_

RJ 6 \_\_\_\_\_

RJ 7 \_\_\_\_\_

RJ 8 \_\_\_\_\_

RJ 9 \_\_\_\_\_

RJ 10 \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Exercise (5pt each) **Total 70** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CH 1 \_\_\_\_\_

CH 2 \_\_\_\_\_

CH 3 \_\_\_\_\_

CH 4 \_\_\_\_\_ CH 5 \_\_\_\_\_ CH 6 \_\_\_\_\_ CH 7 \_\_\_\_\_

CH 8 \_\_\_\_\_ CH 9 \_\_\_\_\_

CH 10 \_\_\_\_\_

Ch 11 \_\_\_\_\_

Ch 12 \_\_\_\_\_

Ch 13 \_\_\_\_\_

Ch 14 \_\_\_\_\_

In-Class Activities (10pt each) **Total 100** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity 1 \_\_\_\_

Activity 2 \_\_\_\_

Activity 3 \_\_\_\_

Activity 4 \_\_\_\_

Activity 5 \_\_\_\_

Activity 6 \_\_\_\_

Activity 7 \_\_\_\_

Activity 8 \_\_\_\_

Activity 9 \_\_\_\_

Activity 10\_\_\_\_

Observation Hours and Log Sheet **Total 25** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Observation and Assessment Project **Total 200** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Appearance/Grammar \_\_\_\_\_

Anecdotal Record (5 X 10pt = 50) \_\_\_\_\_

Running Record (25pt) \_\_\_\_\_

Rating Scale (25pt) \_\_\_\_\_

Frequency Counts (25pt \_\_\_\_\_

Time Sampling (25pt) \_\_\_\_\_

Checklist (25pt) \_\_\_\_\_

Test 1 **Total 25** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Test 2 **Total 25** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Test 3 **Total 25** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Final **Total 50**  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Points Possible = **625**  Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Assignments**

1. Reflection Journal (10 entries x 10pts) (100points)

At the start of most class sessions I will display a quote pertaining to observation and assessment of young children. You will need to reflect on the quote and answer the questions corresponding to the quote.. The questions must be answered completely and with thought to receive full credit. As the semester progress I will be looking for your application of terms and concepts discussed in class. If you miss a class period you can find the missed quotes and question on blackboard. The journal will be due on **Nov 23rd** (before leaving for the Thanksgiving break)

1. Chapter Exercises (14 exercises X 5pts) ( 70 points)

Within each chapter of our text book you will find multiple exercises that help to reinforce the concepts discussed within the chapter. Choose one of these exercises in each chapter to complete. The exercises for the chapters we have covered are due the last class session of each month (**Aug. 28, Oct. 26, Nov.30, Dec.14)**

1. Exams (125 points)

There will be three exams each worth 25 points and a comprehensive final exam worth 50pts. The exams might be take home, in class, or a combination of these two

1. In-Class Assignments (100 points)

We will have many opportunities for in class participation during the semester. I will randomly award points for your participation in these assignments. If you are not in class you can’t participate which means you miss the points for that assignment.

1. Observation Hours & Log Sheet ( 25 points)

As indicated by the very title of the course you will learn to observe and assess the development of young children. An important factor in becoming skilled at observing young children is that you must, in fact, practice observing young children. For this course you must complete 4 hours of observation on children from 2-6 years of age. You must complete at least 1 hour of observation at a licensed child development center. Most centers will require proof of TB clearance, which you can receive from health services on campus. You will receive a log during the second week of class that you must fill out completely. The observations must be at least 15 min in length. The observation hours and log sheet will be turned in with the observation and assessment portfolio (see below)

1. Observation and Assessment Project (200 points)

Through the course of the semester we will be discussing many different forms of observation, assessment and documentation. During your observation hours (discussed above) you will practice the application of these terms. There will be more information given in class for this assignment. (just remember you CAN NOT complete this assignment without completing the 6 hours of observation) **DUE DEC 7**