

**CHDEV 20  
Observation and Assessment  
Fall 2018**

**Instructor:** Marcy Davidson **Phone:** 559.638.0300 x 3127  
**Office hours:** Monday 9:30 – 10:30, Tuesday 11:00 -12:00 & Thursday 8:30 – 9:30  
**Virtual Office hour:** Fri. 8:00 – 9:00 am (email & Canvas) **Office:** Child Development Center  
**Email:** marcy.davidson@reedleycollege.edu

**Required Texts:** NO TEXTBOOK FOR THIS CLASS!! ORE Course. All reading and information for this class will be available via Canvas.

*ECERS - Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale Revised Edition - Harms*  
Limited supply available to check out from the RC Child Development Dept

Course Description

This course focuses on the appropriate use of assessment and observation tools and strategies to document young children's development and learning, emphasizing the use of findings to inform and plan learning environments and experiences. Recording strategies, rating systems, portfolios, and multiple assessment tools will be explored, along with strategies for collaboration with families and professionals

Course Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Evaluate the characteristics, strengths, limitations and applications of contemporary observation and assessment tools.
2. Complete systematic observations and assessments using a variety of data collection methods to inform environment design, interactions and curriculum.
3. Discuss the role of partnerships with families and other professionals in utilizing interpretations of observational and assessment data

Course Objectives:

During the course the student will:

1. Compare historic and currently used observation and assessment tools
2. Identify logistical challenges, biases, and preconceptions about observing and assessing children.
3. Apply basic qualitative and quantitative assessment techniques.
4. Apply knowledge of development to interpret observations and assessments.
5. Use observation and assessment tools to evaluate quality in environments, interactions, and curriculum.
6. Demonstrate the ability to use observation and assessment in decision making for instruction, referral, and intervention.
7. Describe legal and ethical responsibilities in relationship to observation, documentation, and recordkeeping.

### Course Information & Policies

1. Observation Requirement – This course requires students to complete several observations at a licensed child care program to complete the observation assignments. This may be completed at the on campus Child Development Center or other approved center.
2. All students who utilize a lab site must have an updated TB test (available with Health Services) and required immunizations and complete any required paperwork from the lab site prior the observation visit. If you have tested positive to TB, take your most recent chest x-rays to the Reedley College nurse for clearance.

### Assignments/Requirements

Assignments will vary daily/weekly. This may include written work, individual and group activities, article reports, reading or assignments. Students are expected to attend class prepared to discuss/present assignments. Remember that your performance in class is directly related to how much time and effort you put into the class material. For every hour in class, expect you will estimate spending one to two hours studying outside of class.

- All **assignments are to be typed** unless otherwise specified by the instructor.
- All assignments must be **neat and clearly labeled with student name, date, title of the assignment, and class day/time.**
- Papers should be double - spaced, 12 point font, spell – checked, one inch margins in an easy to read font.
- Always **make a copy** of your work.
- Take responsibility to present completed, polished college level work on-time.
- All papers must be **corrected for proper punctuation, grammar and spelling.**
- Assignments on torn or binder paper will not be accepted.
- Late assignments – Students are allowed **ONE late assignment** due no more than 7 days past the original due date. Assignments are assigned well in advance and must be submitted on time. If you know you will be unable to turn in your work by the due date, you must contact the instructor. After one late assignment, no late work will be accepted.

### Assignments:

1. Participation/In Class Activities – In class activities or short homework assignments may be given throughout the course. The activities are designed to complete individually or in small groups. There are NO make-ups for in class activities. Examples of assignments include video or article reviews, class discussions, small group work, or research information. Each assignment will have a small point value. SLO #1 - #3 (5 – 10 points each = 100 points)
2. Observational Practice Assignments: You will have an opportunity to practice your observation and assessment skills through the discussion of specifically chosen video clips, articles, and textbook chapters. Knowledge gained through the weekly readings must be demonstrated for full points. SLO # 1 – 3 (15 x 10 points each = 150)
3. Environment /ECERS – Completed Environmental rating tool with reflective paper. Students will complete this tool at Licensed Child Development Center. SLO # 1 (25 points)

4. DRDP – Parent Conference Report –This will be a multiple part assignment. Student will create a script of a parent/teacher conference discussing the results of the completed observation and DRDP. SLO # 2 (50 points)
5. Quizzes - Four quizzes will be given in class. These include information from the lectures, online resources, in class assignments, videos, observations, and articles provided. SLO # 1 - #3 (1 @ 25 – 3 @ 50 points each)
6. Assessment Tool Presentation – Group presentation on an assessment tool discussed in class. Students will be placed in to small groups and will work together to develop a “commercial” to demonstrate this tool. SLO # 1 (25 ponts)

Grades:

	Possible Points	Total Points	Final Grade
Participation / Activities	100	495 - 550	A
Observation Practice (15 @ 10 pts)	150	440 - 494	B
DRDP Parent Conference	50	385 - 439	C
Environment Rating Scale	25	330 – 384	D
Quizzes (3 @ 50 pts)	150	329 or below	F
Assessment Tool Group Presentation	25		
TOTAL POINTS	550		

If a problem arises during the semester, please make an appointment with the instructor or come during office hours to discuss how we can best resolve the issue and help you achieve success in class. **Grades are confidential and will not be discussed in the classroom.**

Academic Success

In order to succeed at the highest level in college, be sure to utilize the College services that is available to all students. This includes the Tutorial Center, Writing Center, Disabled Student Services, Computer Lab, Library, and Counseling Services.

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 or the Rehabilitation Act, please see me as soon as possible. The instructor will comply with the requirements of the American’s with Disabilities Act (ADA), by appropriately accommodating any student with a verified disability.

Written Work Expectations

Proper writing is a basic expectation when someone has earned a college degree, and writing quality does matter as a college student and in the profession as an educator. If you intend to work with children and families, there will be many times when you need to communicate information that is crucial, including rationale for continued funding for your job and the children and families you serve. It is valuable to you if you are able to communicate through writing and that you used consistent writing mechanics.

All assignments completed in this class are expected to have college level quality writing which includes proper use of grammar, usage, mechanics, style, as well as proper APA citing style where

applicable. All outside classroom assignments are to be typed. Assignments turned in hand written will result in a score of zero.

The Writing Center offers free writing assistance to students on campus. For more information on all they offer, visit or call Writing Center Information at 638-3641 ext. 3619 or email [rcwritingcenter@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:rcwritingcenter@reedleycollege.edu). Learning to study more effectively will also help with writing, and The Tutorial Center (Library Building LRC 111) has a variety of services to help you succeed in college through more effective learning strategies. For more information call the Tutorial Center at 559-638-0358.

### Classroom Expectations

- Students are expected to attend and actively participate in class discussions and activities.
- Students are expected to conduct themselves, according to the Student Conduct Standards.
- Students are expected to be respectful of fellow students and the instructor at all times.
- Students are expected to arrive on time. Late arrival will not be tolerated.
- Cheating and plagiarism will be cause for disciplinary action.
- Students are expected to come to class prepared and ready for the day.
  - You will be expected to participate in large and small group discussions and various class activities. Active participation is likely to enhance your enjoyment of the course material and facilitate a higher level of learning. You will be encouraged to share your own reactions to course materials, questions, and ideas, as these are what will enable you, your classmates, and your instructor to gain the most from our time together. Reading the assigned materials prior to class is IMPORTANT. Being able to critically analyze what you have read and discussed, as well as make connections to real world settings when applicable, are ultimate goals.

### Attendance

- If you are not present when roll is taken you will be considered absent. Late arrival may be considered an absence. Three late arrivals equal one absence.
- If you miss more than three days the instructor *may* drop you.
- Dropping after the drop date will result in an “F” grade.
- It is the student’s responsibility to drop a class if they no longer intend to participate.

### Late Policy

Life happens and occasionally arriving late is un-avoidable. One of the elements I strongly stress in this course is respect. Arriving late is a great opportunity to demonstrate respect. If you arrive late choose a seat in the row closest to the door. **DO NOT CROSS IN FRONT OF THE LECTURE AREA.** Doing so is disrespectful to me as your instructor as well as to your peers. Habitually arriving late reveals a deficiency in time management skills; as an instructor I feel one of my responsibilities is to help guide students in this skill set. After your 2<sup>nd</sup> late arrival you will need to make an appointment with me to map out some strategies to help build better time management. Failure to schedule a meeting results in the loss of 25 points.

### Student Conduct and Cheating

- Plagiarism is the use of others’ words and/or ideas without clearly acknowledging their source. When you incorporate those words or ideas into your own work, you must

credit where the sources is cited. Plagiarism, intentional or unintentional, is considered academic dishonesty and is not tolerated.

- No food or drink in the classroom at anytime except for water bottles.
- Cell phone usage (calls, text messaging) is NOT allowed during class time. Cell phones must be put away in backpacks or purses and turned to "OFF". You may not use cell phone to take notes.
- Threat of physical or emotional abuse, on or off college property, of the person or property of any member of the college community or members of his/her family will be cause for disciplinary action.

### Canvas

Information about this course, and resources for it, will be available on Canvas. Canvas is available at through the main Reedley College home page. You will use your RC username and password to login. Through Canvas, you will be able to access the syllabus, assignment guidelines, and any handouts that will supplement the texts and/or lectures. In addition, you will be able to send email to your classmates and me. You will also be able to use Canvas to check your grades online. You should monitor your grades to be sure they are entered accurately and completely. If there is a mistake, please bring it to my attention as soon as you notice it. Journal entries will be utilized through Canvas. Please keep all returned assignments until your final grade has been posted at the end of the semester.

Please note that ONLY your RC (my.scccd) email address is recognized by Canvas or for emails. Any messages that I send to the class will be sent through Canvas, and therefore through your RC my.scccd email address. I will not respond to personal emails due to spam and other computer viruses. Please only use your Reedley College email when communicating with me via email. You are responsible for information disseminated through email; ignorance ("I didn't check my email," "My e-mail isn't working," I don't have access to a computer," etc.) is not an acceptable excuse.

### Syllabus Disclaimer

This syllabus constitutes a contract between the instructor of this course and the student enrolled in the course. The student's decision to attend the class denotes:

1. acceptance of this syllabus.
2. acceptance of the expectations of this course as outlines by this syllabus.
3. the student's understanding that the course schedule outline in this syllabus, except assignment dues dates, is subject to change without notification to the student.
4. the student's understanding that it is their responsibility to read and complete all assignments and turn in all work by the designated times.

\*\* The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the course syllabus or schedule as deemed necessary for the good of the class.

### Important Dates to remember

First Day of Classes	Monday, August 13, 2018
Campus Closed – Labor Day	Monday, September 3, 2018
Last Day to Drop for with a W	Friday, October 12, 2018
Campus Closed – Veteran's Day	Monday, November 12, 2018
Campus Closed – Fall Break	Thur/Fri, November 22/23, 2018
Last Day of Classes	Friday, December 14, 2018

