

Course Outline

COURSE: CD 18 **DIVISION:** 50 **ALSO LISTED AS:**

TERM EFFECTIVE: Fall 2022 **CURRICULUM APPROVAL DATE:** 12/13/2022

SHORT TITLE: OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

LONG TITLE: The Outdoor Classroom

<u>Units</u>	<u>Number of Weeks</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Contact Hours/Week</u>	<u>Total Contact Hours</u>
3	18	Lecture:	3	54
		Lab:	0	0
		Other:	0	0
		Total:	3	54

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course will teach students how to create developmentally appropriate outdoor play and nature learning experiences for children from birth to age eight, and ensure that outdoor environments are accessible and safe. Students will have the opportunity to observe and assess children's outdoor play.

PREREQUISITES:

COREQUISITES:

CREDIT STATUS: D - Credit - Degree Applicable

GRADING MODES

L - Standard Letter Grade

REPEATABILITY: N - Course may not be repeated

SCHEDULE TYPES:

- 02 - Lecture and/or discussion
- 05 - Hybrid
- 71 - Dist. Ed Internet Simultaneous
- 72 - Dist. Ed Internet Delayed

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. Describe the evolution of outdoor programs for children, then compare and contrast appropriate outdoor environments for infants/toddlers, preschoolers, kindergarten and elementary grades.
2. Summarize current research regarding the relationship of the outdoors and the impact on children's development and growth.
3. Critically analyze research on the importance of observing and assessing children's outdoor play.
4. Develop and evaluate an integrated thematic unit taking into consideration developmentally appropriate practices that can take place entirely outdoors.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. Describe the evolution of outdoor programs for children, then compare and contrast appropriate outdoor environments for infants/toddlers, preschoolers, kindergarten and elementary grades.
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CONTENT, STUDENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES, OUT-OF-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Curriculum Approval Date: 12/13/2022

Hours

CONTENT: Introduction to the Course and the Evolution of Outdoor Play in Early Childhood. Describe the social, political, and economic trends of the mid-20th century that have influenced education.

8 Hours

CONTENT: Outdoor Play for Infants and Toddlers. Describe the development of infants and toddlers in each domain (physical, cognitive, socio-emotional, language). Explain the necessary elements in an outdoor environment for infants and toddlers. Evaluate developmentally appropriate practices and outdoor spaces. Describe the teacher's role in supporting toddlers' disposition in an outdoor play space.

8 Hours

CONTENT: Outdoor Play in the Preschool and Kindergarten years. Compare the developmental differences of infants/toddlers with preschoolers and kindergarten children in all domains. Define and provide examples of pretend play and constructive play. Describe the need for outdoor play by identifying relevant curriculum goals. Evaluate developmentally appropriate practices and outdoor spaces. Develop and evaluate an integrated thematic preschool and kindergarten unit that can take place entirely outdoors.

7 Hours

CONTENT: Outdoor Play in the Elementary Grade. Explain dramatic developmental shifts during the primary and intermediate grades. Evaluate developmentally appropriate practices and outdoor spaces. Compare the roles that can be played by outdoor experiences in each domain.

7 Hours

CONTENT: Observing and Assessing Children's Outdoor Play. Describe current research regarding the relationship between the presence or absence of nature in children's lives. List and describe the components of the "assessment of learning" cycle and reasons for evaluating children in an outdoor setting.

8 Hours

CONTENT: Playground Safety and Accessibility. Examine universal design and outdoor learning. Define the four categories for playground safety identified by the National Program for Playground Safety. Evaluate natural playscapes and playgrounds for safety by examining the use of zones and surfacing materials. Explain how to prevent injuries from the five most common playground hazards.

8 Hours

CONTENT: Residential and Community Outdoor Play Areas. Describe the steps necessary for initiating, designing, and building a community playground. Compare the unique advantages of residential play environments and community playgrounds. Identify outdoor family activities in local regions.

2 Hours

Final Examination

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

1. Lecture and discussion
2. Multi media
3. Guest speakers
4. Demonstrations
5. Visitation to other sites
6. Hands-on project design
7. Evaluation of student written proposal and final projects
8. Quizzes on chapter readings

OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

Required Outside Hours 12

Assignment Description

OUT-OF-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Write a personal philosophy for teaching young children.
2. Recall childhood play experiences; discuss in a group and compare with contemporary children's experiences.

Required Outside Hours 16

Assignment Description

OUT-OF-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Locate, read, and summarize an article that includes recent findings about the relationship between outdoor play in nature and social emotional development.
2. Observe toddlers outdoors engaged in pretend play and write at least three anecdotal records. In small groups, review observation notes, discuss the behaviors observed why they could be identified as pretend play.

Required Outside Hours 16

Assignment Description

OUT-OF-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Locate two quality children's books that relate to outdoor play and learning. Report on each book, explaining the main concept addressed by the author.
2. Observe two preschool or kindergarten playgrounds (or view photographs, slides, or video provided by the instructor) and analyze the complexity and variety of play opportunities. Work together in groups to make a plan for increasing the complexity and variety of play opportunities and variety and share with the entire class.

Required Outside Hours 14

Assignment Description

OUT-OF-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS: Read related textbook chapters and study for exams.

Required Outside Hours 14

Assignment Description

OUT-OF-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

- 1 Visit an outdoor play environment and observe a group of children for 30 - 60 minutes. Keep a running record during the observation. Transcribe and summarize.
2. Develop an assessment and evaluation plan for the curriculum with the support of parents/community members developed earlier
3. Prepare a power point presentation that combines the thematic unit curriculum plan and the assessment and evaluation plan and deliver it in class.

Required Outside Hours 36

Assignment Description

OUT-OF-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Read and summarize one article about natural playscapes.
2. With a partner, visit two child care centers or schools. Sketch the outdoor play areas, identifying use zones and identifying surfacing materials.
3. Evaluate and compare the two play areas for safety and complexity and variety of play experiences. Share with the class.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Writing assignments

Evaluation Percent 50

Evaluation Description

Percent range of total grade: 40% to 50%

Written Homework,

Essay Exams,

Term or Other Papers

Problem-solving assignments

Evaluation Percent 20

Evaluation Description

Percent range of total grade: 10% to 20%

Evaluating safety according to a rubric.

Skill demonstrations

Evaluation Percent 20

Evaluation Description

Percent range of total grade: 20% to 25%

Class Performance/s,

Performance Exams

Objective examinations

Evaluation Percent 10

Evaluation Description

Percent range of total grade: 5% to 10%

Multiple Choice,

True/False,

Matching,

Completion

REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS:

Lisa Daly. Transform Your Outdoor Early Learning Environment. Redleaf Press, 2022.

ISBN: 9781605547381

Reading Level of Text, Grade: 10th Verified by: Verified by: Claire Boss

ARTICULATION and CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

Associate Degree:

CSU GE:

IGETC:

CSU TRANSFER:

Transferable CSU, effective 201130

UC TRANSFER:

Not Transferable

SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:

Basic Skills: N

Classification: Y

Noncredit Category: Y

Cooperative Education:

Program Status: 1 Program Applicable

Special Class Status: N

CAN:

CAN Sequence:

CSU Crosswalk Course Department:

CSU Crosswalk Course Number:

Prior to College Level: Y

Non Credit Enhanced Funding: N

Funding Agency Code: Y

In-Service: N

Occupational Course: C

Maximum Hours:

Minimum Hours:

Course Control Number: CCC000183735

Sports/Physical Education Course: N

Taxonomy of Program: 130500