MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE

Faculty is required to have the outline submitted to the Academic Affairs Office. The course outline is the form used for approval of new courses by the Academic Affairs and Standards Council.

DEPT.  CDEV                           COURSE NUMBER:  1262

NUMBER OF CREDITS:  4

COURSE TITLE:  Creative Activities for Young Children

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:  Students will explore varied means of developing children’s creativity in art, music, and drama. Students learn to design age-appropriate activities with paints, paper, sculpture, wood, chalk, recyclables, song dance, instruments, puppets, and related materials. The course work includes lab and field experience.

AUDIENCE: Child Development students, child care and education professionals, anyone wishing to enhance their knowledge of promoting creativity in children

FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S) (Leave blank if not applicable)
Area:       by meeting the following competencies:
Area:       by meeting the following competencies:
Area:       by meeting the following competencies:

PREREQUISITES OR NECESSARY ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE:

LENGTH OF COURSE : meets for 3 lecture hours/week and 2 lab hours/week for 16 weeks

THIS COURSE IS USUALLY OFFERED:
Every other year ☐   fall X   spring ☐   summer ☐   undetermined ☐

Four goals are emphasized in courses at Minnesota West Community & Technical College:

1) ACADEMIC CONTENT: The academic objectives of this course are:
   a. To demonstrate activities that stimulate the creative process in children
   b. To describe activities that stimulate problem-solving skills
   c. To understand integration of creativity across the curriculum
   d. To explain the utilization of creative activities to enhance individuality
   e. To demonstrate an understanding of a wide variety of materials and methods

2) THINKING SKILLS: This course will help students improve the effectiveness of their thinking skills through:
   a. Analyzing artistic development from birth to eight years
   b. Demonstrating critical thinking in assessing children’s visual communication means
   c. Differentiating between process and product activities
   d. Developing creative activities that stimulate divergent thinking
3) COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS: This course will help students improve their oral and written communication skills through:
   a. Demonstrating clear and effective communication while teaching sample lessons
   b. Participating effectively in a group with emphasis on partner and small group projects
   c. Preparing clear and complete written lesson plans

4) HUMAN DIVERSITY: This course will help students recognize, understand, and appreciate human diversity through:
   a. Developing multi-cultural activities
   b. Identifying children’s non-verbal methods of communication
   c. Choosing adaptations for children with special needs so that every individual is able to participate productively

TOPICS TO BE COVERED: developmental stages, creative activity planning to promote social/emotional, cognitive, and physical development, play-based theory, enhancing creativity through child-directed activities, use of wide variety of art media, integration of sensory and dramatic play, role of music in creativity, special needs, cultural diversity

LIST OF EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOMES:
1. Analyze the relationship between creative activities and cognitive, social/emotional, and physical development
2. Choose activities that enhance creativity
3. Recognize the difference between teacher-directed and child-directed choices
4. Identify activities that stimulate divergent thinking
5. Demonstrate the ability to write clear, complete lesson plans with specific goals and objectives
6. Deliver learning activities and analyze for areas of improvement
7. Prepare adaptations so that children with special needs may participate to the fullest extent
8. Locate resources to demonstrate familiarity with thematic lesson planning
9. Collaborate with peers to produce group creative activities
10. Demonstrate lesson implementation

LEARNING/TEACHING TECHNIQUES used in the course are:
X Collaborative Learning  X Problem Solving
X Student Presentations  X Interactive Lectures
X Creative Projects  X Individual Coaching
X Lecture  □ Films/Videos/Slides
X Demonstrations  □ Other (describe below)
X Lab

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR THIS CLASS INCLUDE:
X Reading  □ Tests  X Individual Projects
X Oral Presentations  □ Worksheets  X Collaborative Projects
X Textbook Problems  □ Papers  X Portfolio
X Group Problems  □ Term Paper
X Other (describe below)
   Journaling

EXPECTED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: This course will prepare students to use creative activities to enhance all areas of development for young children. Through hands-on
opportunities in class, and also lab school/field experience, students will gain an understanding of diverse materials and methods. They will learn that creativity is fostered through open-ended, child-directed choices with an emphasis on process over product.

**Veteran Services:** Minnesota West is dedicated to assisting veterans and eligible family members in achieving their educational goals efficiently. Active duty and reserve/guard military members should advise their instructor of all regularly scheduled military appointments and duties that conflict with scheduled course requirements. Instructors will make every effort to work with the student to identify adjusted timelines. If you are a veteran, please contact the Minnesota West Veterans Service Office.

To receive reasonable accommodations for a documented disability, please contact the campus Student Services Advisor or campus Disability Coordinator as arrangements must be made in advance. In addition, students are encouraged to notify their instructor.

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting the Student Services Advisor or by calling 800-658-2330 or Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 or by using your preferred relay service.

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