

NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: Observation, Participation and Seminar

Course #: ECE 210

Course Description: 3 credits

This course is designed to increase objectivity in observing and interpreting children's behavior, to observe developmental characteristics and to increase the awareness of normal patterns of behavior. Students will visit, observe and participate in an early childhood setting, approved by the instructor, for at least two hours per week for twelve (12) weeks. Seminar sessions with the instructor will be held to discuss and plan for the children's learning needs, which includes dialogue and skill-building activities to foster unbiased observation and interpretation of the behavior of young children's. This is a hybrid course with online components.

Pre-requisite/Co-requisite: None

Goals: To provide the student with:

1. Understanding of the goals, benefits and uses of assessment
2. Knowledge about and use of observation, documentation and other appropriate assessment tools and approaches
3. Enhanced awareness of the normal patterns of young children's behavior
4. Understanding of why objective and responsible assessment is important when working with children
5. Multiple opportunities to practice and document objective observations and apply theories of child development to their observations
6. Knowledge about the uses of observation and documentation for the advancement of the development of young children
7. Applications of how observation and assessment findings can be used to form partnerships with families and other professionals
8. Applications for using observation as a tool for planning curricular experiences and evaluating the overall classroom operation

Outcomes: With successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe why objective observation and confidential record keeping is important when working with children, families and caregivers
2. Explain the uses of observation and documentation for the advancement of the development of young children
3. Implement a variety of objective observations and apply theories of child development to the interpretation of data observed and recorded
4. Make use of multiple observational techniques and documentation for the advancement of the development of young children
5. Apply and explain how observation and assessment findings can be used to form partnerships with families and other professionals

6. Utilize objective observations and unbiased assessments as a tool for effectively communicating with families and professionals
7. Utilize observation as a tool for planning anti-biased curricular experiences in behalf of young children
8. Utilize multiple observations as a tool for evaluating the overall care and education settings
9. Describe and apply the Connecticut State Department of Education Preschool Standards to the ongoing assessment of young children
10. Create a simulated portfolio assessment

College Policies

Plagiarism: Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty are not tolerated at Northwestern Connecticut Community College. Violators of this policy will be subject to sanctions ranging from failure of the assignment (receiving a zero), failing the course, being removed/expelled from the program and/or the College. Please refer to your “Student Handbook” under “Policy on Student Rights,” the Section entitled “Student Discipline,” or the College catalog for additional information.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented learning, physical, or psychiatric disabilities. Students should notify Dr. Christine Woodcock, the Counselor for Students with Disabilities. She is located at Green Woods Hall, in the Center for Student Development. Her phone number is 860-738-6318 and her email is cwoodcock@nwcc.edu.

School Cancellations: If snowy or icy driving conditions cause the postponement or cancellation of classes, announcements will be made on local radio and television stations and posted on the College’s website at www.nwcc.edu. Students may also call the College directly at **(860) 738-6464** to hear a recorded message concerning any inclement weather closings. Students are urged to exercise their own judgment if road conditions in their localities are hazardous.

Use of Electronic Devices: Some course content as presented in Blackboard Learn is not fully supported on mobile devices at this time. While mobile devices provide convenient access to check in and read information about your courses, they should not be used to perform work such as taking tests, quizzes, completing assignments, or submitting substantive discussion posts.

Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Resource Team: NCCC is committed to creating a community that is safe and supportive of people of all gender and sexual identities. This pertains to the entire campus community, whether on ground or virtual, students, faculty, or staff.

Sexual assault and intimate partner violence is an affront to our national conscience, and one we cannot ignore. It is our hope that no one within our campus community will become a victim of these crimes. However, if it occurs, NCCC has created the SART Team - Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Resource Team - to meet the victim’s needs.

SART is a campus and community based team that is fully trained to provide trauma-informed compassionate service and referrals for comprehensive care. The team works in partnership with The Susan B. Anthony Project to extend services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week throughout the year.

The NCCC team members are:

Ruth Gonzalez, Ph.D.	860-738-6315	Green Woods Hall Room 207
Susan Berg	860-738-6342	Green Woods Hall Room 223
Kathleen Chapman	860-738-6344	Green Woods Hall Room 110
Michael Emanuel	860-738-6389	Founders Hall Annex Room 308
Seth Kershner	860-738-6481	Library
Jane O’Grady	860-738-6393	Founders Hall Annex Room 212

Robin Orlomoski
Patricia Bouffard, Ex-Officio
Savannah Schmitt

860-738-6416
860-738-6319

Business Office Room 201
Founders Hall Room 103
Student Representative

At NCCC we care about our students, staff and faculty and their well-being. It is our intention to facilitate the resources needed to help achieve both physical and emotional health.

NAEYC ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

Standard 1: Promoting Child Development and Learning

- 1a: Knowing and understanding young children's characteristics and needs
- 1b: Knowing and understanding the multiple influences on development and learning
- 1c: Using development knowledge to create healthy, respectful, supportive and challenging learning environments

Standard 2: Building Family and Community Relationships

- 2a: Knowing about and understanding family and community characteristics
- 2b: Supporting and empowering families and communities through respectful, reciprocal relationships
- 2c: Involving families and communities in their children's development and learning

Standard 3: Observing, Documenting, and Assessing to Support Young Children and Families

- 3a: Understanding the goals, benefits, and uses of assessment
- 3b: Knowing about and using observation, documentation, and other appropriate assessment tools
- 3c: Understanding and practicing responsible assessment
- 3d: Knowing about assessment partnerships with families and other professionals

Standard 4: Teaching and Learning

- 4a: Knowing, understanding, and using positive relationships and supportive interactions
- 4b: Knowing, understanding, and using effective approaches, strategies, and tools for early education
- 4c: Knowing and understanding the importance, central concepts, inquiry tools and structures of content areas or academic disciplines
- 4d: Using own knowledge and other resources to design, implement, and evaluate meaningful, challenging curriculum to promote positive outcomes

Standard 5: Becoming a Professional

- 5a: Identifying and involving oneself with the early childhood field
- 5b: Knowing about and upholding ethical standards and other professional guidelines
- 5c: Engaging in continuous, collaborative learning to inform practice
- 5d: Integrating knowledgeable, reflective, and critical perspectives on early education
- 5e: Engaging in informed advocacy for children and the profession

Supportive Skill 1: Self-assessment and self-advocacy

Supportive Skill 2: Mastering and applying foundational concepts from general education

Supportive Skill 3: Written and verbal skills

Supportive Skill 4: Making connections between prior knowledge/experience and new learning

Supportive Skill 5: Identifying and using professional resources