

NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: Early Language and Literacy

Course #: ECE*231

Course Description: An introduction to language and literacy development in the young child. Exploration of the early childhood language arts curriculum includes speaking, listening, writing and reading skills. Emphasis on the influence of a child's cultural/social background and experiences on emerging literacy development will be explored. Creation of a literacy-rich environment that engages children in developmentally appropriate language arts experiences will be included. Twelve (12) hours of observation in an approved early childhood education centers/programs is required. Field trips will be required.

Goals: The instructor will:

- Explore the growth and development language potential of young children.
- Explore the four interrelated areas of language arts: listening, speaking, reading and writing.
- Familiarize students with the concepts of “emergent literacy” and the “whole child.”
- Familiarize students with Developmentally and Culturally Appropriate Practice (DAP & DCAP), NAEYC standards and CT Preschool Standards.
- Help students recognize their individual talents and gifts useful in language arts activities.
- Motivate students to utilize creativity and innovation in designing language learning experiences and materials for young children.
- Afford students time to practice, try out, and gain immediate feedback on progress.
- Encourage student recognition of children's literacy behaviors.
- Ensure that students exit the class with a resource collection for both present and future use.
- Help students base their classroom actions and behavior on accepted practice and current theory and research.

Outcomes: Upon completion of course, the student should be able to:

- Describe the stages and process of language development in young children.
- Demonstrate the interrelationship of the four accepted areas of language arts and the connection to higher level thinking skills.
- Explain the concepts of “developmentally and culturally appropriate practice,” “emergent literacy,” and the “whole child.”
- Discuss a curriculum that promotes language acquisition and literacy.
- Develop a variety of tools to implement a literacy-rich environment and age-appropriate language arts program.

- Identify children’s literacy behaviors.
- Identify/develop activities, strategies and techniques that promote language and literacy acquisition for both English and non-English speaking children.
- Plan, practice and implement creative and innovative language arts activities.
- Compile a language arts resource collection for present and future use.
- Discuss parents as partners in extending literacy into the home.
- Explain the role of play in language and literacy development.
- Discuss print awareness and the relationship of sound to print.
- Identify phonemes, phonological awareness and alphabetic principle.
- Select quality books and literacy-rich materials for young children.
- Translate theory into practice by encouraging and establishing classroom actions/behaviors that reflect accepted early childhood professional practice as well as current theory and research.

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 Orloski	860-738-6416	Business Office Room 201
Patricia Bouffard, Ex-Officio	860-738-6319	Founders Hall Room 103
Savannah Schmitt		Student Representative
Jacob Wujcik		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