SUNY ORANGE
Education Department

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE #: EDU 201 MN
NAME: Observation and Assessment

INSTRUCTOR: Elizabeth Tarvin
SEMESTER: Fall 2008

OFFICE: Sarah Wells 101
OFFICE HOURS: As posted, or by appointment

PHONE: 341-4482
EMAIL: elizabeth.tarvin@sunyorange.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This interactive course combines the observation and assessment of children, preschool through second grade, in all developmental areas. By using a variety of professional techniques and tools during weekly field work, students will objectively and accurately observe and record children's behavior. Corresponding theory, appropriate practices, environments, and curricula will be related to field work. Use of NAEYC guidelines will be included. Twenty-four (24) hours of field work in diverse settings is required. A grade of C or better is required to continue and graduate in the AAS/Certificate programs.

3 credits 2 lectures per week 12 on-site observations, 2 hours each

Prerequisites: EDU 101, EDU 102, PSY 101

RELATIONSHIP TO PROGRAMS

This is a specialized course intended for Early Childhood majors and/or practitioners in the field pursuing either a C.D.A., a one-year certificate in Early Childhood, or part of a sequence in pursuit of (JRTEP B-2 or JRTEP 1-6) an undergraduate degree in Education. It also carries three (3) credits toward the AAS Degree in Early Childhood. You should refer to the SUNY Orange catalog, which contains complete authoritative information.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Explain the key elements and assessment goals of various observation methods and routines utilized in early childhood settings including class list log, anecdotal records, running records, time samples, checklists, frequency charts, and interviews.
2. Record observations of children using precise, professional and current language, while understanding and demonstrating the importance of confidentiality.
4. Define and describe the essential components of developmentally appropriate practices, as well as, identify practices that are not developmentally appropriate.
5. Value all populations in their analyses and assessments.
6. Identify "helping professionals" within the community.
COURSE CONTENT

Observing and Assessing:
1. Separation and Adjustment
2. Self-Care
3. Physical Development
4. Social Development
5. Emotional Development
6. Language and Speech
7. Attention Span
8. Cognitive Development
9. Literacy
10. Creativity
11. Socio-Dramatic Play
12. Child Abuse Suspicions
13. Self-Concept
14. Children in Groups
15. Children and Adults

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS/ACTIVITIES

1. Class attendance with active, informed, positive participation
2. Weekly quiz based on assigned reading
3. Observation write-ups
4. Reflective journals
5. Assessment project
6. Assessment portfolio

GRADING POLICY

25% Observation Recording Sheets/Completion of Hours
25% Reflective Journal
25% Weekly Quizzes*
25% Assessment Project and Portfolio

* I will drop the lowest quiz grade from your average. I will not do make-up quizzes, so if you miss a class that will be your lowest quiz grade.

REQUIRED TEXT

Week by Week Documenting the Development of Young Children, Barbara A. Nilsen, Ed. D., Delmar, 4th ed.
GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

1. All work must be typed or computer text, preferred use of Times New Roman, Font Size 12 or 14, unless otherwise specified.
2. Proper grammar and correct spelling are mandatory for each written assignment. Please do not rely solely on your spell/grammar check. Points will be deducted if work is not at “college level.”
3. Due dates are serious. Grade point reductions will be given for late work according to specific course/assignment guidelines.
4. Attendance is critical. Each unexcused absence beyond ONE will reduce your final average by six (6) points per week.
5. You must be present for the entire class to be counted as attending that day. If absence is unavoidable, you MUST contact me prior to class. This is CRUCIAL. Unusual circumstances MUST be communicated to me.
6. Make-up work, notes, and exams are YOUR responsibility to obtain/schedule.
7. Make-up assessments will be given only for excused absences and must be scheduled and administered as close to the original date as possible.
8. Students may withdraw themselves and receive a “W” during the first 10 weeks of the semester. During weeks 11 through 13 they may only withdraw and receive a “W” with the permission of the instructor. All others receive a final mark which may be A, B, C, D, or F.
9. Please remember to keep a copy of ALL of your assignments for your own personal files.
10. Changes in topics, due dates, assignments or presentations may occur due to unforeseen circumstances with or without prior notice.

SUPPORT SERVICES

SUNY Orange is committed to assisting students to achieve their best. Resources for you include: Tutorial Center, Writing Lab, Math Lab, Student Success Center, Advising and Counseling, Library and Career Services. Computers and printers are available for your use in the Library, Shepard Student Center and Bio Tech Building.

ADA DOCUMENTED DISABILITY

If you have a documented disability, or believe you MAY have one, and you anticipate needing special accommodation, meet with me at the START of the semester. You must also request a letter from the Advocate for Students with Disabilities verifying your situation. To receive help you must contact that person at 341-4000. Office is Shepard Student Center, 3rd Floor.

CELL PHONE USAGE POLICY

The active use of any device classified as a telecommunications device, including but not limited to, pagers, cellular phones, PDAs and messaging devices, is prohibited in classrooms, as well as in other areas where a classroom atmosphere is assumed (e.g. libraries, labs, theaters, administrative offices), except by special permission of the instructor. Passive use, including silent and vibrate mode may be used, provided it does not compromise the education process or promote an unethical situation. Instructors reserve the right to regulate the monitoring of such devices as necessary.
PLAGIARISM

Any student or organization found to have committed or to have attempted to commit any of the following acts of misconduct is subject to the disciplinary sanctions outlined in Article IV.

Acts of dishonesty, including, but not limited to:
  a. Cheating, including cybercheating
  b. Fabrication
  c. Facilitating academic dishonesty
  d. Plagiarism, including internet plagiarism
  e. Forgery
  f. Bribery
  g. Multiple submission (submitting the same assignment to more than one instructor without the permission of the instructors).

Please refer to the College Academic Policy for other means of resolution for academic dishonesty issues.

WEATHER EMERGENCIES/CANCELLATIONS

In the event that this class is cancelled, there will be a makeup class scheduled ONLY for evening classes, NOT day classes. Check the college website or local radio station for closings.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT RESOURCES

The Education Department provides numerous resources for its students:

- **Education Curriculum Resource Area**—Located on the second floor of the library, this area houses books and periodicals for use by students.
- **Education Department Hallway**—The hallway in the Sarah Wells Building contains Education Department faculty and staff offices as well as Bulletin Boards with course listings, job postings, event times and dates, club meeting times and contact information.
- **Education Resource Room**—Located in Sarah Wells Workroom, this area holds consumables for student use, as well as a TV/VCR and video tapes, CD-ROMs and DVDs, laminating machine, and binding machine (some restrictions on usage amounts may apply). Please call or email Education Department administrative assistant at 341-4054 or dianne.gersbeck@sunyorange.edu to check available times for ERR access.
- **Education Department Website**—Log on to www.sunyorange.edu/education for the most current information.
DATES TO REMEMBER

9/1  Labor Day—No Classes
9/30 Rosh Hashanah—Classes in Session*
10/9  Yom Kippur—Classes in Session*
10/13 Columbus Day—No Classes
10/14 No Tuesday Classes—Hold Monday 10/8 Classes
10/17 Mid-Term Grades Distributed to Students Online
11/3  Last Day for Students to Withdraw from Classes with Grade of “W”
11/21 Last Day for Instructor Withdrawals for Fall 2008
11/26 Thanksgiving Recess Begins—No Classes
12/1  Classes Resume
12/5  Deadline to Apply for December Graduation
12/16 Grades Distributed to Students Online
12/15 Winter Recess Begins

*See college policy regarding religious observance.
**Changes in topics, due dates, assignments or presentations may occur due to unforeseen circumstances with or without prior notice.**

All Observational Log Sheets (signed by your on-site supervisor) MUST be returned by December ?th. This log sheet will constitute the ONLY proof of your observations, NO exceptions.
# CHRONOLOGY OF STUDY

EDU 201 MN Fall 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic/Reading Assignments Discussed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/28</td>
<td>WBW- Introduction /Course Overview/Course Requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/4</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 1 Class List Log / Separation &amp; Adjustment</td>
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<tr>
<td># 9/11</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 2 Anecdotal Recordings/Self-Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/18</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 3 Checklists/Physical Development</td>
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<tr>
<td># 9/25</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 4 Running Records/Social Development</td>
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<td>10/2</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 5 Frequency Counts/Emotional Development</td>
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<tr>
<td># 10/9</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 6 Conversations/Language &amp; Speech</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/16</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 7 Time Samples/Attention Span</td>
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<tr>
<td># 10/23</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 8 Standardized Tests/Cognitive Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/30</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 9 Rating Scales/Literacy</td>
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<tr>
<td># 11/6</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 10 Work Samples/Creativity</td>
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<td>11/13</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 11 Technology/Socio-Dramatic Play</td>
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<tr>
<td># 11/20</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 12 Child Abuse Suspicions/Self-Concept Assessment Project Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/27</td>
<td>NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/4</td>
<td>WBW - Chapter 13 Program Assessments/Children in Groups</td>
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</tbody>
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Observation Log Sheet Due  
Assessment Portfolio Due

TBA     Mandatory Last Class during Final Exam Week  
WBW - Chapter 14 Portfolios/Conferencing/Children and Adults

**WBW - Week-By-Week Text/Nilsen**  
Each week your reading assignment is the chapter we will discuss in the next class.  
# Journals are due.