

**George Mason University**  
**College of Education and Human Development**  
**Early Childhood Education**

ECED 503.600 Inclusive Curriculum for Young Learners: Planning Instruction and Guidance  
3 Credits, Spring 2021

01/19/2021 – 03/06/2021, Thursdays/ 5:00pm – 7:40pm

Meeting synchronously on 1/21/2020, 1/28/2021, 2/4/2021, 2/11/2021, 2/18/2021, 2/25/2021,  
3/4/2021

Online Hybrid

**Faculty**

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**Prerequisites**

None

**University Catalog Course Description**

Explores principles of learning, curriculum development, and relationship between assessment and instruction. Examines role of play and active exploration in learning. Addresses guiding children's behavior and the role of families and culture in children's learning. Notes: Field experience required.

**Course Delivery Method**

This course will be delivered online (76% or more) using an asynchronous format via Blackboard Learning Management system (LMS) housed in the MyMason portal. You will log in to the Blackboard (Bb) course site using your Mason email name (everything before @masonlive.gmu.edu) and email password. The course site will be available on January 19, 2021.

**Under no circumstances, may candidates/students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles. Further, as expected in a face-to-face class meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication.**

*Technical Requirements*

To participate in this course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements:

- High-speed Internet access with standard up-to-date browsers. To get a list of Blackboard's supported browsers see [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\\_Started/Browser\\_Support#supported-browsers](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#supported-browsers)

To get a list of supported operation systems on different devices see [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\\_Started/Browser\\_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems)

- Students must maintain consistent and reliable access to their GMU email and Blackboard, as these are the official methods of communication for this course.
- Students will need a headset microphone for use with the Blackboard Collaborate web conferencing tool.
- Students may be asked to create logins and passwords on supplemental websites and/or to download trial software to their computer or tablet as part of course requirements.
- The following software plug-ins for PCs and Macs, respectively, are available for free download:
  - Adobe Acrobat Reader: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
  - Windows Media Player: <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/14209/get-windows-media-player>
  - Apple Quick Time Player: [www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)

### *Expectations*

- Course Week: Our course week will begin Monday and finish on Sunday. Synchronous class sessions will be held on Thursday.
- Log-in Frequency: Students must actively check the course Blackboard site and their GMU email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to course materials at least 4 times per week.
- Participation: Students are expected to actively engage in all course activities throughout the semester, which includes viewing all course materials, completing course activities and assignments, and participating in course discussions and group interactions.
- Technical Competence: Students are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of all course technology. Students who are struggling with technical components of the course are expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or College or University technical services.
- Technical Issues: Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.
- Workload: Please be aware that this course is **not** self-paced. Students are expected to meet *specific deadlines* and *due dates* listed in the **Class Schedule** section of this syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the weekly course schedule of topics, readings, activities and assignments due.
- Instructor Support: Students may schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss course requirements, content, or other course-related issues. Those unable to come to a Mason campus can meet with the instructor via telephone or web conference. Students should email the instructor to schedule a one-on-one session, including their preferred meeting method and suggested dates/times.
- Netiquette: The course environment is a collaborative space. Experience shows that even an innocent remark typed in the online environment can be misconstrued. Students must always re-read their responses carefully before posting them, so as others do not consider them as personal offenses. *Be positive in your approach with others and diplomatic in selecting your words.* Remember that you are not competing with classmates, but sharing information and learning from others. All faculty are similarly expected to be respectful in all communications.
- Accommodations: Online learners who require effective accommodations to ensure accessibility must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services.

## Learner Outcomes or Objectives

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

1. Describe theoretical frameworks guiding early childhood curriculum approaches and practices.
2. Use principles of learning and knowledge of individual children's development, abilities, and prior knowledge to plan meaningful instruction and select, develop, and use appropriate curricula, methodologies, and materials, including media and contemporary technologies, that support and enhance student learning and reflect the research on unique, age-appropriate, culturally relevant curriculum and pedagogy for diverse young children, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities.
3. Describe and use the principles of online learning, online instructional strategies, and technology to enhance curriculum development and student learning.
4. Describe strategies to modify and manage learning environments, experiences, and instructional practices that are sensitive to culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse learners, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities.
5. Identify teaching methods that promote student engagement, student academic progress, and effective preparation for the Virginia Standards of Learning assessments.
6. Explain the role of families in child development and the child's education, strategies for communicating with families regarding the social and instructional strengths and needs of children, and strategies for increasing family engagement in student learning at home and school and in the preparation of the Virginia Standards of Learning assessments.
7. Explain how meaningful, intentional instruction and curriculum activities with diverse young children in informal, play-mediated, and/or discipline-specific (i.e., drama, English, mathematics, movement, music, history and social science, science, computer technology, visual and performing arts) settings help learners develop knowledge and basic skills, sustain intellectual curiosity, problem-solving skills, and specific learning outcomes as reflected in the *Virginia Standards of Learning* and *Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning: Comprehensive Standards for Four-Year-Olds*.
8. Explain how to plan for differentiated instruction and flexible groupings in prekindergarten through third-grade classrooms to meet the needs of diverse young learners at different stages of development, abilities, and achievement, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities.
9. Explain how individualized education programs (IEPs) are developed and implemented by multidisciplinary teams.
10. Identify intervention strategies and techniques, including tiered instruction, that facilitate functional and developmentally appropriate cognitive, social and emotional, speech and language, motor, and self-help development for diverse young children, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities.
11. Discuss service delivery options for children with disabilities that support success and functionality in all settings where same-age, typically developing peers would be located.
12. Describe various school crisis management and safety plans and how to create a safe, orderly, inclusive classroom environment in a developmentally appropriate manner that engages individual children in meaningful learning activities and social interactions.
13. Describe research-based classroom and behavior management techniques, classroom community building strategies, positive behavior supports, and individual interventions, including techniques that promote emotional well-being and teach and maintain

behavioral conduct and skills consistent with norms, standards, and rules of the educational environment.

14. Describe diverse, age-appropriate classroom and behavior management approaches based on culturally responsive behavioral, cognitive, affective, social, and ecological theory and practice that support professionally appropriate practices that promote positive redirection of behavior, development of social skills, and development of self-discipline.
15. Identify age-appropriate techniques, informed by learning principles and knowledge of child development, that maintain a positive learning environment, build responsibility, and teach social and emotional skills, including self-discipline and self-regulation, to individual children and groups of children to assist with behavior management.
16. Identify specific instructional strategies matched to individual students to ensure differentiation to support diverse learning needs.
17. Exhibit standards of professionalism, ethical standards, and personal integrity with children, families, and professionals in the field experience setting and in interactions with classmates, the instructor, the field experience coordinator, and others.
18. Use writing as an instructional and assessment tool to generate, gather, plan, organize, and to communicate for a variety of purposes; integrate correct written conventions (i.e., grammar, usage, mechanics, and spelling); and format using current APA style.

**Professional Standards** – Virginia Professional Studies Competencies, Virginia Early Childhood Special Education Endorsement Competencies, Virginia Early/Primary Education PreK-3 EPK3 Endorsement Competencies, Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (InTASC) Standards, Council of Exceptional Children (CEC) and Division of Early Childhood (DEC) Standards, and National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Standards

Upon completion of this course, students will have met the following professional standards:

### **Virginia Professional Studies Requirements**

Curriculum and Instruction  
Classroom and Behavior Management  
Supervised Clinical Experiences

### **Virginia Early Childhood Special Education Endorsement Competencies**

Instructional Programs for Early Intervention  
Behavior Management  
Supervised Experiences

### **Virginia Early/Primary Education PreK-3 Endorsement Competencies**

Methods

### **CEC Standard Elements**

*CEC 1.2 Beginning special education professionals use understanding of development and individual differences to respond to the needs of individuals with exceptionalities.*

*CEC 2.1 Beginning special educators through collaboration with general educators and other colleagues create safe, inclusive, culturally responsive learning environments to engage individual with exceptionalities in meaningful learning activities and social interactions.*

CEC 3.1 *Beginning special education professionals understand the central concepts, structures of the discipline, and tools of inquiry of the content areas they teach, and can organize this knowledge, integrate cross-disciplinary skills, and develop meaningful learning progressions for individuals with exceptionalities.*

CEC 5.1 *Beginning special educators consider an individual’s abilities, interests, learning environments, and cultural and linguistic factors in the selection, development, and adaptation of learning experiences for individual with exceptionalities*

CEC 5.3 *Beginning special educators are familiar with augmentative and alternative communication systems and a variety of assistive technologies to support the communication and learning of individuals with exceptionalities*

### **NAEYC Standard Elements**

NAEYC 3d *Knowing about assessment partnerships with families and with professional colleagues to build effective learning environments*

NAEYC 4a *Understanding positive relationships and supportive interactions as the foundations of their work with children*

NAEYC 4b *Knowing and understanding effective strategies and tools for early education, including appropriate uses of technology*

NAEYC 5a *Understanding content knowledge and resources in academic disciplines: language and literacy; the arts – music, creative movement, dance, drama, visual arts; mathematics; science, physical activity, physical education, health and safety; and social studies*

### **Required Texts**

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN: 9781433832178

Bullard, J. (2017). *Creating environments for learning: Birth to age 8* (3rd ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education. ISBN: 9780134014555

Kostelnik, M., Soderman, A., & Whiren, A. (2019). *Developmentally appropriate curriculum: Best practices in early childhood education* (7th ed.). Columbus, OH: Pearson Education. ISBN: 9780134747620

### **Course Performance Evaluation**

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, Tk20/VIA, hard copy).

<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>	<b>Points</b>
Attendance & Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-Evaluation</li> </ul>	Ongoing Mar 6	<b>25</b>
Field Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field Experience Placement Approval Form</li> <li>• Field Experience Documentation Form (after completion of Field Experience hours)</li> <li>• Field Experience Observation and Reflection</li> </ul>	Jan 23 Mar 6 Mar 6	<b>20</b> 1 4 15
Child Guidance Philosophy Statement	Feb 6	<b>15</b>
Instructional Lesson Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part 1: Introducing and Considering the Child</li> <li>• Part 2: Establishing Positive Relationships</li> </ul>	Feb 13 Feb 20	<b>40</b> 10 10

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part 3: Developing a Lesson Plan</li> </ul>	Feb 27	20
<b>Compiled Instructional Plan due to Tk20/VIA through Bb</b>	Mar 6	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>

- Assignments and/or Examinations**

**Field Experience (5 points)**

This course requires a minimum of 15 hours field experience. Students in the Early Childhood Special Education Licensure Concentration will complete their field experience in a preschool special education classroom setting. Students in the Early/Primary Education PreK-3 Licensure Concentration will complete their field experience in a prekindergarten through third-grade general education classroom setting. Students in the dual licensure concentration or without a concentration may complete the field experience in a preschool special education classroom setting or in a prekindergarten through third-grade general education classroom setting. To initiate this assignment, students will visit <https://cehd.gmu.edu/endorse/ferf> and complete the online “Field Experience Request Form.” On the form, students will be asked to indicate how their placement will be arranged. Students have two options for fulfilling their field placement requirement.

**Option 1**

- Students may arrange their own field experience if they are a full-time contracted school system employee and are able to complete their field experience at their workplace.
- Students will need to have access to a preschool early childhood special education classroom setting or a prekindergarten through third-grade general education classroom setting.

**Option 2**

- Students may request a virtual placement in a preschool special education classroom setting or a prekindergarten through third-grade general education setting through the field placement office <https://cehd.gmu.edu/endorse/ferf>.
- The field placement office will arrange a virtual placement for students in a specific school with a specific teacher.

**Documenting the Field Experience (5 points)**

- Students will upload the *Field Experience Placement Approval Form*. In this form, they will provide a statement confirming that they have completed the online “Field Experience Request Form.” They also will provide information to the instructor about where and how they will complete the field experience (1 point).
- Upon completion of their field experience hours, students will provide documentation of their experience (4 points).
  - If students complete the field experience within their own setting, they will upload the *On-the-Job Placement Documentation Form* to Blackboard. This form requires verification from the principal or supervisor on site.
  - If students attended a field placement other than where they work, they will upload the *Field Experience Documentation Form* to Blackboard. This form requires verification from the mentoring teacher on site.

Students will exhibit standards of professionalism, ethical standards, and personal integrity throughout the Field Experience process with the instructor, field experience coordinator, classroom teacher, students, administrators, etc. Students will refer to Blackboard for CEC, DEC, and NAEYC standards in early childhood education and early childhood special education.

***Field Experience Observation and Reflection (15 points)***

Students will develop a five- to seven-page report that discusses the following points about the early childhood education classroom setting observed during the field experience:

- Overview of the classroom arrangement;
- Description of meaningful curriculum activities observed and how they reflect the various developmental areas/domains or curriculum content areas;
- Differentiation of instruction and flexible grouping among the general population of early childhood learners, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities;
- Specific classroom and behavior management techniques, classroom community building, positive behavior supports, and individual interventions observed, including techniques that promote emotional well-being for each child, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities;
- Discussion of how the integration of student interests, diversity, and family values and beliefs was accomplished in the classroom; and
- Suggestions (at least three) for enhancing the curriculum, classroom environment, and behavior management strategies that are consistent with norms, standards, and rules of the educational environment and include English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities.

Students will cite current research from the course textbooks, class discussions and handouts, and/or other relevant peer-reviewed sources to support the information they provide. They will use in-text citations, include a reference list per APA style guidelines, and use correct written conventions.

***Child Guidance Philosophy Statement (15 points)***

Students will work write a five- to eight-page paper describing their classroom child guidance and behavior management philosophy and plan. Students will use textbook readings, in-class discussions, and at least five professional/peer-reviewed readings to support their plan. Students will include a discussion of the following:

- Statement of strengths-based approach to child guidance and behavior management,
- Overall plan for child guidance strategies to ensure student success,
- Plan for behavior management,
- Proposed or expected accommodations for diverse young learners,
- Inclusion of family beliefs and values, and
- Specific strategies to be used in the classroom.

Students will cite current research from the course textbooks, class discussions and handouts, and/or other relevant professional and peer-reviewed sources to support the information they provide. They will use in-text citations, include a reference list per APA style guidelines, and use correct written conventions.

**Instructional Lesson Plan (40 points)** This assignment must be submitted to Tk20/VIA on Blackboard. In this assignment, students will use knowledge of individual learning differences, including cultural, linguistic, and ability diversity, to develop learning objectives as well as instructional strategies that include augmentative, alternative, or assistive technologies to individualize instruction for a child with developmental, learning, physical, or linguistic differences within the context of the general education environment and curriculum. During the initial meeting times of the field experience, students will select a child with a developmental or learning difference, including linguistic (e.g., English or dual language learner) and/or ability (e.g., gifted and talented and/or disability) diversity. They will work with this child throughout their field experience and create an instructional plan that targets the needs of their focus child and prepares the child for at least two areas on the Virginia Standards of Learning or Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning.

***Part 1: Introducing and Considering the Child (10 points)***

Students will gather information about their focus child by working with the teacher, family, and/or other professional colleagues, as appropriate, and present the information in a three-to four-page paper. They will do the following:

- Provide background information (e.g., age, grade level, learning difference, special services), including cultural diversity, linguistic diversity (e.g., English or dual language learner), ability diversity (e.g., gifted and talented areas, identified disabilities), and other types of diversity.
- Expand the discussion of the focus child by summarizing information regarding the following:
  - Individual abilities and areas of needs of the child,
  - The child's specific interests,
  - Effective learning environments, and
  - Cultural, linguistic, and ability factors that should be considered when planning curriculum and instruction for the focus child.
- Explain how they gathered the information about the child within the context of the classroom and in partnership with the teacher, family, and/or other professional colleagues:
  - Discussions and/or working with the teacher, family, and/or other professional colleagues;
  - Observations of the child interacting with peers and adults; and
  - Interactions with the child during two or three instructional activities within the classroom environment.

Students will cite current research from the course textbook, class discussions and handouts, and/or other relevant peer-reviewed sources to support the information they provide. They will use in-text citations and include a reference list per APA style guidelines.

***Part 2: Establishing Positive Relationships and Effective Instructional Strategies (10 points)***

During the field experience, students will interact with the focus child using strategies discussed in class to develop a relationship with the child and to support instruction. In addition, students will use three instructional strategies discussed in class to support and/or guide their focus student through a lesson. Students will write a three- to five-page paper that describes the three strategies students used with the child to initiate warm, nurturing interactions and the three



strategies used to support instruction. They will explain how these strategies supported the child's diversity, including cultural, linguistic, and ability diversity.

Students will cite current research from the course textbook, class discussions and handouts, and/or other relevant peer-reviewed sources to support the information they provide. They will use in-text citations and include a reference list per APA style guidelines.

***Part 3: Developing a Lesson Plan (20 points)***

Students will use what they learned about the child to develop a written individualized instructional lesson plan for the child within the context of the general education environment and curriculum that responds to the child's cultural, linguistic, and ability diversity and prepares the child for the Virginia Standards of Learning or Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning in at least two content areas. Students will write an instructional lesson plan, using the provided lesson plan template, that will positively influence the child's development and learning. For each part of the template, they will include a rationale.

In their rationales, they will use citations from current research from the course readings and textbook, class discussions and handouts, and/or other relevant sources to support their conclusions and assertions per APA style guidelines.

- **Other Requirements**

**Attendance and Participation (25 points)**

Because active participation and engagement are imperative for optimal learning, preparation for and participation in in-class and online activities will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Students attend class, arrive on time, and stay for the entire class period.
- Students use laptops and personal devices for instructional purposes only.
- Students complete readings and prepare for class activities prior to class as evidenced by their ability to discuss and write about the concepts presented and examined in the texts as well as participate fully in related activities.
- Students are actively involved in in-class and online learning experiences as evidenced by (a) participating in all activities, (b) engaging in small- and large-group discussions, (c) completing written work related to the activities, and (d) supporting the participation and learning of classmates.
- Students show evidence of critical reflective thinking through in-class and online discussions, activities, and written reflections.
- Students display professional dispositions at all times while interacting with the instructor and other students.
- Students complete participation activities across the semester that complement the scheduled course topic. Instructors will periodically collect artifacts from the activities. Students in attendance and who actively engage in the learning experience will receive credit for their efforts. Graded participation activities are not announced and are implemented at the discretion of the instructor.
- Students submit attendance and participation self-evaluation.

## **Written Assignments**

All formal written assignments will be evaluated for content and presentation. The American Psychological Association, Seventh Edition (APA) style will be followed for all written work. All written work unless otherwise noted must be completed on a word processor and should be proofread carefully. (Use spell check!) If students are not confident of their own ability to catch errors, they should have another person proofread their work. When in doubt, they should check the APA manual. Students may consult the Writing Center for additional writing support.

Students will do the following:

1. Present ideas in a clear, concise, and organized manner. (Avoid wordiness and redundancy.)
2. Develop points coherently, definitively, and thoroughly.
3. Refer to appropriate authorities, studies, and examples to document where appropriate. (Avoid meaningless generalizations, unwarranted assumptions, and unsupported opinions.)
4. Use correct capitalization, punctuation, spelling, and grammar.
5. Type the paper with double spacing, indented paragraphs, 1-inch margins all around, and 12-point Times New Roman font.

- **Grading**

A = 95-100 A- = 90-94 B+ = 87-89 B = 80-86 C = 70-79 F = <70

Incomplete (IN): This grade may be given to students who are passing a course but who may be unable to complete scheduled coursework for a cause beyond reasonable control.

All CEHD students are held to the university grading policies as described in the Academic Policies section of the current catalog, which can be accessed at <http://catalog.gmu.edu>. Those students seeking Virginia initial teaching licensure must earn a B- or better in all graduate licensure coursework.

## **Professional Dispositions**

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/policies-procedures/>.

## Class Schedule

Date	Topics	Readings
<b>Week 1</b> <b>Jan 19-24</b> <b>Online</b>	Introductions Syllabus and Assignments Review  Online Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online instructional strategies</li> <li>• Technology for curriculum development and student learning</li> </ul> Introduction to Inclusive Curriculum and Instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developmentally appropriate practices</li> <li>• Including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities</li> </ul>	DEC/NAEYC Early Childhood Inclusion Joint Statement  NAEYC Developmentally Appropriate Practice Position Statement  DEC Recommended Practices
<b>Week 1</b> <b>Jan 21</b> <b>Sync</b>	Theoretical Frameworks Guiding Early Childhood Curriculum for Diverse Young Learners, Including English Learners, Children Who Are Gifted and Talented, and Children with Disabilities  Principles of Learning and Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pedagogy</li> <li>• Meaningful instruction</li> <li>• Curricula</li> <li>• Methodologies</li> <li>• Materials</li> <li>• Contemporary technologies</li> </ul>	Kostelnik et al., Introduction  <b>Due to Bb (Jan 23) - Field Experience Placement Approval Form</b>
<b>Week 2</b> <b>Jan 25-31</b> <b>Online</b>	Child Guidance and Classroom and Behavior Management for Diverse Young Learners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developmentally appropriate expectations</li> <li>• Safe, orderly, inclusive classrooms</li> <li>• School crisis management and safety plans</li> </ul> Child Guidance Assignment Discussion	Kostelnik et al., Chapter 6

Date	Topics	Readings
<b>Week 2</b> <b>Jan 28</b> <b>Sync</b>	Child Guidance and Classroom and Behavior Management for Diverse Young Learners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive behavior supports and individual interventions</li> <li>• Research-based classroom and behavior management techniques</li> <li>• Classroom and behavior management within the context of development and culture</li> <li>• Positive redirection</li> <li>• Self-discipline and self-regulation</li> </ul> Review Instructional Plan Part 1	
<b>Week 3</b> <b>Feb 1-7</b> <b>Online</b>	Classroom Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building positive relationships and classroom community</li> <li>• Supporting social and emotional development</li> <li>• Building responsibility in young learners</li> <li>• Organizing space and materials</li> <li>• Physical layout of classroom</li> <li>• Inclusive settings, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities</li> </ul>	Bullard, Chapters 5, 6  Kostelnik et al., Chapter 5
<b>Week 3</b> <b>Feb 4</b> <b>Sync</b>	Child Development in Instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developmental domains (cognition, language and communication, motor, social emotional, self-help)</li> <li>• Influences of individual differences, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities</li> <li>• Content areas (reading and English, mathematics, history and social sciences, science)</li> <li>• Arts</li> <li>• Integration across developmental domains and content areas</li> </ul>	Bullard, Chapters 1, 2  Kostelnik et al., Chapters 1, 2  <b>Due to Bb (Feb 6) – Child Guidance Philosophy Statement</b>

Date	Topics	Readings
<p><b>Week 4</b> <b>Feb 8-14</b> <b>Online</b></p>	<p>Using Standards to Guide Practice for Diverse Young Learners, Including English Learners, Children Who Are Gifted and Talented, and Children with Disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virginia Standards of Learning</li> <li>• Virginia’s Foundation Blocks for Early Learning</li> <li>• Context of National, State, and Local Standards</li> <li>• Preparation for Virginia Standards of Learning assessments</li> </ul> <p>Planning and Implementing Instruction for Diverse Young Learners, Including English Learners, Children Who Are Gifted and Talented, and Children with Disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement</li> <li>• Student academic progress</li> <li>• Contemporary technologies</li> <li>• Instructional strategies</li> </ul> <p>Developing Lesson Plans: Standards and Objectives</p>	<p>Bullard, Chapters 3, 4, 17</p> <p>Kostelnik et al., Chapters 3, 4</p>
<p><b>Week 4</b> <b>Feb 11</b> <b>Sync</b></p>	<p>Planning and Implementing Instruction for Diverse Young Learners, Including English Learners, Children Who Are Gifted and Talented, and Children with Disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructional strategies to meet the needs of diverse young learners</li> <li>• Strategies to modify and manage environments and instruction for diverse young learners (e.g., culture, linguistic, ability)</li> <li>• Differentiated instruction and flexible grouping</li> <li>• Overview of the development and implementation of IEPs and service delivery options</li> <li>• Response and recognition of tiered instruction</li> </ul> <p>Developing Lesson Plans: Tasks, Methods, Strategies; Accommodations and Modifications</p>	<p>Kostelnik et al., Chapter 7</p> <p><b>Due to Bb (Feb 13) – Instructional Lesson Plan Part 1: Introducing and Considering the Child</b></p>

Date	Topics	Readings
<p><b>Week 5</b> <b>Feb 15-21</b> <b>Online</b></p>	<p>Meaningful, Intentional Instruction for Diverse Young Learners, Including English Learners, Children Who Are Gifted and Talented, and Children with Disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informal</li> <li>• Play-mediated</li> <li>• Discipline-specific instruction that prepares diverse young learners to meet local and national standards and prepares them for the Virginia Standards of Learning assessments</li> <li>• Integrated across disciplines</li> <li>• Engaging curiosity and problem solving</li> </ul> <p>Developing Lesson Plans: Materials and Context</p>	<p>Kostelnik et al., Chapter 15</p>
<p><b>Week 5</b> <b>Feb18</b> <b>Sync</b></p>	<p>Assessing and Evaluating Diverse Young Children’s Learning, Including English Learners, Children Who Are Gifted and Talented, and Children with Disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal and informal assessments</li> <li>• Virginia Standards of Learning assessments</li> </ul> <p>Role of Families in Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategies for communicating with families</li> <li>• Strategies for increasing family engagement at home and school</li> <li>• Building relationships with young children and families</li> </ul> <p>Developing Lesson Plans: Assessment</p>	<p>Kostelnik et al., Chapter 8</p> <p><b>Due to Bb (Feb 20) – Instructional Lesson Plan Part 2: Establishing Positive Relationships and Instructional Strategies</b></p>

Date	Topics	Readings
<p><b>Week 6</b> <b>Feb 22-28</b> <b>Online</b></p>	<p>Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum Development and Implementation: Aesthetic and Affective Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructional strategies to meet the needs of diverse young learners, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities</li> <li>• Strategies to modify and manage environments and instruction for diverse young learners (e.g., culture, linguistic, ability), including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities</li> <li>• Differentiated instruction and flexible grouping for diverse young learners, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities</li> </ul>	<p>Bullard, Chapters 13, 14</p> <p>Kostelnik et al., Chapters 9, 10</p>
<p><b>Week 6</b> <b>Feb 25</b> <b>Sync</b></p>	<p>Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum Development and Implementation: Cognitive and Language Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructional strategies to meet the needs of diverse young learners, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities</li> <li>• Strategies to modify and manage environments and instruction for diverse young learners (e.g., culture, linguistic, ability), including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities</li> <li>• Differentiated instruction and flexible grouping for diverse young learners, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities</li> </ul>	<p>Bullard, Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12</p> <p>Kostelnik et al., Chapters 11, 12</p> <p><b>Due to Bb (Feb 27) – Instructional Lesson Plan Part 3: Developing a Lesson Plan</b></p>

Date	Topics	Readings
<b>Week 7</b> <b>Mar 1-7</b> <b>Online</b>	Curriculum and Instructional Planning, Short- and Long-Term Planning for Diverse Young Learners, Including English Learners, Children Who Are Gifted and Talented, and Children with Disabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrating domain-specific content across the curriculum</li> <li>• Preparing for the Virginia Standards of Learning assessments</li> </ul> Progress monitoring for growth and behavior for diverse young learners, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities	Kostelnik et al., Chapter 16
<b>Week 7</b> <b>Mar 4</b> <b>Sync</b>	Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum Development and Implementation: Physical and Social Emotional Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructional strategies to meet the needs of diverse young learners, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities</li> <li>• Strategies to modify and manage environments and instruction for diverse young learners (e.g., culture, linguistic, ability), including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities</li> <li>• Differentiated instruction and flexible grouping for diverse young learners, including English learners, children who are gifted and talented, and children with disabilities</li> </ul>	Kostelnik et al., Chapters 13, 14  <b>Due to Bb (Mar 6) – Field Experience Documentation Form</b>  <b>Due to Bb (Mar 6) – Field Experience Observation and Reflection</b>  <b>Due to Bb (Mar 6) – Attendance and Participation Self-Evaluation</b>  <b>Due to TK20/VIA (Mar 6) – Instructional Lesson Plan</b>

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

Note: We will deliver course content using existing Blackboard tools (e.g., discussion board) and we will continue to communicate with you via GMU email. We will also make ourselves available to you virtually via Webex, Skype, and Google Hangout for student meetings. We will use both synchronous (everyone meeting at the same time) and asynchronous course delivery options. We will ensure that with synchronous meetings, our sessions are recorded in case there are some students who cannot attend these meetings due to family, work, and other responsibilities created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Please note that we will continue to respond to your individual GMU emails.



## Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>.

## GMU Policies and Resources for Students

### *Policies*

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <https://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students **solely** through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <http://ds.gmu.edu/>).
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be silenced during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

### *Campus Resources*

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20/VIA should be directed to [tk20help@gmu.edu](mailto:tk20help@gmu.edu) or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>.

**Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:** As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing [titleix@gmu.edu](mailto:titleix@gmu.edu).

**For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website: <http://cehd.gmu.edu>.**

## Evaluation Guide

<b>Instructional Lesson Plan</b>				
	<b>Exceeds</b>	<b>Meets</b>	<b>Approaches</b>	<b>Does Not Meet</b>
<b>Part 1: Introducing and Considering the Child</b>				
<b>NAEYC 3d</b> Knowing about assessment partnerships with families and with professional colleagues to build effective learning environments	Candidate met expectations and supported the discussion with multiple relevant citations from course readings and textbook, class discussions and handouts, and/or other relevant sources to support the conclusions and assertions per APA style guidelines.	Candidate presented information about a child's abilities, interests, learning environments, and cultural and linguistic factors gathered from discussions with the teacher, family, and/or other professionals; observations of the child interacting with peers and adults; and interactions with the child during instructional activities within the classroom environment.	Candidate discussed the child's abilities, interests, learning environments, or cultural and linguistic factors, but did not apply these considerations to instructional planning for the child.	Candidate did not present information about a child's abilities, interests, learning environments, or cultural and linguistic factors gathered from discussions with the teacher, family, and/or other professionals; observations of the child interacting with peers and adults; and interactions with the child during instructional activities within the classroom environment.

Evaluation Guide continued on next page.

<b>Part 2: Establishing Positive Relationships</b>				
<p><b>CEC 2.1</b> Beginning special educators through collaboration with general educators and other colleagues create safe, inclusive, culturally responsive learning environments to engage individual with exceptionalities in meaningful learning activities and social interactions.</p> <p><b>NAEYC 4a</b> Understanding positive relationships and supportive interactions as the foundations of their work with children</p>	<p>Candidate provided descriptions that met expectations and reflected extensive knowledge of strategies for establishing positive relationships and creating supportive interactions with young children with developmental or learning differences.</p>	<p>Candidate provided descriptions supported by current research of interactions with a young child with a developmental or learning difference that demonstrate an understanding of strategies that promote nurturing relationships and support children engaged in learning.</p>	<p>Candidate provided descriptions of interactions with a child that demonstrate an understanding of strategies that promote nurturing relationships and support children engaged in learning. However, candidate did not support descriptions with current research.</p>	<p>Candidate did not provide descriptions of interactions with the child that demonstrate an understanding of strategies that promote nurturing relationships and support children engaged in learning.</p>
<b>Part 3: Developing an Instructional Plan</b>				
<p><b>CEC 5.1</b> Beginning special educators consider an individual's abilities, interests, learning environments, and cultural and</p>	<p>Candidate provided instructional strategies that met expectations and reflected extensive knowledge of adaptations and accommodations</p>	<p>Candidate provided learning experiences that include adaptations and accommodations, that reflect the young child's ability, interests, learning</p>	<p>Candidate provided instructional strategies that included adaptations and accommodations. However, candidate did not use knowledge of the child's</p>	<p>Candidate did not provide instructional adaptations and accommodations</p>

<p>linguistic factors in the selection, development, and adaptation of learning experiences for individual with exceptionalities</p>	<p>that reflects the young child’s ability, interests, learning environment, and cultural and linguistic factors.</p>	<p>environment, and cultural and linguistic factors. Candidate included plans for classroom and behavior management techniques, classroom community building, and individual interventions, including techniques that promote emotional well-being.</p>	<p>ability, interests, cultural environment, and cultural and linguistic factors.</p>	
<p><b>CEC 5.3</b> Beginning special educators are familiar with augmentative and alternative communication systems and a variety of assistive technologies to support the communication and learning of individuals with exceptionalities</p>	<p>Candidate met the criteria and reflected extensive knowledge of technologies supported by current research, including augmentative and alternative communication systems and assistive technologies</p>	<p>Candidate integrated technologies, supported by current research, including augmentative and alternative communication systems and assistive technologies, in the instructional plan to support the communication and learning of a child with developmental or learning differences.</p>	<p>Candidate attempted to integrate technologies, including augmentative and alternative communication systems and assistive technologies, in the instructional plan to support the communication and learning of a child.</p>	<p>Candidate did not integrate technologies, including augmentative and alternative communication systems and assistive technologies, in the instructional plan to support the communication and learning of the child.</p>

<p><b>CEC 1.2</b> Beginning special education professionals use understanding of development and individual differences to respond to the needs of individuals with exceptionalities <b>NAEYC 4b</b> Knowing and understanding effective strategies and tools for early education</p>	<p>Candidate met expectations and reflected complex understanding and knowledge of developmentally appropriate strategies and tools to positively influence a young child's development.</p>	<p>Candidate developed a written lesson plan, supported by current research, that included developmentally appropriate instructional strategies and tools that reflect a young child's developmental skill level, ability, interests, language, culture, and family background.</p>	<p>Candidate developed a written lesson plan that included developmentally appropriate instructional strategies and tools. However, candidate did not support the strategies and tools with current research and/or did not take into account a child's developmental skill level, ability, interests, language, culture, and family background.</p>	<p>Students did not develop a written lesson plan that included developmentally appropriate instructional strategies and tools.</p>
<p><b>CEC 3.1</b> Beginning special education professionals understand the central concepts, structures of the discipline, and tools of inquiry of the content areas they teach, and can organize this knowledge, integrate cross-disciplinary skills, and develop meaningful learning</p>	<p>Candidate met criteria and reflected an extensive knowledge of developmentally appropriate and relevant content and resources.</p>	<p>Candidate developed a written lesson plan, supported by current research, that included developmentally appropriate and relevant content and resources and prepared the child for the Virginia Standards of Learning assessments.</p>	<p>Candidate developed a written lesson plan that included content and resources. However, candidate did not include developmentally appropriate and relevant content and resources.</p>	<p>Candidate did not develop a written lesson plan that included appropriate content and resources.</p>

<p>progressions for individuals with exceptionalities.</p> <p><b>NAEYC 5a</b></p> <p>Understanding content knowledge and resources in academic disciplines: language and literacy; the arts – music, creative movement, dance, drama, visual arts; mathematics; science, physical activity, physical education, health and safety; and social studies</p>				
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