

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith

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General Syllabus

ECTC 2303 Literacy and Language Arts for Early Childhood

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory: 0

Prerequisites or corequisites: ECTC 2903 Future Perspectives in Early Childhood (for Early Childhood majors) or admission into the Educator Preparation Program (for Elementary Ed majors.)

Effective Catalog: 2022-2023

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

A study of the acquisition of language and how to provide children birth through pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs, with language rich environments by incorporating the four areas of language: speaking, listening, writing, and reading. Addresses requirements as mandated by state Early Childhood regulations and the Competencies for the Ages 3-4 Endorsement.

B. Additional Information - None

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject matter

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

1. Use evidence-based literacy strategies based on the Science of Reading to develop a variety of activities for children, birth through pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs.
2. Connect with families about literacy content for children, birth through prekindergarten, including children with special needs.
3. Apply knowledge of children's growth to appropriate teaching strategies for children, birth through pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs.
4. Observe and document children's learning through the use of the AR Child Development Early Learning Standards for children birth through pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs.

5. Connect research, knowledge, and practice to the development of a variety of evidence-based literacy activities for children birth through pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will demonstrate understanding of different cultures, learning styles, and intellectual abilities through class discussions regarding instructing young children.

Communication (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently in written and verbal presentations.

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills

Students will identify a concept or problem in education (as it relates to literacy and language), dissect or isolate its components, organize information for decision making, draw appropriate conclusions, and articulate ways to solve the problem.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. The development of language in young children from birth through eight years of age
- B. Factors that influence language development
- C. The reciprocal relationship between infants, parents, and caregivers
- D. The development of a language arts programs
- E. The value of Standard English usage
- F. Identification of speech problems
- G. Literacy development – programming, assessment, and curricula strategies
- H. Book selection and development of a classroom library center
- I. Questioning techniques and appropriate teacher behavior in daily Conversations
- J. Scheduling circle and group-time speaking activities and promoting child involvement in activities
- K. Physical development related to writing and listening skills
- L. Pre-K, Early Literacy Learning concepts/topics