

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

ECE 260 TECHNIQUES FOR OBSERVING AND ASSESSING CHILDREN

Credit Hours: 3 Lecture 2 Experience 2

PREREQUISITES: ECE 165 and 166 and 200 and 205 and 206 and 208 and 210 and 211 and 240 and 243 and 245 and 250

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Exploration of concepts and techniques used to observe and record children's characteristics and behaviors in an early childhood setting and how to apply observation to assessment. Includes two hours of weekly observation.

1. COURSE GOALS

- 1.1 Support social and emotional development and provide positive guidance for children.
- 1.2 Ensure a well-run, purposeful early childhood program responsive to participant needs.
- 1.3 Understand the role of observation in the assessment process of children.
- 1.4 Use ongoing observation as a basis on which to build effective communication with the child's parents and/or family.

2. OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.1 identify the reasons for and value of making observations of children.
- 2.2 record observed behavior objectively.
- 2.3 identify disabling conditions in terms of their characteristics.
- 2.4 interpret information acquired from observation.
- 2.5 develop a folder system for a child which contains information concerning the individual child as well as samples of the child's work
- 2.6 utilize information acquired from observations when making activity or lesson plans for the children.
- 2.7 explain the use of observation in referring children for professional evaluation and diagnosis when assessment indicates a special need.
- 2.8 use observations and records when communicating with parents/families.

3. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- 3.1 Lecture
- 3.2 Class discussion
- 3.3 Guest speakers
- 3.4 On-going observations in early childhood classrooms

4. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 4.1 Written Assignments
- 4.2 Participate in classroom discussions.
- 4.3 Complete group and individual projects.

5. EVALUATION

- 5.1 Portfolio
- 5.2 Resource file

- 5.3 Case study Observational Reports
- 5.4 Tests and quizzes

6. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.
- 6.2 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course may be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.
- 6.3 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.
- 6.4 Academic Integrity: Any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty—including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized “crib notes”, plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor’s signature—will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC’s Student Code of Conduct.
- 6.5 Texts and Notebooks: Students are required to obtain the class materials for the course.
- 6.6 Arizona Western College students are expected to attend every class session in which they are enrolled. To comply with Federal Financial Aid regulations (34 CFR 668.21), Arizona Western College (AWC) has established an Attendance Verification process for "No Show" reporting during the first 10 days of each semester.
Students who have enrolled but have never attended class may be issued a “No Show” (NS) grade by the professor or instructor and receive a final grade of “NS” on their official academic record. An NS grade may result in a student losing their federal financial aid.
For online classes, *student attendance in an online class is defined as the following* (FSA Handbook, 2012, 5-90):
 - Submitting an academic assignment
 - Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction
 - Attending a study group that is assigned by the school
 - Participating in an online discussion about academic matters
 - Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course