

Course Number and Section: ECED 5830

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Title: Topics in Early Learning: Art & the Young Child

Term: Spring 2004 Webster Groves Campus

1. Course Description:

This course will emphasize art as a natural form of communication for the young child. Current research on art for the young child will be studied and discussed. We will review the effectiveness of the teacher as facilitator in art activities for children and explore ways to incorporate studio art and art history into basic curricula. As a class, we will discover resources for supplies and ideas, and reflect on our present classroom art activities and philosophies.

2. Learning Outcomes: Participants will: (MOSTEP Standards indicated)

- a. learn to design art activities that encourage communication. (Standards 1, 2, 7)
- b. learn the difference between crafts and open-ended artwork. (Standard 1)
- c. evaluate and challenge their own classroom curricula. (Standard 9)
- d. discover ideas for providing art experiences for children. (Standard 4)
- e. understand the value of art as a bridge between other cultures and ethnic groups. (Standards 3, 7)
- f. learn to evaluate art activities without being judgmental. (Standards 5, 7)
- g. learn to introduce classic and cultural art to young students. (Standards 1, 4)

3. Schedule of required readings, class preparations, and assignments, lectures, discussions, student's presentations and exams:

Session 1: Introductions. Review of syllabus and assignments. Discussions of theories and foundations for art with young children. Discussion of design elements. Graphic development. Art/crafts continuum. **ASSIGNMENTS (Standard 1, 5):** Read article, "Teaching Children to Value Art" and "What is Art?" 1) Using some ideas from the handouts and your experiences, determine your definition of "art." 2) Reflect on how your current art activities with children do or don't fit your definition. 1-2 page paper.

Session 2: We will examine types of drawing and the cognitive connection. We will connect the science curriculum with drawing activities. Discussion on the best language for assessing art (Standard 8). **TECHNIQUES:** Contour drawing; oil pastel. **DESIGN ELEMENTS:** Line, Value. **ASSIGNMENTS (Standards 3, 7):** Multi/Intercultural Assignment (due session 4)

Session 3: Discovering the creative process. We will discuss multiple intelligences and their application for the arts. Artists to be studied: Matisse, Nevelson, and Hunter. We will look at postcard art formats. **TECHNIQUE:** Collage. **DESIGN ELEMENTS:** Space, Color. **ASSIGNMENTS (Standards 9):** Write a 1-2 page paper

on three aspects of your art curriculum that you feel are going to change and why, and use citations from various articles to support your reasoning Due Session 5. **Make up some clay (recipe provided) and bring to class. Also, bring old towel, wear old clothes.**

Session 4: We will focus on the motivation for children's art (Standard 6). Basic motivational categories for curriculum. Stories and motivation will be explored. Begin Multi/Intercultural art presentations. **TECHNIQUE:** Clays. **DESIGN ELEMENT:** Texture. **ASSIGNMENTS (Standards 1, 9):** Read "An Arts Reform Strategy." (Art Changes in Curriculum paper due next week). **Bring hot glue gun next week.**

Session 5: Art Changes in Curriculum Paper due tonight. Construction Arts and young children. **TECHNIQUE:** wood sculpture. **DESIGN ELEMENT:** Balance, texture. **ASSIGNMENTS (Standard 2):** Read "Creating Connections" and "Thinking About Art." Final Project: Create an arts appreciation display for your classroom, highlighting an artist or concept. Develop art activity to go with the display. (Due session 8). **Bring printmaking supplies next week.**

Session 6: **TECHNIQUE:** Printmaking. **DESIGN ELEMENT:** Patterns, line. **ASSIGNMENT (Standards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5):** Art appreciation project.

Session 7: Cooperative Activities. **TECHNIQUE:** Murals, combination of media. **DESIGN ELEMENT:** Balance of composition. **ASSIGNMENT:** Complete art appreciation display (due session 8).

Session 8: Discuss final projects. Literature and art. Conclusions.

4. Resources: Textbook: Various articles will be given to students for reading.

5. Evaluation and Assignments: Class participation (in discussions and projects), art appreciation display, multicultural assignment, and two 1-2 page writing assignments.

6. Grades

A--Completes all assignments on time with extended interpretation of required word, including research and documentation. Consistent participation in and enthusiasm for class activities.

B--Complete all assignments on time with adequate execution of requirements. Consistent participation in class activities.

C--All assignments completed but not on time and lacking in details. Inconsistent participation in class activities.

Attendance to all classes is expected, but according to the Webster catalog, one class may be missed. In the event that you must be absent, CONTACT A CLASS MEMBER to find out about class content and assignments. Absences can affect the final grade unless a proposal of alternative work is submitted in writing to the instructor.