

**Northern Marianas College**  
**CURRICULUM ACTION REQUEST**

**Effective Semester / Session:** Spring 2010

**Type of Action:**

- New
- Modification
- Move to Inactive (Stop Out)
- Cancellation

**Course Alpha and Number:** ED 242

**Course Title:** Introduction to Early Childhood *Education*

**Reason for initiating, revising, or canceling:**


This course is designed to assist students in developing an understanding of research-based knowledge at the introductory level in the area of early childhood education and care. This is an elective course to supplement the Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education.

  
Barbara Merfalen

*12.18.09*

Proposer

Date

  
Pam Buckingham, Acting Director SOE


*12-21-09*

Department Chair

Date

  
Cynthia I. Deleon Guerrero

*12.18.09*

 Dean of Academic Programs and Services

Date

# Northern Marianas College

## Course Guide

**Course:** ED 242 Introduction to Early Childhood Education

1. **Department**  
Education
2. **Purpose**  
To provide a student with introductory research-based knowledge of the pedagogy and care that occurs in an early childhood program.
3. **Description**
  - A. **Required/Recommended Textbook(s) and Related Materials**  
Required: Cryer, Debby and Richard M. Clifford, *Early Childhood Education and Care*, Baltimore. Brookes Publishing Co., 2003.  
Readability level: Grade 12.0
  - B. **Contact Hours**
    1. **Lecture:** 3 hours per week / 45 hours per semester
    2. **Lab:** None
    3. **Other:** None
  - C. **Credits**
    1. **Number:** 3
    2. **Type:** Regular degree units
  - D. **Catalogue Course Description**  
This course provides a research-based overview of early childhood education and care as well as a new awareness of the strengths, challenges, and concerns facing the system – both now and in the years to come. The course provides the student with a clear and concise historical background, illuminating data and findings on the current state of the field, and reflections and insights on future directions. Prerequisites: ED 205 and ED 211 with a grade of "C" or better, or Concurrent Enrollment. English Placement Level: EN 101. Math Placement Level: MA 091, or approval of the School of Education Director. (Offered ~~Spring/Fall~~ *Fall and Spring*)
  - E. **Degree or Certificate Requirements Met by Course**  
This course is a required course for the B.S. Degree in Education. Program: Early Childhood Education.

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### **F. Course Activities and Design**

Course activities include, but are not limited to, lectures, discussions, chapter presentations, article reflections, lesson planning, viewing relevant VHS/DVD tapes, small/large group projects, periodic quizzes and tests, and a final exam.

### **4. Course Prerequisite(s); Concurrent Course Enrollment; Required English/Mathematics Placement Level(s)**

Prerequisites: ED 211, ED 205 with a grade of "C" or better, or concurrent enrollment, or approval of the School of Education Director.

English Placement Level: EN 101

Math Placement Level: MA 091

### **5. Estimated Cost of Course; Instructional Resources Needed**

Cost to the Student: Tuition for a 3-credit course, instructional materials fee, textbooks.

Cost to the College: Instructor's salary.

Instructional Resources needed for this course include standard classroom materials and supplies such as whiteboard, whiteboard markers, TV/VCR/DVD/AV equipment, VHS/DVD programs, flip-chart papers, permanent markers, multicolored construction papers, library books, Curriculum Resource Center materials, occasional photocopying, and other resources as needed.

### **6. Method of Evaluation**

Student grades will be based on the regular letter grade system as described below:

- A: Excellent – grade points: 4.0;
- B: Above average – grade points: 3.0;
- C: Average – grade points: 2.0;
- D: Below average – grade points: 1.0;
- F: Failure – grade points: 0.0.

Northern Marianas College and School of Education grading and attendance policies will be followed.

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### 7. Course Outline

This is a topical outline and does not necessarily indicate the sequence in which the material will be presented.

- 1.0 The definition of quality early childhood education and care
- 2.0 Access to early childhood education and care programs
- 3.0 Regulatory policies concerning early childhood education
- 4.0 Curriculum and program content in early childhood education
- 5.0 Funding issues in early childhood education
- 6.0 Staff roles and compensation
- 7.0 Specific initiatives such as Head Start and Early Head Start
- 8.0 Family engagement and support
- 9.0 Innovations and future directions in practice, policy, and research

### 8. Instructional Goals

This course will introduce students to:

- 1.0 An overview of the current policy context;
- 2.0 Defining program quality in early childhood education;
- 3.0 Access to programs in early childhood education;
- 4.0 Regulatory policies in early childhood education;
- 5.0 Staff roles, education, and compensation;
- 6.0 Curriculum and program content and implementation;
- 7.0 Family engagement and support;
- 8.0 Funding issues in early childhood education and care;

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- 9.0 Evaluation and research;
- 10.0 Innovations in early childhood education and care; and
- 11.0 Challenges for early childhood education and care policies.

### 9. Student Learning Outcomes

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

- 1.0 Discuss the current policies of early childhood education programs;
- 2.0 Define program quality in early childhood education;
- 3.0 Identify early childhood education and care programs;
- 4.0 Explain regulatory policies in early childhood education;
- 5.0 Analyze staff roles, education, and compensation;
- 6.0 Plan curriculum and program content and implementation in early childhood education;
- 7.0 Recognize family engagement and support;
- 8.0 Recognize funding issues for early childhood education and care;
- 9.0 Research and evaluate content and skills in early childhood education;
- 10.0 Give examples of innovations in early childhood education and care; and
- 11.0 Identify challenges for early childhood education and care policies.

### 10. Assessment Measures

Assessment of student learning may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 1.0 Class participation;

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- 2.0 Group discussions;
- 3.0 Writing assignments and exercises;
- 4.0 Oral and visual presentations;
- 5.0 Chapter quizzes and/or tests;
- 6.0 Homework;
- 7.0 Group projects; and
- 8.0 A final exam.