

**Texas A&M University-San Antonio**  
**EDEC 5349: Play in the Early Years**  
**HB Syllabus - 2504**

**A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will extend the students' understanding of play theory and include relevant research in order to advocate for the value of play in the early years.

**B. STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

At the successful completion of this course, the student will:

1. Describe differing conceptualizations of play and their theoretical underpinnings.
2. Identify key points and materials for incorporating play in the curriculum.
3. Articulate the importance of using active learning curriculum and learning centers.
4. Identify research related to the field of early childhood and understand its significance.

**C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS:**

- Policy Impact on Play
- Developmental Characteristics and Implications for the Classroom
- History of play in education
- Diversity and Play

**D. TEXTBOOK AND/OR RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

- Play in the Early Years by Marilyn Fleer (2nd Edition) ISBN: 9781108697873

Select One:

- A Child's Work: The Importance of Fantasy Play [Paperback] ISBN-10: 0226644898
- The Boy on the Beach: Building Community through Play 10-0-226-64503-7

**Other Required Readings as assigned on Blackboard**

**E. MAIN ASSIGNMENTS**

- Class participation
- Play photo story
- Special interest project
- Book study