

Texas A&M University-San Antonio  
College of Education and Human Development

**EDEC 3329- Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum for the Young Child**

A. MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance and participation in class
2. Discussion postings on Blackboard
3. Assessment of an early childhood program using the ECER-R form + a narrative description
4. Participation in a group project and presentation of an Early Childhood curriculum topic
5. Two Quizzes + Final Exam-multiple choice format

B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course the students will be able to:

1. Define the concepts of Developmentally Appropriate Practice and Curriculum.
2. Formulate educational goals and curricular objectives for young children in Early Childhood settings.
3. Evaluate EC programs according to the criteria for Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP)
4. Design and implement developmentally appropriate curricula.
5. Apply knowledge of child development when making child guidance decisions.
6. Describe the teacher's role in implementing DAP
7. List the competencies necessary to meet the minimum standards for state licensure as well as the guidelines for accreditation by the National Association for the Education of the Young Child (NAEYC).

C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Historical perspective of the study of developmentally appropriate practice
- The historical, philosophical, psychological, sociological theories behind DAP
- Best practices in curriculum planning for young children
- Information about licensing, certification, and management of childcare facilities
- Information about laws, rights, and the appropriate curriculum for special needs students.
- Exceptionalities such as learning disabilities, autism, intellectual disabilities and giftedness
- The influence of contexts such as family, ethnicity, social class, and school environments
- The influence of parenting styles, instructional practices, and educational programs
- Appropriate tools for the formative and summative assessment of young children
- The implementation of integrated curriculum using a variety of approaches
- Addressing all of the academic content areas: math, reading, social studies, and science
- Culturally relevant instruction
- The impact of technology on the early childhood classroom

D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS

Moravcik, E. (2018). *Meaningful Curriculum for Young Children 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*. Pearson: Upper Saddle River: NJ  
Available as an ebook through Blackboard on the website of Texas A&M University-San Antonio

Useful web sites: <http://www.nagc.org/>  
<http://www.naeyc.org/>  
<http://www.acei.org/>