



EDEC 4314 Cognitive Development
Educator & Leadership Preparation
Early Childhood

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor Name: Kimberly Gomez	A&M-San Antonio email: kvillarreal@tamusa.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday 4:00-5:00 pm Link can be accessed via Blackboard Ultra	Meeting Times: This course is an asynchronous online course (OLC-A) and students are not required to attend class at a scheduled time. All modules are weekly and asynchronous. Assignments and participation are due at specific times stated on Blackboard. Feel free to reach out if you need a virtual meeting.

TEXTBOOK AND/OR RESOURCE MATERIALS

MANDATORY TEXTBOOK:

- Enhancing Brain Development in Infants and Young Children by Doris Bergen, et. Al.

Other Required Readings as assigned on BlackBoard

Link to TAMUSA's [Bookstore](#).

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

- [Grammarly.com](#) – this site is free and will assist with passive voice, word choice, grammar and spelling.
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DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students will gain an understanding of cognitive developmental milestones and theoretical philosophies that enhance the understanding of professionals in early childhood careers. TSI Restriction(s): Reading, Math, and Writing

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PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Student Learner Outcomes (S.L.O.): Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. The student will be able to identify the basic structures of the brain and describe how the brain functions work to facilitate learning.
2. The student will be able to identify the factors that influence a child's cognitive development.
3. The student will be able to describe developmentally appropriate practices that promote the development of young children's conceptual knowledge.
4. The student will be able to identify environments that support the development of a child's cognitive capacity.

COURSE STRUCTURE & ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS**COURSE STRUCTURE:**

The instructional methods for this course will include asynchronous on-line work. This course uses a Blackboard course shell. Weekly work is organized into modules with overviews of the content and the assignments. Due dates are posted in each module and content can be accessed within each of the modules assigned. Students are expected to check Blackboard often (minimum once a week) and to work in the current module within the Blackboard course. Working ahead is not recommended as the content is delivered weekly and the instructor reserved the right to make adjustments according to student needs and interests.

ASSIGNMENTS & TOPICS:

The assignments in this class are organized into modules. Each module includes required readings, discussion postings and learning tasks.

1. Discussions
2. Quizzes

3. Final exam: Final Exam (50 Points)

Course Topics

Foundations of Brain Development

Brain Development

Infant Brain Development

Toddler Brain Development

Preschool Brain Development

Theory of Mind

Kindergarten Brain Development

Technology and the Brain

Why Play Matters

Why Quality Matters