

**Texas A&M University- San Antonio**  
**Department of Educator and Leadership Preparation**  
**EDEC 3328 Foundations of Early Childhood Development**

**A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT**

Students will gain an understanding of the foundational theories and philosophies of early childhood.

**B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

**At the end of this course, the student will be able to:**

SLO 1. Analyze, discuss and evaluate the foundational theories and philosophies of early childhood.

SLO 2. Identify and articulate the historical underpinnings of constructivist and social constructivist theories.

SLO 3. Compare and contrast the leading theories of childhood: Dewey, Montessori, Erikson, Piaget, Vygotsky, and Steiner.

SLO 4. Develop skills in providing peer feedback through discussion posts.

SLO 5. Provide meaningful feedback to peers on writing conventions (grammar, spelling, sentence, and paragraph construction).

SLO 6. Describe how theories affect instructional decisions.

**C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS**

Dewey & Montessori

Erikson & Piaget

Vygotsky

Steiner

The High Scope Model

**D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS**

*Carol Garhart Mooney (2013). Theories of Childhood: An Introduction to Dewey, Montessori, Erikson, Piaget, and Vygotsky. (2nd Ed). Redleaf Press.*

978-1-60554-138-9 (pbk.)

978-1-60554-248-5 (e-book)