

LA PORTE COUNTY CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION CENTER  
Early Childhood Education I  
COURSE SYLLABUS  
SCHOOL YEAR 2015 – 2016

**Course Title:** Early Childhood Education I

**Meeting Dates:** Monday – Friday  
A.M. Session: 0735 – 0945

**Instructor:** Jennifer Goss  
AK Smith Career Center (LPCTE)  
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Room 206  
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**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 7:15-7:35am & 9:45-10:30am  
*Additional hours by appointment, please call or email to schedule*

**Course Description**

*Early Childhood Education* prepares students for employment in early childhood education and related careers that involve working with children from birth to 8 years (3<sup>rd</sup> grade) and provides the foundations for study in higher education that leads to early childhood education and other child-related careers. A project-based approach that utilizes higher order thinking, communication, leadership, and management processes is recommended in order to integrate the study of suggested topics. Major course topics include: career paths in early childhood education; promoting child development and learning; building family and community relationships; observing, documenting, and assessing to support young children and families; using developmentally effective approaches; using content knowledge to build meaningful curriculum, and becoming an early childhood education professional. The course provides an overview of the history, theory, and foundations of early childhood education as well as exposure to types of programs, curricula, and services available to young children. Students examine basic principles of child development, importance of family, licensing, and elements of quality care of young children. The course addresses planning and guiding developmentally appropriate activities for young children in various childcare settings; developmentally appropriate practices of guidance and discipline; application of basic health, safety, and nutrition principles when working with children; overview of management and operation of licensed child care facilities or educational settings; child care regulations and licensing requirements; and employability skills. Intensive experiences in one or more early childhood settings, resumes, and career portfolios are required components. A standards-based plan for each student guides the laboratory/field experiences. Students are monitored in their laboratory/field experiences by the Early Childhood Education teacher. Student laboratory/field experiences may be either school-based or "on-the-job" in community-based early childhood education centers or in a combination of the two.

**Assigned Text**

*WORKING WITH YOUNG CHILDREN, 7th EDITION*

*by: Judith Herr, copyright 2012*

**Learning Objectives**

j.goss, ece1 10/15

Please refer to the PDF attachment for a complete list of ECE I standards as they are stated on the Indiana Department of Education website.

### **Instructional Strategies/Methods:**

1. Discussion/Questioning/Lecturing--*teacher and student directed*
2. Critical Thinking/Problem Solving/Collaboration with peers
3. Role Playing/Simulation/Mock Scenarios
4. Project-based/hands-on learning experiences
5. Personal Essays, up to 4 assigned during school year
6. Weekly Journal entries.
7. Technology Integration

### **Assignments and Attendance:**

All students are expected to be in attendance on days when school is held. Any student not present at the designated school of enrollment for any reason other than define exemptions, will be reported as absent per the guidelines/procedures of the Michigan City Area Schools attendance policy and the Indiana Dept. of Education. It is the responsibility of the student to make sure he/she get any missing work from the teacher. Student's failure to attend class may be considered an act of academic misconduct, which may result in loss of a daily grade or credit for missed class period(s). Unexcused absences will also result in loss of points for that day, in addition to a scheduled exam or scheduled or nonscheduled quiz. Makeup work will only be allow for excused absences. Students are required to complete all assigned reading, participate in class discussions, participate in all scenarios, and exams during the term. Students will be given ample amount of time to work on their assignments in class when available. Any assignment not completed during class time is expected to be completed at home, unless otherwise specified. **Late assignments will be accepted at the teacher's discretion.**

### **Grading:**

Grades will be determined by points earned on class participation, assignments, homework, quizzes, exams, and the community service initiative project. In addition, student's lack of professionalism can result in a reduction of the student's grade on a given assignment.

### **Student Expectations:**

1. Attendance, conduct, professionalism, and class participation are all factors in the final grade.
2. Students are to treat one another with respect at all times. Bullying, of any kind, is not tolerated and will be dealt with accordingly.
3. Students are expected to abide by all school rules and guidelines established by the La Porte County Technical Education Career Center Student Handbook and the student handbook of their home school.
4. **Students will conduct themselves in a mature and professional manner during class time, field trips, special events, and field experiences in area elementary classrooms.**
5. Some of the topics and discussions covered in ECE are adult in nature (*Child abuse, Health and Safety*). Students are expected to respond to such topics in a mature and professional manner.

### **Statement of Plagiarism:**

If the instructor finds that a student has plagiarized or been involved in any form of academic dishonesty, the instructor or other personnel may lead to bring the matter up for review. The maximum penalty for any form of academic dishonesty is dismissal from the class and possible expulsion from the school.

### **Parent Involvement:**

Parents are encouraged to notify the instructor with any concerns or questions. Parents are encouraged to be involved in the classroom and to participate in any field trips scheduled by the instructor.

### **Reservation Statement:**

The instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to the syllabus as needed

### **Technology Statement:**

Technology is a powerful tool, one that your instructor embraces and utilizes on a daily basis. The use of an electronic device in the classroom for **note-taking and assignment** purposes is highly encouraged, however, a student must have the approval of the class instructor and will provide evidence of such uses by emailing a copy of notes or assignment progress when requested. **However, no electronic device will be allowed for social media purposes, gaming, or communication during class time.** Should a student attempt to use a cell phone/tablet/laptop for non-academic purposes during class, a loss of electronic device privileges will occur along with a loss of participation points for the entire week in which the violation occurred and the student's parent/guardian will be notified. In the event of a guest speaker, NO devices will be permitted. Students will take notes if they choose in their teacher provided notebooks and will also be given a copy of the notes the instructor took during the guest speaker's lecture. Should any cell phone/tablet be seen during a guest speaker event, the student will be sent to the office and given a written referral for insubordination to which the consequences are at the discretion of the building administrator.

### **Community Service Project**

**All Early Childhood Education students will be participating in a Toiletry Drive which benefits the Michigan City Salvation Army. Students are expected to develop the promotional materials for the Drive, encourage peers to donate, collect and organize all donated items, keep a record of each item and which class they came from, be an active participant in the Drive, and finally volunteer at the annual Salvation Army Toy Shop to be held in December 2015. Toy Shop will be held during a school day. In order to attend the special event, students must be in good standing in ECE, meaning they have completed all work, have a grade of a 'C' or higher, have good attendance, have had no behavior issues, and have maintained their grades/attendance in all other classes.**