I. Basic Course Information

A. Course number and Title: **ECHD 173 - Early Childhood Curriculum**

B. Date of Proposal: **May 2005**

C. Sponsoring Department **Humanities, Social Science and Education**

D. Semester Credit Hours: **3**

E. Weekly Contact Hours: **3**
   Lecture: **3**
   Lab: **0**

F. Prerequisites: **none**

G. Laboratory Fees: **none**

II. Catalog Description

This course focuses on the development of curriculum based on the needs of children 2-6 years old. Emphasis is placed on selecting and organizing equipment and materials that are basic to preschool programs. The process of planning in response to developmental levels of children will develop a personal file of teaching ideas, activities and resource aids. Opportunities will be provided for students to explore and construct materials, which will be used in their work with children.

III. Statement of Course Need

This course is designed to provide the Early Childhood Student with necessary skills and information to develop a learning environment for young children. This course is accepted for group teacher certification by the New Jersey Department of Human Services.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

   A. Requirement
   B. Free Elective
V. Outline of Course Content

This course explores the following topics:

A. Philosophy of Integrated Curriculum Design
   a. Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum
   b. Theory and research to practice

B. Planning in Major Curriculum Areas
   a. Mathematics in D.A.P. Curriculum
   b. Science in the D.A.P. Curriculum
   c. Music in the D.A.P. Curriculum
   d. Physical Education/Health in the D.A.P. Curriculum
   e. Social Studies in the D.A.P. Curriculum
   f. Visual Arts in the D.A.P. Curriculum
   g. Literacy in the D.A.P. Curriculum

C. Selected Topics/ Special Issues
   a. Social Development and Behavior in the D.A.P. Curriculum
   b. Developmentally Appropriate Guidance in the D.A.P. Curriculum
   c. Assessment in the D.A.P. Curriculum
   d. Students with Special Needs in the D.A.P. Curriculum
   e. Diversity and Multicultural Perspective in D.A.P.
   f. Integrating Home and School in the D.A.P. Curriculum

VI. Educational Goals and Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Goals
   Students will be able to:
   1. employ correct terminology in their writing tasks such as lesson plans and thematic units (G.E. 1, G.E. 2, G.E. 4);
   2. interpret their text as a resource for their written work (G.E. 1, G.E. 2);
   3. use text to support lesson rationales and planning techniques (G.E. 1, G.E. 2, G.E. 3);
   4. compare and contrast several teaching approaches for the delivery of content (G.E. 1, G.E. 2, G.E. 4, G.E. 6)
   5. employ various approaches for teaching curriculum to young children (G.E. 1)
   6. identify ethical situations in the use of certain approaches in teaching young children in the classroom, i.e. students of diverse cultures and special needs students (G.E.1, G.E. 2, G.E. 5, G.E. 6).

B. Learning Outcomes
   Students will be able to:
   1. identify the Developmentally Appropriate techniques used to plan effective curriculum,
2. effectively plan for integrated lessons across the curriculum,
3. plan effectively for special issues such as diversity and special needs,
4. create objectives for specific lesson plans in each content area.

VII. Modes of Teaching and Learning
- Small-Group Work
- Student presentations
- Lecture
- Discussion
- Student collaboration
- Observation

VIII. Papers, Examinations, and other Assessment Instruments
Assessments may include:
- Thematic Unit Plan
- Lesson Plan(s)
- Experiential Lesson Demonstrations
- Other, as specified by instructor

IX. Grade Determinants
- Curriculum Notebook Portfolio
- Field Interviews
- Lesson Plan Writing/Development
- Development of a Thematic Unit Plan
- Assignments/Text Assignments & readings
- Final Portfolio Assessment Meeting
- In-class discussions

X. Text and Materials
Suggested Textbook:
3. Craft Box and Tools (List given upon discretion of instructor)

XI. Resources
http://www.neayc.org