

SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DIVISION OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Early Childhood Education
Revision Date: 07-01-26

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Course Number: ECED 1630

Course Title: Preschool Practicum

Pre- or Co-requisite(s): Taken with or after ECED1220 and ECED1120

Catalog Description: This course is designed to provide an understanding of the developmental stages of children from three to five years of age by participating in hands-on learning experiences in diverse early childhood care and education settings. Students will develop an awareness of appropriate adult/child interaction while developing positive employee skills. Basic skills in planning and implementing a daily routine and curriculum activities for children from three to five years of age are also presented. Students are required to complete a minimum of 45 clock hours of practical experience. A passing grade of "C" or better is required for all ECED majors.

*Recommended co-prerequisite of ECED1060.

Credit Hours: 1.0

Class Hours: 0

Lab Hours: 45

Total Contact Hours: 45

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES: *Course will:*

- A. Describe how to be a professional early childhood educator, including ethics, integrity, communication skills, policies, regulations, and routines of the early childhood setting and supervising college program.
- B. Explore the developmental stages of children from three to five years of age and the developmentally appropriate preschool learning environment, guidance, and interactions.
- C. Describe and utilize the various methods of observation and the guidelines associated with each method to use with children from three to five years of age.
- D. Explore appropriate curriculum plans and supervisory skills for children from three to five years of age including considerations for adaptations for children with special needs, and to ensure each child's health, safety, and overall well-being.
- E. Discuss the similarities and differences among children, families, colleagues, communities in the field of early childhood education.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- A. Student Learning Outcomes: *Student will be able to:*
 - 1. Demonstrate through attendance, timeliness and professionalism that shows commitment to the profession/program.
 - 2. Identify the developmental stages of children using an appropriate instrument for children from three to five years of age.
 - 3. Analyze the preschool environment utilizing standard program quality assessment indicators.
 - 4. Reflect on guidance/interaction techniques used at the cooperating site.
 - 5. Complete and analyze child observations, using a variety of techniques appropriate for children from three to five years of age.
 - 6. Assist the cooperating educator in managing the early childhood environment to promote health, safety, and emotional well-being of each child.

7. Plan and implement developmentally appropriate learning experiences for young children from three to five years of age.
 8. Follow policies, regulations and routines in the early childhood setting and of the supervising college.
 9. Reflect on professional behaviors, attitudes, ethics, and communication skills involved in working with young children, their parents, and other staff members.
 10. Reflect on the importance of valuing and respecting each person as an individual.
- B. General Education Learning Outcomes**
1. GELO #1: Oral Communication
Outcome: Competently communicate messages – both verbally and nonverbally – to a variety of audience types and in a variety of situations.
 2. GELO #6: Career and Life Skills
Outcome: Demonstrate choices that reflect personal responsibility in one’s academic, civic, social and vocational/professional life.

IV. CONTENT/TOPICAL OUTLINE (*course outline may provide more detailed information*)

- A. Introduction/Letters
- B. Observations in four areas
- C. Child Development Observation/Assessment
- D. Experiential checklist
- E. Literacy Experience/Song & Finger Play Experience
- F. Reflection Paper
- G. Parent involvement/Professional event
- H. Self-evaluation

V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Required Text(s):
 1. ECED1630 *Practicum Packet*, Children’s Book determined each term.
- B. Other Resources:
 1. Students may need to provide learning materials for children as part of their practicum experiences. Students are encouraged to keep expenses to a minimum by shopping for good, used items or constructing quality, homemade toys and activities.

VI. METHODS OF PRESENTATION/INSTRUCTION

- A. Methods of presentation typically include a combination of the following:
 1. The student is expected to take the primary responsibility for learning. The student is provided the opportunity to have actual experiences with children and staff in an early childhood program. Instruction methods will include, but not be limited to demonstration, discussion, and observation. Students may be required to provide videotapes of teaching demonstrations. Interactive sessions (held in person or by email) will encourage students to examine their experiences and get feedback from others. Individual conferences (held in person, by email, or by phone) with the instructor will help guide the students toward improved skills in a preschool early childhood setting.

VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Methods of evaluation typically include a combination of the following:
 1. Students may be assessed by attendance at the practicum site, observation from the on-site supervisor, reflection journals and their own self-evaluation using an evaluation instrument provided by the instructor. Students will be assessed on the quality and developmentally appropriateness of the plans and materials utilized to implement experiences for preschool-

age children. Students will also be assessed based upon their communication with staff, children and parents in the early childhood setting.

Through practicum experiences, students are being trained as potential employees in the early childhood profession. Employability is based not only on working skills but also on attendance, punctuality, dependability, and attitude. The student's scheduled time in practicum is very important. It is of extreme importance that students be present and on time. The children and staff are depending on students as an important part of the total program team. Employment skills will be part of the overall assessment for this class.

Other evaluations may include: observation from the on-site supervisor, reflection journals, and self-evaluation using an evaluation instrument provided by the instructor. Students will be assessed on the quality and developmentally appropriateness of the plans and materials utilized to implement experiences for preschool-age children. Students will also be assessed based upon their communication with children, families, and colleagues in the preschool setting.

B. SCC GRADING SCALE

A+	95-100	C+	75-79	F	59 or less
A	90-94	C	70-74		
B+	85-89	D+	65-69		
B	80-84	D	60-64		

VIII. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Through practicum experiences, students are being trained as potential employees in the early childhood profession. The employability is based not only on working skills but also on attendance, punctuality, dependability, and attitude. The student's scheduled time in practicum is very important. It is of extreme importance that students be present and on time. The children and staff of the cooperating site are depending on students as an integral part of the total early childhood program team.

In addition students will:

- A.** Attend practicum at all arranged times, practice good employment skills, share ideas with others during staffing, and support others in their learning process.
- B.** Inform the site **and** the practicum instructor if they are going to be absent. If unable to complete the course, the student should officially withdraw from the class.
- C.** Successfully complete all projects and assignments.
- D.** Adhere to all policies and practices of the cooperating site and the college program.
- E.** Obtain a grade of "C" or higher to take ECED2065 Child Care Head Teacher Practicum.
- F.** Any student receiving a grade of "C" in **more than one** practicum) will be required to enroll in Individualized Practicum – ECED2627 to gain additional experience in preparation for ECED 2065.