GENERAL EDUCATION AT MIAMI DADE COLLEGE

General Education Outcomes in DEP 2100
Child Growth and Development

Purpose: Through the academic disciplines and co-curricular activities, General Education provides multiple, varied, and intentional learning experiences to facilitate the acquisition of fundamental knowledge and skills and the development of attitudes that foster effective citizenship and life-long learning. As graduates of Miami Dade College, students will be able to:

1. Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.
   In this course, the communication outcome (all four areas) will be reinforced by completing the Abstract and Seminar Assignments. While content remains the main focus of the essays and discussion, correct use of grammar and spelling is expected and evaluated for the grades you receive.

2. Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data.
   While quantitative analysis is not emphasized in this course, it will be necessary for you to be able to analyze some charts and graphs for interpreting data and information.

3. Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning.
   In all fields, critical thinking is an essential skill. You must be able to look at theoretical information and apply it to real life situations. You must be able to determine a logical sequence of steps to answer questions and solve problems, many related to how developments in one stage affect one another and development in later stages. You must also use these skills to solve the practical problems of managing multiple priorities in your life, now and in the future. Therefore, critical and creative thinking are heavily reinforced in this course.

4. Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information.
   There will be three articles related to a current controversial issue in child development. To participate in the seminar discussion, you will need to evaluate the validity and point of view of the material in the articles.

5. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures, including global and historical perspectives.
   This outcome is represented in this course by cross-cultural comparison of developmental practices and outcomes. Understanding points of view other your own is important for living in a diverse community, for having effective personal relationships, for dealing with problems that involve multiple perspectives and opinions, and for resolving moral dilemmas.
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6. Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities.
   Decisions you make at any point in your life affect what happens later on. All of us need to be aware of the responsibility we have for determining the kind of lives we have and, thus, the degree to which they are effective and fulfilling. It is also necessary to realize that these decisions often have an impact beyond our own lives in society and in the future. Being able to understand our places in the world as students, partners, friends, and parents enriches the human experience and improves the human condition.

7. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society.
   Ethical dilemmas appear constantly in life. As we get older, these dilemmas affect not only our own lives, but also the lives of others and the whole of society. Understanding how to identify, think about, and resolve these situations interacts with the development of cognitive and moral reasoning skills and allows us to take responsibility for the directions in which society changes.

8. Use computer and emerging technologies effectively.
   Except for assignments that need to be word processed, this outcome is not reinforced in this course.

9. Demonstrate an appreciation for aesthetics and creative activities.
   This outcome is not reinforced in this course.

10. Describe how natural systems function and recognize the impact of humans on the environment.
    Physical development in the prenatal period and throughout childhood will be a major topic in this course. Students will be able to identify factors that support healthy development, effective life styles, and longevity. Students will also be able to show the how the interaction of humans with their environments has an impact on both their natural surroundings and on their own development.