

Course Description**EEC2225 | Creative Arts for Preschool Education | 3.00 credits**

The student will research the principles, methods, and materials for fostering play and process-oriented arts exploration in early childhood settings birth-age five. The student will investigate the importance of how developmentally appropriate creative arts (visual arts, drama, music and movement) learning invitations foster total development. The student will analyze the role of the teacher in designing and planning culturally relevant integrated arts experiences and to foster divergent thinking for young children birth through age five.

Course Competencies

Competency 1: The student will define the creative process by:

1. Defining terms related to the arts: creative arts, creativity, aesthetics, visual arts, music, creative movement, dance, and dramatic arts
2. Describing the creative process
3. Identifying the defining elements of the arts
4. Explaining developmentally appropriate art invitations and the role of holidays in arts activities
5. Summarizing what children learn from observations of artistic works of others

Competency 2: The student will describe developmental sequences of creative arts for young children by:

1. Defining characteristics of young children as artists
2. Describing how children develop in the arts and how to assess growth in the arts
3. Explaining the value of visual arts, music, creative movement, dance, and dramatic arts in child development
4. Discussing two- and three-dimensional art activities
5. Planning and implementing developmentally appropriate arts (music, movement, drama, visual arts) learning invitations

Competency 3: The student will analyze teacher roles in enhancing creativity by:

1. Explaining the importance of teaching creative arts in early childhood education
2. Describing the teacher's role in fostering creativity in early childhood arts programs
3. Discussing how teachers can help young children work together, including children with special needs and children from diverse backgrounds and cultures
4. Assessing creative arts activities through a developmentally appropriate lens

Competency 4: The student will describe interdisciplinary concepts taught through a creative arts approach by:

1. Describing the relationship between the arts and learning
2. Describing effective environments for fostering artistic development
3. Reflecting on the teachers' selection of artworks for fostering creativity and art development
4. Summarizing the value of including artworks from diverse cultures
5. Analyzing how artworks, prints, literature, storytelling and artifacts are used with children
6. Identifying the key elements of emergent curriculum and the project approach
7. Analyzing the characteristics of an integrated learning unit

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Demonstrate an appreciation for aesthetics and creative activities