
CHLD 90.2

Observation & Assessment

Spring 2018
M/W 10:30-12:00 am
Rm. 3862

Instructor: Kari Powell
E-Mail: kpowell@santarosa.edu
Phone: 707.527.2618

Course Description

https://portal.santarosa.edu/SRWeb/SR_CourseOutlines.aspx?mode=1&CVID=26097&Semester=20167

This course focuses on the appropriate use of observation and assessment methods to document and promote children's growth and development. Recording strategies, rating systems, portfolios and multiple assessment tools are explored and utilized to design appropriate individualized and program curriculum to optimally support children and families. The course will require the completion of a child study in a licensed early childhood program.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Compare the purpose, value and use of formal and informal observation and assessment strategies while considering sociopolitical influences.
2. Describe and evaluate the characteristics, strengths and limitations of commonly used assessment tools, with consideration for children's developmental, cultural and linguistic characteristics.
3. Utilize systematic observation strategies to observe and assess children's interests, behaviors, and development and recommend appropriate curriculum and environments that support all children.
4. Develop strategies to effectively collaborate with families and other professionals, utilizing interpretations of observational data to inform teaching responses and methodologies.
5. Apply knowledge of ethical conduct in the use of the observation and assessment process in the early childhood setting.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Examine a variety of sociopolitical influences on assessment practices in the early childhood setting.
2. Compare and analyze position statements of key groups including the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), National Association of Bilingual Education (NABE), Program for Infant and Toddler Care (PITC), the Child Development Division (CDD), as well as federal mandates regarding assessment and documentation.
3. Articulate how and why authentic observation-based assessment has emerged in recent educational research and practice.
4. Examine the influences of social context, primary language, development and environment on assessment processes.

*Office Hrs:

Mon/Wed 9:30-10:30 am
Tues 9:30-10:30 am
Thursday (Petaluma 4-6 pm)

*If these times conflict with your schedule, please send me an email so that we can set up a time to meet.

Text:

Nilsen, Barbara., Week-By-Week 7th edition

Childhood Environment Rating Scale,
Revised Edition (ERS) by: Harms,
Clifford, Cryer

5. Describe the essential characteristics of a variety of widely used assessment methods and tools.
6. Utilize observation tools and methods to identify and assess children's interests, behavior and development.
7. Utilize observation tools (Harms-Clifford Environmental Rating Scales, Desired Results Developmental Profile) to identify quality characteristics and principles in early childhood programs, including environment, curriculum and care routines.
8. Interpret and apply information from observations and assessments to recommend curricular and environmental changes to support group and individual needs.
9. Articulate the value of involving families and other professionals in the observation and assessment process.
10. Demonstrate knowledge of the legal and ethical responsibilities, including confidentiality related to assessment in early childhood settings.

Course Procedures & Guidelines

Classroom Conduct & Respect: All students are expected to know and adhere to the Student Conduct Code of Santa Rosa Junior College. Please be cognizant that when someone is talking, you should not be, as it is a distraction and disrespectful to others sitting around you. Please remember that we may not all agree on some issues that we discuss in class. **Be respectful of other people and listen fairly to their ideas.** Communicate your ideas and feelings thoughtfully and with the understanding that others may have different experiences that may lead them to different conclusions. Respecting all class members is essential.

Attendance: You are expected to come to class on time and participate in class discussions. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Students receive points for class participation. Absences that exceed 10% or more of the class meetings or frequent tardiness will result in a negative impact to your grade, and you may be dropped from the class.

Cell Phones: Please remember to silence your cell phones prior to the arrival of class. Cell phones should not be visible or used during class instruction, as it is a distraction to me, and others seated around you.

Homework Assignments: It is your responsibility to obtain information from any class that you miss. This includes lecture notes as well as any information concerning assignments, due dates, etc. It is best to get this information from another student. To receive full credit for assignments, your work must be turned in on the due date. **LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED, unless prior arrangements have been made with me.**

Writing Expectations: All written work is to be original; plagiarism of any kind will result in a failing grade on that assignment. **All assignments must be typed, double spaced and written at a collegiate level.** They must demonstrate your ability to apply class material, have clear, concise content, and is free of grammatical and spelling errors.

All submitted work must have a cover page with the following information: your name, Chld 90.2, the assignment title, and the assignment due date.

All work more than 1 page must be stapled prior to submission. Paper clipped submissions will not be accepted. **Please do not turn in your first draft.**

Academic Integrity: Certain behavior will not be tolerated and could result in your being dropped from the class. These include but are not limited to: cheating, drug use, verbal or physical violence, inappropriate language, or disturbing the learning of others (this includes the use of cell phones during class instruction).

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: If you need disability related accommodations for this class such as a note taker, test-taking service, special furniture, etc., please provide the Authorization for Academic Accommodations (AAA letter) from the Disability Resource Department (DRD) to me as soon as possible. You may also speak with me privately about your accommodations. If you have not received authorization from DRD, it is recommended that you contact them directly. DRD is located in Analy Village on the Santa Rosa campus, and Petaluma Village on the Petaluma Campus.

Emergency Evacuation Plan: In the event of an emergency during class that requires evacuation of the building, please leave the class immediately, but calmly, following the instructor. Once out of the building, wait with the instructor for further instructions. If you are a student with a disability who may need assistance in an evacuation, please see me as soon as possible so we can discuss an evacuation plan.

Grades: Your grade is a combination of writing assignments, tests, observations, and exams. During the semester, you may ask to see your current grade.

90-100%	= A
80-89%	= B
70-79%	= C
60-69%	= D
59% and Below	= F

Assignments

Attendance & Participation (25%)

Attendance and participation are mandatory.

Observations (30%)

There will be 6 observations. Please use the format provided.

Journals (20%)

Developmental Summary (15%)

Final (10%)

May 21 10:00- 12:45
