

**JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**State University of New York**

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**INSTITUTIONAL COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Course Title:** Introduction to Early Childhood Education & Care

**Course Abbreviation and Number:** EDU 1290

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Course Type:** Lecture

**Course Description:** Students will be introduced to the field of early childhood care and education. An overall view of the field includes history and theory; social, emotional, physical, cognitive, and creative development of young children; how early childhood professionals and early childhood programs meet the needs of young children and their families; and models of early childhood programs. This course introduces the activities and materials of the early childhood profession. Students will also complete 40 hours of fieldwork in a local childcare center.

No requisite.

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**General Education Requirements Met**

JCC

Applied Learning

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**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

1. Identify and describe the developmental and learning theories that inform decisions about early childhood practice and apply these in designing and implementing developmentally appropriate learning plans for young children.
  2. Identify the professional expectations of the field of early childhood education and care, and demonstrate a commitment to ongoing professional development through reading and interpreting articles and current research from professional publications.
  3. Recognize the importance of ethical behavior in fostering a community of mutual respect and integrity.
  4. Effectively apply knowledge and skills to a real-world experience, creative project, or independent intellectual investigation. [JCC Gen Ed – Applied Learning]
  5. Thoughtfully reflect on connections between concepts studied in the classroom & insights gained from an applied learning experience/project. [JCC Gen Ed – Applied Learning]
  6. Apply tech skills that are appropriate to the discipline.
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**Topics Covered:**

- History of Early Childhood Education
  - Types of Programs
  - Defining the Young Child
  - Developmental and Learning Theories
  - Teaching: A Professional Commitment
  - Observation and Assessment
  - Understanding and Guiding Behavior
  - Families and Teachers: Partners in Education
  - Creating Environments
  - Curriculum Basics
  - Planning for the Body: Physical//Motor Development
  - Planning for the Mind: Cognitive Development
  - Planning for the Mind: Language Development
  - Planning for the Heart and Soul: Emotional, Social, Creative, and Spiritual Growth
  - Issues and Trends in Early Childhood Education
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**Information for Students**

- Expectations of Students
  - [Civility Statement](#)
  - [Student Responsibility Statement](#)
  - [Academic Integrity Statement](#)
- [Accessibility Services](#)  
Students who require accommodations to complete the requirements and expectations of this course because of a disability must make their accommodation requests to the Accessibility Services Coordinator.
- [Get Help: JCC & Community Resources](#)
- [Emergency Closing Procedures](#)
- Course grade is determined by the instructor based on a combination of factors, including but not limited to, homework, quizzes, exams, projects, and participation. Final course grade can be translated into a grade point value according to the following:

A=4.0	B+=3.5	B=3	C+=2.5	C=2	D+=1.5	D=1	F=0
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- Veterans and active duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, VA appointments) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these to the instructor.
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**Effective Date:** Spring 2025