Title of Course: ECED 5348 SEC 001 CRN 26902  
Child Development in Diverse Education Contexts, Birth to Age 8  

Semester: Spring 2020  

Day/Time: Fully Online; Runs: Monday-Sunday Schedule  

Credits: 3  

Class hours: 3  

Instructor Information: 
Name: Susan Clark, Ph.D.  
Email: ksclark2@utep.edu  
Office hours: Virtual on Monday-Thursday 3:30pm-7:00pm MT; Email for appointment at other times  

Course Description: This course focuses on historical and contemporary psychological and psychosocial theories of development of young children from Birth to Age 8. It covers the relationship of development and early learning to: biological factors; child and family factors; early schooling; and other socio-cultural factors, particularly in diverse educational contexts. Students will evaluate children’s physical, cognitive, communicative, social and emotional development as both contributors to, and as consequences of, early learning experiences.  

Course Format Information: This course will be conducted fully online [there are no in-person/campus-based class meetings]. This is a fast-paced, intense 14-week course. It runs on a Monday to Sunday schedule; course work throughout the week are due at specific days/times, however, you are NOT required to be online at any specific time. For this course, you can expect each week to spend 3 hours of “class time” + 3 or more hours of study and prep time, which equals a minimum of 6 hours per week devoted to this course. Please read the syllabus and information in the course site VERY carefully, understand what you need to do and when you need to do it, and then plan course study time in your week accordingly. If at any time you do not understand what to do or when to do it, you should contact Dr. Clark immediately (ksclark2@utep.edu).  

For Technical Assistance: For technical problems with our online course site or related computer/Internet applications, please contact the UTEP Helpdesk: M - F: 7AM - 8PM, Sat: 9AM - 1PM, Sundays 11-4 pm. On campus phone: 915.747.5257. Off campus: 915.747.4357. If you are on campus, you may also visit the ATLAS lab located within the Undergraduate Learning Center (UGLC building) or the Technology Support Center in Room 300, Library.
Readings:

Required Textbook:

[Please purchase the latest, 7th edition of this text—it is available cheaper in a loose-leaf form]

eReadings/Viewings:
In addition to the textbook, selected readings and video/audio files for the course are provided in Blackboard via our course site, either as an attached PDF which can be downloaded or through a clickable Internet link. You are allowed access to one copy of any PDFs within the courses site--per copyright law, they are not intended for further mass distribution. Readings/video/auto files that are assigned by linking to the Internet are also subject to copyright laws but these links may be shared as they are open to the public.

Copyright:
Our online course site is copyrighted and is the property of UTEP and ECED faculty. Content from the course site, in part or whole, may not be shared or distributed without direct written permission. For questions or issues related to this, please contact Lead ECED Faculty, Dr. Alyse C. Hachey at ahachey@utep.edu.

UTEP Learning Resources:
(UTEP provides a variety of student services and support, including the resources below.)
- UTEP Library: You can access to a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- The University Writing Center (UWC): Virtually everyone needs help with writing academic English. There’s no shame in it. The UWC [Library Building, Rm.227; phone: 915.747.5112] provides online consultations to all UTEP students at no cost. They also have walk-in services, if you are local. It is a terrific resource. If I suggest you attend the Writing Center, it’s because I think you will benefit from it. It’s not a punishment – it’s intended to help you. Check the website for more information: http://uwc.utep.edu

Standards of academic integrity: Students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Any form of scholastic dishonesty is an affront to the pursuit of knowledge and jeopardizes the quality of the degree awarded to all graduates of UTEP. Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, collusion [making plans to cheat with another], the submission for credit of any work or materials that are not attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Proven violations of the detailed regulations, as printed in the Handbook of
Operating Procedures (HOP) and available in the Office of the Dean of Students, may result in sanctions ranging from disciplinary probation, to failing grades on the work in question, to failing grades in the course, to suspension or dismissal among others.

**Students with Disabilities statement:** If you have or believe you have a disability, you may wish to self-identify. You can do so by providing documentation to the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) located in Union E Room 106. Students who have been designated as having a disability must reactivate their standing with CASS on a yearly basis. Failure to report to this office will place a student on the inactive list and nullify benefits received. If you have a condition which may affect your ability to exit safely from the premises in an emergency or which may cause an emergency during class, you are encouraged to discuss this in confidence with the instructor and/or the director of CASS. You may call 919-747-5148 for general information about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**Student Conduct and Discipline:** All students are expected and required to obey the law and to comply with Regent, Rules, and Regulations ([http://www.utsystem.edu/bor/rules](http://www.utsystem.edu/bor/rules)) with system and University rules, with directives issued by an administrative official in the course of his or her authorized duties and to observe the standards of conduct appropriate for the university.

**Equal Opportunity:** All students regardless of gender, age, class, race, religion, physical disability, sexual orientation, etc., shall have equal opportunity without harassment in this course. Any problems with or questions related to this can be discussed confidentially with Dr. Clark [email ksclark2@utep.edu](mailto:ksclark2@utep.edu) to set up an in-person or phone meeting.

**Guide to Online Etiquette:**

As a member of the learning community of this class, the following is a list of specific expectations (Note that this list is not exhaustive and that it may be added to as needed throughout the semester):

1. **You are expected to actively engage in the learning community of this class.** This includes: completing the coursework tasks as outlined in each week’s session, actively contributing to discussions, seeking guidance if you have questions (note that if you have a question, it is likely that everyone will benefit if ask your question) and exhibiting professional courtesy during interactions with classmates/ your instructor. Class participation includes, but is not limited to: engaging in in-class activities and writing, volunteering inputs in class discussions, answering questions, defending personal viewpoints, and presenting completed assignments to your classmates.

2. **You are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior for a higher learning environment.** Even though we will not meet face-to-face, logging on to our online course site is the equivalent of walking on to the UTEP campus. Therefore, the rules of conduct that apply on campus also apply in our course site. Our course site is a place to engage in social learning; it is meant to be a safe space
for all. Our ideas and beliefs shape who we are, and will differ from our peers; sharing these within class allows us to learn different perspectives and points of view, but this can only happen successfully if everyone in our learning community is respectful of individual ideas. You are encouraged to participate in all activities to the fullest extent possible, with an open mind to new experiences. In particular, the following are general guidelines for online interactions:

- All the information discussed between peers and/or with your instructor should be kept confidential, thus providing a safe atmosphere for creative expression, free of judgment.
- You are encouraged to participate to the depth that you feel comfortable sharing with the class (Note: An electronic record will remain, so be thoughtful in how much personal information you share. The general rule is: share only that which you would be comfortable seeing printed in a newspaper/public Internet page.).
- Do not use inappropriate language, all capital letters, or language short cuts (i.e. texting shorthand). Online entries should reflect academic writing standards, with edited spelling, grammar, and punctuation.
- When reacting to someone else's message, whether in agreement or disagreement, please address the ideas, not the person. (Note: Harassing, flaming and/or inappropriate postings will not be tolerated.)
- Be sure to read everyone's responses before posting. Avoid repetition of what someone else has already said. Add something new to the discussion!
- Please refrain from posting yes/no or I agree/disagree answers (this will NOT earn you participation points). The point of our online interactions is to create a rich and meaningful sharing of ideas; therefore, posts should: justify positions, provide specific examples, and demonstrate that you have read the required readings and your classmates' comments carefully and thoughtfully.

3. **You are expected to exhibit high level time management skills and turn your work in ON TIME.**

   As previously mentioned, this is a fast-paced, intensive course that requires you to devote significant time to complete the required readings, discussions and various additional assignments that are due each week. Although there is no mandatory time that you must be online, the research shows that those with the best success in online courses create a set schedule for coursework and stick to it (whether you do your work at 3am or 10am on whatever day does not matter, what matters is just that you allow a sufficient, set time each week of the semester to focus on coursework). Timely completion of all coursework is essential for this class to run smoothly (i.e. your classmates rely on you to do your readings early in the week and contribute to the discussion on time in order for them to be able to post feedback later in the week). Therefore, late work will NOT be accepted. All online assignments are due by the due date and time listed in the task directions (see each weekly session in our course site for specific details). Please ensure that you carefully read all instructions for each assignment, particularly the due dates and times, and then schedule the time you devote to this class accordingly.

   **Missing two weeks of discussion and/or failure to turn in three assignments will result in your automatically failing this course, regardless of any points earned.**

   Note: Exceptions may be made in the case of **extreme emergency** with supporting documentation. I will not accept ANY late coursework after one week from the originally scheduled due date during
the semester or after the last scheduled coursework due date at the end of the semester. If you anticipate your assignment will be late due to unusual circumstances, please contact me and explain your situation prior to the due date of the assignment. Without prior notice, late assignments will NOT receive any credit.

If BlackBoard is down and you cannot get into our course site to post work by the required due date: ALL coursework should be posted in our online course site. If you find that you are unable to log into Blackboard to access our course site at the time that you are trying to post your work by the due date, you must email me (through regular e-mail at ahachey@utep.edu) IMMEDIATELY WITH AN ATTACHMENT OF YOUR WORK. When you do this, I will know that you have completed the work in a timely manner and it will be accepted, even though it was not posted in our course site as is generally required. I will then check with the Technology staff at UTEP to determine when Blackboard was out. If you email me indicating that you did not post your coursework because Blackboard is down, but you do not send me your work as an attachment in the message, you will not receive credit for your work.

4. You work is expected to be your own. Everything you turn in for this course must be your own work. The purpose of coursework is to know what you think, not how clever you are at getting around the rules…. so use your brilliance in a productive way. Any student caught engaging in instances of cheating, plagiarism or any other form of academic misconduct WILL be referred to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions. It’s serious! Don’t do it.

5. You are expected to contact me for help if needed throughout the semester. I will have virtual office hours on Mondays from 2-4pm MT. You can email me for a quick response or email me to set up a phone consultation during this time. My email is ahachey@utep.edu. Please include your first and last name and the title of the course you are taking with me in the body of your message. Outside of my virtual office hours, you can expect a response from me with 24-48 hours (usually sooner) for any email communication you send.

If at any time, you have difficulty understanding my expectations or the course material or completing course work for any reason—BE PROACTIVE!!! I am here for you (email, phone, Skype, or in person). I strongly encourage you to reach out to me as soon as possible (do not wait until the day before something is due or the end of the semester) and we will work together to make this class a success for you!
## Student Learning Outcomes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE SPECIFIC STANDARDS</th>
<th>Measurements (means of assessment for student learning outcomes listed in first column):</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will be able to:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Discuss biological and environmental influences on early child development.</td>
<td>Participation, Weekly Discussion, Critical Reflection</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Compare and contrast historical and contemporary psychological and psychosocial theories of development of young children from birth to Age 8.</td>
<td>Participation, Weekly Discussion, Critical Reflection</td>
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<td>3. Describe the universal and differential characteristics of physical, cognitive, language/literacy and social/emotional development of children from birth through Age 8</td>
<td>All Course Assignments</td>
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<td>4. Analyze the impact of cultural (race/ethnicity, class, gender, etc.) and social ecological (family, community, etc.) factors on child development.</td>
<td>Participation, Weekly Discussion, Critical Reflection</td>
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<td>5. Perform various observational techniques to conduct an in-depth developmental assessment.</td>
<td>Final Case Study Project</td>
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<td>6. Apply knowledge of universal and differentiated patterns of development to the design of appropriate Early Childhood learning activities in home-based and classroom settings.</td>
<td>Final Case Study Project</td>
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## Evaluation & Coursework Requirements of Students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coursework Requirements</th>
<th>How Grades are Determined</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>150 Points________</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Discussion</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 Points________</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Reflections</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 Points________</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Case Study Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>250 Points________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
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General Criteria for Grading Assignments:

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<tr>
<th>Does not meet expectations (Loss of many points)</th>
<th>Meets expectations (Loss of few points)</th>
<th>Exceeds expectations (Loss of no points)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The information provided is not organized and detailed or conclusions drawn from the information is not supported or accurate. The assignment is incomplete/does not include all required sections according to the directions. All written portions include repeated grammatical and spelling errors; no or improper citations.</td>
<td>The information provided is somewhat organized and detailed and conclusions drawn from the information is somewhat supported and accurate. The assignment is mostly complete/ includes most required sections according to the directions. All written portions include few or no grammatical and spelling errors; proper citations with few errors.</td>
<td>The information provided is organized and detailed and conclusions drawn from the information are supported and accurate. The assignment is complete/includes all required sections according to the directions. All written portions include no grammatical and spelling errors; proper citations with no errors.</td>
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Individual grading rubrics are found in the directions for each coursework task, which are located in our online course site.

This course runs on a weekly schedule, Monday through Sunday. Detailed instructions for all of the coursework tasks to be completed each week of the semester are arranged by class session (i.e. each class session covers one week of the semester). The class sessions for each week are labeled by week number and start date in the main left-hand navigation in our course site. In each of the weekly class sessions, you will find: the topic(s) and objectives for the week, the required reading (from the textbook and via embedded links to download/access articles/videos), a summary of what tasks are due (and when) that week and detailed directions and related links for completing and posting your coursework that is due for that class session (i.e. during that week).

All weekly tasks MUST be submitted by the given deadline; course work is ALWAYS due by 11:45pm MT on the day indicated in the task directions.

The following is a summary overview of the required coursework for the entire semester and related points possible. For detailed instructions, you should access the weekly class sessions in our online course site.

Participation (150 points total)
Since we do not actually meet in person, participation in this course occurs through online postings and interactions in our course site. Your active participation in this course will be measured three ways, by your: (1) one-time self-introduction; (2) one-time feedback to classmates’ self-introduction; and (3) multiple feedback to various classmate postings throughout the semester.
• **One-time Self-Introduction (20 points):** At the beginning of the course, you will post a Self-introduction to introduce yourself to all of us (this introduction should be at least **300 words**; detailed instructions for this assignment are found in our courses site, Week #1).

• One-time feedback to a classmates’ Self-Introduction (10 points): You will respond to ONE classmate [minimum of **50 words**] by 11:45pm MT on Sunday of the week they are assigned.

• **Multiple Feedback to Classmates’ postings (120 points total through two types of response tasks, repeated throughout the semester)**

  For the weeks that required “Feedback to Classmates’ Postings” are assigned (see detailed directions outlined in the individual weekly class sessions in our online course site), you will offer:
  - Feedback to TWO classmates’ Discussion Postings: (5 points for EACH feedback x 2 responses = 10 points per class session x 6 class sessions= 60 points total)
  - Feedback to TWO classmates’ Critical Reflections: (5 points for EACH feedback x 2 responses = 10 points per class session x 6 class sessions= 60 points total)

  Note: you DO NOT have to give feedback to the same student for each type of response (Discussion and Critical Reflection) in any given class session. DO NOT provide feedback to the same classmate every week. Instead, you should always try to respond to a classmate who does not already have feedback and/or who you have not provided feedback before.

**Weekly Discussion (300 Points total)**

Every other week, there will assigned readings/videos to watch related to our session discussion topic, along with three related questions for you to think about and share your thoughts. You should respond to ALL questions in your discussion posting. The total length of your responses should be at least **500 words** (you will include the total word count at the end; the number of words for each answer does not have to be equal). Your responses to Weekly Discussion Questions are due by **11:45 pm on Friday** of the weeks they are assigned. (50 points per discussion x 6 weekly discussions = 300 points total)

**Critical Reflections (300 points total)**

Throughout the course, we will be taking a look at specific aspects of child development for different age ranges. Every other week, you will have assigned readings/viewings related to a topic/the topic of the week. You will then compose a critical reflection that shares your thoughts and insights related to your exploration, to demonstrate that you have critically analyzed the readings/viewings related to that aspect of child development for the specific age range of interest. Critical Reflections should be at least **500 words** total (you will include the word count at the end). Reflections are due by **11:45pm MT on Friday** of the weeks that they are assigned. [50 points x 6 reflections = 300 points total]
Final Case Study Project (250 Points total)

For this assignment, you will conduct an in-depth case study of ONE child. The child should be in the range from 6-months to 8 years of age. You can choose the child of a family member/neighbor/friend or a current student; however, you CANNOT use your own child for the case study. Your case study has three tasks to it. During Task A, you will conduct four observations of the child and complete a child observation sheet for each observation (template provided). During Task B, you will conduct a family interview, recording information about the child from the parent(s) or a primary caregiver perspective (questions provided). Then from the information gathered from your observations of the child and interview with the family, you will create and submit a Case Study Report (Task C). Your Case Study Report will have a Title Page (5 points), a Table of Contents (5) and the following five sections:

- Part A: Ecological Analysis and related Commentary on the child (48 points)
- Part B: Observation Summary (48 points)
- Part C: Commentary on the child’s development (48 Points)
- Part D: Developmentally-based Recommendations (48 Points)
- Part E: Supporting Documentation (48 Points)

A breakdown of each task and detailed directions of what your Case Study Report should specifically include is found in the Weeks 13/14 session of our online course site. Your Case Study Report is due by 11:45pm MT on Sunday, April 26th. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Note: Although Weeks 13/14 are wholly reserved for you to work on your Final Case Study Project, the scope of this assignment is such that you should begin thinking about and working on it by no later than week 7 or 8 of this course.

**Class Schedule:** Please note that the schedule below is subject to change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>TOPICS</th>
<th>COURSEWORK DUE</th>
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</table>
| Week 1 | January 20 thru January 26 | Studying Early Childhood Development in a Diverse World | **Self-introduction** - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Tues)  
**Discussion #1** - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Fri)  
All feedback to classmates’ discussion posting #1 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sun) |
| Week 2 | January 27 thru February 2 | Theories of Child Development                           | **Critical Reflection #1** - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Fri)  
All feedback to classmates’ critical reflection posting #1 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sun) |
| Week 3 | February 3 thru February 9 | Prenatal and Newborn Development                        | **Discussion #2** - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Fri)  
All feedback to classmates’ discussion posting #2 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sun) |
| Week 4 | February 10 thru February 16 | Infant/Toddler Physical and Cognitive Development       | **Critical Reflection #2** - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Fri)  
All feedback to classmates’ critical reflection posting #2 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sun) |
| Week 5 | February 17 thru February 23 | Infant/Toddler Language-Literacy and Social-Emotional Development | **Discussion #3** - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Fri)  
All feedback to classmates’ discussion posting #3 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sun) |
| Week 6 | February 24 thru March 1 | Preschoolers Physical and Motor Development             | **Critical Reflection #3** - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Fri)  
All feedback to classmates’ critical reflection posting #3 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sun) |
| Week 7 | March 2 thru March 8 | Preschoolers Cognitive Development                     | **Discussion #4** - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Fri)  
All feedback to classmates’ discussion posting #4 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sun) |
| Week 8 | March 9 thru March 15 | Preschoolers Symbolic Thought, Language and Literacy Development | **Critical Reflection #4** - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Fri)  
All feedback to classmates’ critical reflection posting #4 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sun) |
| Week 9 | March 16 thru March 22 | Preschoolers Social-Emotional Development               | **Discussion #5** - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Fri)  
All feedback to classmates’ discussion posting #5 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sun) |
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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| 10     | March 23 - March 29 | Primary Aged Children's Physical and Motor Development | Critical Reflection #5 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Fri)  
All feedback to classmates' critical reflection posting #5 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sun) |
| 11     | March 30 - April 5 | Primary Aged Children's Cognitive and Language-Literacy Development | Discussion #6 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Fri)  
All feedback to classmates' discussion posting #6 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sun) |
| 12     | April 6 - April 12 | Primary Aged Children's Social-Emotional Development | Critical Reflection #6 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Fri)  
All feedback to classmates' critical reflection posting #6 - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sun) |
| 13/14  | April 13 - April 26 | Final Case Study Project | Case Study Report - (due @ 11:45pm MT, Sunday, April 26th). Note: Final Case Study Reports will NOT be accepted after the due date. |