

Jan. '79

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - ED 112

INSTRUCTOR: KATHY NIELSEN

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Creative Expression

This course is designed to help teachers develop a creative approach to music and to learn skills which will help them encourage each child to discover new ways of expressing himself through music, movement, and language.

Course Description

This course helps students to see the beginnings of poetry, music, and dance as children respond to the world around them. As a teacher-directed activity with a group of children, students learn how to nurture chant, song, and dance as it happens spontaneously throughout the day.

Course Goals

- 1) To provide students with resources and experiences which will enable them to stimulate children to participate in music activities, both planned and spontaneous.
- 2) To provide students with another avenue to reach and teach preschool children through songs and fingerplays, music and movement, books, and language.
- 3) To provide students with an awareness to help them discriminate and determine what is a most appropriate experience for young children in terms of quality, age level, sex and race stereotyping, and basic life values.

Terminal Objectives

The student will:

- 1) Through presenting a card file, demonstrate that he/she has a repertoire of songs, fingerplays, stories, and ideas suitable for use with preschool children in terms of quality, age-level appropriateness, sex and race stereotyping, and basic human values. (File categories similar to those used for picture file makes any cross-referencing easier.)
- 2) Demonstrate an awareness of the possibility for spontaneous use of music in the preschool by using such opportunities in field work placements.
- 3) Demonstrate the ability to integrate experiences in movement, music, and language for preschool children through planning and presenting a circle using these ingredients. Plan the circle around a theme and include ideas for extending this learning in two centres of the preschool.
- 4) Construct a musical instrument which would be suitable to use in the preschool.
- 5) Demonstrate the ability to accompany self on a portable instrument using a song which is appropriate for preschoolers.

Methodology

Learning will be facilitated through lecture and discussion; small group experiences relating to sensitivity to sound, rhythm and movement; singing of songs, exploration of resources for music in the preschool; film; workshops and research essays.

Assignments

- Student-constructed musical instrument - due February 12th.
- Accompanying self on instrument - now until April 2nd.
- File of songs, fingerplays, ideas - February 5th and final - April 9th
- Circle Presentations, after plan presented and approved, by arrangement with a preschool and teaching master evaluator - final date - April 2nd.
- Essay on facilitating preschool creativity - final date - April 16th.

Texts

Suggested texts for preschool teachers:

1. Song Stories That Spin Themselves, Molly A. Morgenroth, Pacific Oaks Press
2. Lucille Panabaker Song Book, Lucille Panabaker, Peter Martin Associates  
or  
Lucille Panabaker's Second Song Book
3. What is Music for Young Children?, Elizabeth Jones, NAEYC  
or
4. Children Discover Music and Dance, Emma Sheehy, Teachers College Press

Evaluation

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|--------------------------------|-----|
| - Participation.....           | 15% |
| - Hand-Made Instrument.....    | 10% |
| - Accompanying Self.....       | 5%  |
| - File Card Collection.....    | 15% |
| - Circle Plan with Theme.....  | 15% |
| and Ideas for Extending.....   |     |
| - Circle Presentation.....     | 15% |
| - Mid-Term (toward final)..... | 5%  |
| - Essay.....                   | 20% |

Grading

|   |   |               |
|---|---|---------------|
| A | = | 85+           |
| B | = | 75 - 84       |
| C | = | 60 - 74       |
| R | = | Repeat Course |

Assignments will not be accepted for grading past due dates without adequate consultation with the instructor.