

Early Childhood Integrated Curriculum Methods
FCS 2640-001

Instructor: Trish Saccomano, M. Ed. (h: 467-8534 office: 587-7980 cell: 580-9696)

Office Hours: By appointment

Required Texts: Bickart, Jablon & Trister-Dodge (1999). Building the Primary Classroom: A Complete Guide to Teaching and Learning. Washington, D.C.; Teaching Strategies, Inc.

Bredekamp & Copple (Eds.) (1997). Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs. Washington, D.C.; NAEYC

Bredekamp & Rosegrant (1995). Reaching Potentials: Transforming Early Childhood Curriculum and Assessment Vol. 2. Washington, D.D.; NAEYC

Course Description:

This interactive course provides students with a practical framework for building effective and meaningful curriculum for young children. Students will study, participate in and practice methods in planning and implementing an integrated early childhood curriculum. Emphasis will be placed on the National Association for the Education of Young Children's *Developmentally Appropriate Practice*, the *Utah State Core Curriculum*, and the project approach in an effort to provide an in depth knowledge of authentic, integrated learning in a child-centered classroom. Guest lecturers will also provide innovation and practical teaching ideas from a variety of early childhood settings.

Course Objectives:

The purpose of this course is to prepare students to plan and implement integrated learning opportunities for young children as an alternative to a compartmentalized subject matter approach to curriculum organization. This course will provide students with opportunities to:

- Explore the critical role of hands-on, experiential learning in the education of young children
- Build effective and meaningful curriculum using knowledge of how children construct meaning from their environment
- Understand how to effectively plan, implement and evaluate classroom projects that will meet children's individual and group needs
- Determine what constitutes developmentally appropriate curriculum and become familiar with national and state curriculum standards
- Become conversant with teaching strategies and methodologies that promote intellectual curiosity, problem solving and decision making skills in young children.