



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2021

CD1330 (A2): Understanding Children’s Play – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Grande Prairie Regional College respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 8 territory, the traditional homeland and gathering place for many diverse Indigenous peoples. We are honoured to be on the ancestral lands of the Cree, Dene/Beaver and Métis, whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant community. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work, learn, and live on this land.

INSTRUCTOR: Melanie Barry **PHONE:** 780-539-2793
OFFICE: C205 **E-MAIL:** mbarry@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Mondays 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. or by appointment

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course provides an introduction to the central role of play in early learning and childcare settings, with an emphasis on developmentally appropriate, culturally sensitive practices. This course focuses on a number of topics including the nature, value, and types of play, as well as important theories and issues regarding play. Students will also learn about the role of the practitioner in play, including the use of appropriate observation and documentation to understand and support children’s development through play.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS: Flight. Alberta’s Early Learning and Care Framework. Available in myClass. In addition, a number of readings/resources will be placed in myClass; it is your responsibility to become familiar with this learning tool and to check it regularly.

DELIVERY MODE(S): Classroom instruction will include a combination of lectures, discussions, small and large group work. Audio-visual materials and other resources will also be used.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The following areas of play will be discussed: definitions, theories, categories, issues, the importance in children’s development and learning and ways in which the early learning practitioner can support play.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Explain how attitudes perceptions and theories of play have changed over time and how they have influenced practice in Early Learning and Child Care.
- Define play and identify examples of play and non-play experiences.
- Explain how play-based programs meet children's developmental needs.
- Classify children's play episodes, using the categories of play identified by Parten and Piaget.
- Use appropriate observation and documentation tools and techniques to understand and interpret children's play.
- Articulate the role of the practitioner in facilitating, supporting, and extending children's play.
- Discuss current issues regarding children's play.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page

<http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

Test #1	15%
Assignment #1	20%
Assignment #2	20%
Assignment #3	25%
In-Class Tasks	20%

LATE POLICY: Late assignments will not be accepted.

GRADING CRITERIA: A minimum grade of C- is required to pass this course.

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Date	Topic	Assignment/Test
Sept 3	Introduction	
Sept 10	History of Play	
Sept 13	History of Play	
Sept 17	Present Historical Figure Profile	Assignment #1 Due - Historical Figure Profile
Sept 20	Examining Play	
Sept 25	Examining Play	
Sept 27	Examining Play	
Oct 1	Test	Test
Oct 4	Play and Development	
Oct 8	Play and Development	
Oct 11	Fall Break – No Class	
Oct 15	Fall Break – No Class	
Oct 18	Play and Development	
Oct 22	Play and Development	
Oct 25	Play and Development	
Oct 29	Play and Development	
Nov 1	Current Issues in Play	
Nov 5	Current Issues in Play	
Nov 8	Current Issues: In-Class Debate	Assignment #2 Due – Current Issues Debate
Nov 12	Current Issues: In-Class Debate	Assignment #2 Due – Current Issues Debate
Nov 15	Role of the Practitioner in Play	
Nov 19	Role of the Practitioner in Play	
Nov 22	Role of the Practitioner in Play	
Nov 26	Role of the Practitioner in Play	
Nov 29	Role of the Practitioner in Play	
Dec 3	Role of the Practitioner in Play	
Dec 6	Role of the Practitioner in Play	
Dec 10	Role of the Practitioner in Play	
Dec 13	Review	Assignment #3 Due – Learning Story

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES: College expects students' conduct to be in accordance with basic rights and responsibilities. Please refer to GPRC College calendar regarding rights and responsibilities.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.