# George Mason University College of Education and Human Development Early Childhood Education

ECED 601.001 Frameworks for Early Childhood Education 3 Credits, Spring 2018 Wednesdays/ 4:30 – 7:10 pm Thompson Hall L019, Fairfax Campus

**Faculty** 

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#### **Prerequisites/Corequisites**

Must be taken with or after final course of program.

# **University Catalog Course Description**

Analyzes foundational frameworks for developing perspectives for working with culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse young learners, birth to age 8, and their families. Examines foundational work from fields of early childhood education, early childhood special education, multicultural education, and second language acquisition. Notes: Must be taken as final course or with final courses of the program. Offered by Graduate School of Education. May not be repeated for credit.

#### **Course Overview**

Not Applicable

# **Course Delivery Method**

This course will be delivered using a lecture and discussion format.

# **Learner Outcomes or Objectives**

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

- 1. Demonstrate knowledge of key foundational theory and research related to working with culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse young learners, birth through age eight and their families.
- 2. Demonstrate a willingness and ability to engage in critically reflective practice.
- 3. Demonstrate the ability to analyze the readings, personal experiences and learning activities from a socio-cultural and social justice perspective, from the perspectives of the separate disciplines of early childhood education, early childhood special education, bilingual education, and multicultural education, as well as from a unified perspective.
- 4. Demonstrate the ability to link theory, research, and practice to dilemmas that occur in providing services to diverse young learners and their families, including those related to democracy and social justice.

- 5. Demonstrate the ability to lead integrative seminar discussions using theoretical and research readings.
- 6. Demonstrate the ability to assess seminar participants' prior knowledge and to utilize adult learning principles in seminar leadership.
- 7. Demonstrate the ability to articulate in a written paper guiding principles for a unified perspective and its implications for teaching practices and advocacy- bringing together research, theory, and critical analysis of current issues.

**Professional Standards** (Council of Exceptional Children and National Association for the Education of Young Children)

Upon completion of this course, students will have met the following professional standards: Not Applicable

# **Required Texts**

- American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN: 9781433805615
- Feeney, S. (2012). *Professionalism in early childhood education: Doing our best for young children*. Upper Saddle River, NY: Allyn & Bacon/Pearson. ISBN: 9780137064700
- Wink, J. (2011). *Critical pedagogy: Notes from the real world* (4th ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson. ISBN: 9780137028733

# Required Articles (available on Blackboard under Course Materials)

- Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). (2011). Special education professional practice standards. Arlington, VA: CEC.
- Diamond, K., Justice, L., Siegler, R., & Snyder, P. (2013). *Synthesis of IES research on early intervention and early childhood education*. U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research.
- Division for Early Childhood (DEC). (2007 a). *Concept paper: Identification of and intervention with challenging behavior*. Missoula, MT: DEC.
- DEC. (2007 b). Promoting positive outcomes for children with disabilities: Recommendations for curriculum, assessment, and program evaluation. Missoula, MT: DEC.
- DEC. (2009 a). Code of ethics. Missoula, MT: DEC.
- DEC. (2009 b). Concept paper: Developmental delay as an eligibility category. Missoula, MT: DEC.
- DEC. (2010). Position paper: Responsiveness to ALL children, families, and professionals: Integrating cultural and linguistic diversity into policy and practice. Missoula, MT: DEC.
- DEC, NAEYC, & National Head Start Association (NHSA). (2013). Frameworks for response to intervention in early childhood: Description and implications.
- DEC/NAEYC. (2009). Early childhood inclusion: A joint position statement of the Division for Early Childhood and the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina, FPG Child Development Institute.
- Fitzgerald, M. M., & Theilheimer, R. (2012). Moving toward teamwork through professional development activities. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, *41*, *103-113*. Doi: 10.1007/s10643-012-0515-z

- Harte, H. A. (2011). E-Professionalism for early care and education providers. *Dimensions of Early Childhood*, *39*, 3-9.
- LaRocco, D. J., & Bruns, D. A. (2013). It's not the "what," it's the "how": Four key behaviors for authentic leadership in early intervention. *Young Exceptional Children*, *16*, 33-44. doi: 10.1177/1096250612473129
- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). (1995). *Position statement: Responding to linguistic and cultural diversity recommendations for effective early childhood education.* Washington, DC: NAEYC.
- NAEYC. (2009 a). Position statement: Developmentally appropriate practice in early childhood programs serving children from birth through age 8. Washington, DC: NAEYC.
- NAEYC. (2009 b). Position statement: NAEYC standards for early childhood professional preparation. Washington, DC: NAEYC.
- NAEYC. (2009 c). Where we stand: on responding to linguistic and cultural diversity. Washington, DC: NAEYC.
- NAEYC & National Association of Early Childhood Specialists in State Departments of Education (NAECS/SDE). (2003). *Joint position statement: Early childhood curriculum, assessment, and program evaluation: Building an effective, accountable system in programs for children birth through age 8.* Washington, DC: NAEYC.
- National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). (2012). *Early childhood generalist standards: For teachers of students ages 3-8* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Arlington, VA: NBPTS.
- Ponciano, L., & Shabazian, A. (2012). Interculturalism: Addressing diversity in early childhood. *Dimensions of Early Childhood*, 40, 23-29.
- Preskill, H., Jones, N., & Tengue, A. (2013). *Markers that matter: Success indicators in early learning and education.* **FSG.**
- Sugarman, N. A. (2011). Putting yourself in action: Individual professional development plans. *Young Children*, 66, 27-33.
- Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). (2009). Position statement on teaching English as a foreign or additional language to young learners. Alexandria, VA: TESOL.
- TESOL. (2010). Position paper on language and literacy development for young English language learners (ages 3-8). Alexandria, VA: TESOL.

#### **Course Performance Evaluation**

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, Tk20, hard copy).

Assignments	<b>Due Dates</b>	Points
Attendance & Participation	Ongoing	15
Self Assessment		
• Self Assessment for Chapter 3	January 31	4
Self Assessment for Chapter 4	February 14	4
Career Trajectory and Professional Development Plan	March 7	15
Seminar Leadership		30
Reading Selection	Selected by group and finalized by 2/14	
Outline and Agenda Posted	A week before seminar	
Seminar Handout	Sunday before seminar	
Seminar Facilitation	See schedule	
Seminar Feedback & evaluation	Evening of seminar	
Individual Reflection on Seminar	One week after seminar	
ECE Program Feedback	May 9th	2
Guiding Principles Narrative	May 9th	30
TOTAL		100

# • Assignments and/or Examinations

#### **Self-Assessment** (8 points)

Students will complete a self-assessment of their knowledge and skills and their professional behavior. They will use their assessment to reflect critically on their (a) readiness to enter or continue in the ECE profession and (b) professional behavior. Students will upload the survey responses to Blackboard and will respond to the open-ended questions in Blackboard Journal prior to due date.

## Chapter 3 Knowledge and Skills Self-Assessment

Students will complete the survey on pages 110 - 115 of Feeney (2012) and will respond to the first two questions listed in the summary on page 115. For each question, students will write a two-paragraph response stating the two areas and explaining why these two areas were identified.

#### Chapter 4 Professional Behavior Self-Assessment

Students will complete the survey on pages 115 - 119 of Feeney (2012) and will respond to the four Communications/Relationships/Work Ethic questions on page 116. For each prompt, students will write a one-paragraph response.

# **Career Trajectory and Professional Development Plan** (15 points)

Students will reflect on their career trajectory (past, present, and future) and discuss their plan for continuing to develop professionally after they graduate from the master's program. Students

will use a combination of narrative and graphics (tables, symbols, pictures, timelines, etc.) to convey their thoughts. The paper will include three sections:

# Deciding to Pursue a Master of Education Degree

Students will reflect on past experiences that led to their decision to enter the master of education program to prepare for or further enhance their career in early childhood education. This description will be approximately one to two double-spaced pages.

# Pursuing a Master of Education Degree

Students will reflect on their experiences in the early childhood education program that have influenced their beliefs and practices. This discussion will be approximately two to three double-spaced pages.

# Future Trajectory and Professional Development Plan

Students will discuss their future professional goals, including their immediate goals and their goals 5, 10, 20, and 30+ years from now. As they reflect on their future trajectory, they will also discuss their plan for professional development that will enable them to meet these goals. This discussion will be approximately five to ten double-spaced pages.

# **Seminar Leadership** (30 points)

This assignment is designed to support the development of students' professional leadership and collaboration skills as well as promote discussion of topics in early childhood education, early childhood special education, bilingual education, and multicultural education. Students are expected to use adult learning principles to plan and facilitate a 75-minute seminar on a topic in early childhood education. The seminar leadership team will scaffold and support classmates' understanding of key issues faced by early childhood professionals. The seminar will reinforce previous program readings and experiences and include a focus on the position statements outlined in the syllabus.

The seminar leadership team will involve classmates in a stimulating and thought-provoking learning process that includes multiple and varied learning activities, including at least one interactive activity. The seminar should provide classmates the opportunity to discuss and reflect critically on the issue in their current and future professional lives. At the end of the seminar, participants should be able to state their position on the issues if asked to do so in a job interview, by professional colleagues, or by families and community members.

#### Seminar Preparation

As a part of their seminar leadership, students will do the following:

• Create a multimedia product on the issue under discussion. The creative (Power Point is not a 'creative' product) product should last for 75 minutes and should stimulate critical reflection and dialogue through the use of music, film, personal stories, interviews, newspaper clippings, photos, art, large/small group activities and/or any other relevant material or resources. Students must be cognizant of any copyright issues that may arise in the use of these materials and credit materials as appropriate. Work as a group on creating a draft outline and agenda and share with instructor electronically one week prior to seminar. All group members

- should be prepared to help address edits and suggested changes from professor. All materials used in presentation must be viewed and approved by professor prior to their use.
- Choose two readings that will add to their classmates' understanding of the subject and is related to the multimedia product. A link to these reading should be posted on BB after 2/14. ALL STUDENTS HAVE TO READ ASSIGNED READINGS FOR THE SEMINAR.
- **Provide a handout that will be posted electronically** for classmates' use. The handout may include links to resources that will further their understanding of the topic. The handout should be posted to Blackboard by the Sunday before the seminar date.
- Assume a leadership role in the seminar preparation and presentation.

  Leadership will be demonstrated by the students' ability to function as experts with reference to the topic and on their ability to support, monitor, and evaluate classmates' learning. It is their job to ensure that all classmates have participation opportunities. All members of group should assume a leadership positon during the seminar.

There will be group planning time for the seminar during class; however, the seminar leadership team will need to collaborate outside of class, as well. A detailed plan and agenda for the seminar must be submitted electronically one week prior to seminar.

#### Facilitating the Seminar

On the evening of the seminar, the leadership team will introduce the topic, present relevant background information using a multimedia presentation, facilitate the discussion and related activity, and close the seminar with a summary and some future questions and thoughts to explore. As noted in the seminar preparation above, they will choose a related reading and provide an electronic handout to support the learning and discussion.

#### Seminar Reflection and Feedback

Students will provide feedback to the seminar facilitators at the conclusion of each seminar and will write an individual reflection on their own seminar. The individual reflection will be approximately two to three double-spaces pages. Students will include insightful reflections on the collaborative process with an emphasis on their own role in the collaborative planning and implementation process and what they learned about themselves as collaborators. This reflection will be due one week after the seminar is presented.

# **Statement of Guiding Principles for Early Childhood Education** (30 points)

Students will write a statement that discusses the principles that guide or will guide their practice with culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse young children and their families. They will develop approximately six guiding principles to discuss. The statement will include an introduction that provides an overview of the guiding principles. The body of the statement will provide a discussion of each of the principles. It will conclude with a summary of the principles discussed. Students are expected to use citations to reference the texts in this class and those used

throughout the program that influenced their thinking. The statement of guiding principles will be 14 to 16 double-spaced pages.

For each principle, students will do the following:

- Discuss the program experiences, coursework, and/or internships that influenced the development of the principle and the related practices;
- Examine and analyze critically the themes and connections they made with texts, ideas, theories, and experiences;
- Explain how and why these themes and connections were significant to them and the development of the specific guiding principles; and
- Use specific examples/stories to illustrate their points, including examples from their field experiences and the dilemmas they faced.

Prior to submitting the final Statement of Guiding Principles, students will hold a peer feedback conference in class with a classmate. They will read their peer's statement and will share critical, constructive feedback for revising the draft.

# **Program Feedback** (2 pts.)

Students will write a single-spaced, one- to two-page critique of the early childhood education program. Students will discuss the components of the Mason program they found helpful and would suggest as experiences for other students in their specialty area. They will also suggest ways to improve the Mason program.

# • Other Requirements

# **Attendance and Participation** (15 points)

Because active participation and engagement are imperative for optimal learning, preparation for and participation in in-class activities will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Students attend class, arrive on time, and stay for the entire class period.
- Students complete readings and prepare for class activities prior to class as is evidenced by their ability to discuss and write about the concepts presented and examined in the texts as well as participate fully in related activities.
- Students are actively involved in in-class and online learning experiences as is evidenced by (a) participating in all activities, (b) engaging in small and large group discussions, (c) completing written work related to the activities, and (d) supporting the participation and learning of classmates.
- Students show evidence of critical reflective thinking through in-class and online discussions, activities, and written reflections.
- Professional dispositions are to be displayed at all times while interacting with the instructor and other students. Cell phones are not to be used during class. Laptops are to be used for instructional purposes only.

#### **Written Assignments**

All formal written assignments will be evaluated for content <u>and</u> presentation. The American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition (APA) style will be followed for all written work. All written work unless otherwise noted must be completed on a word processor and should be proofread carefully. (Use spell check!) If students are not confident of their own ability to catch errors, they should have another person proofread their work. When in doubt, they should check the APA manual. Portions of the APA manual appear at the Style Manuals link on the Mason library website at <a href="http://infoguides.gmu.edu/content.php?pid=39979">http://infoguides.gmu.edu/content.php?pid=39979</a>. Students may consult the Writing Center for additional writing support.

Students will do the following:

- 1. Present ideas in a clear, concise, and organized manner. (Avoid wordiness and redundancy.)
- 2. Develop points coherently, definitively, and thoroughly.
- 3. Refer to appropriate authorities, studies, and examples to document where appropriate. (Avoid meaningless generalizations, unwarranted assumptions, and unsupported opinions.)
- 4. Use correct capitalization, punctuation, spelling, and grammar.
- 5. Type the paper with double spacing, indented paragraphs, 1-inch margins all around, and 12-point Times New Roman font.

## • Grading

A = 95-100 A = 90-94 B + 87-89 B = 80-86 C = 70-79 F = <70 Incomplete (IN): This grade may be given to students who are passing a course but who may be unable to complete scheduled coursework for a cause beyond reasonable control.

All CEHD undergraduate and graduate students are held to the university grading policies as described in the Academic Policies section of the current catalog, which can be accessed at <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu">http://catalog.gmu.edu</a>. Those students enrolled in a CEHD Licensure Graduate Certificate program, however, must earn a B- or better in all licensure coursework. A degree-seeking graduate student will be dismissed after accumulating grades of F in two courses or 9 credits of unsatisfactory grades (C or F) in graduate courses. A 3.0 grade point average is required for completion of the graduate degree.

#### **Professional Dispositions**

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. See <a href="https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/policies-procedures/">https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/policies-procedures/</a>.

# **Class Schedule**

Class	Topics	Assignments & Readings Due	
January 24	Engaging in Reflective Professional	Feeney: Chapter 1-3; Wink: Chapter 1	
	Practice	CEC (2011), NAEYC (2009 a, b & c),	
		and NBPTS (2012) Professional	
		Standards	
January 31	Engaging in Ethical Practice	Feeney: Chapter 4	
	Critical Reflection vs Reflection	Wink: Chapter 2	
		Appendix A NAEYC Code of Ethics	
		and Statement of Commitment	
		DEC Code of Ethics (2009)	
		Self-Assessment for Chapter 3 (pp.	
		110-115) due BEFORE class	
February 7	Engaging in Reflective Collaborative	Feeney: Chapter 5; Wink: pp. 70-90	
	Practice	LaRocco & Bruns (2013)	
		Harte (2011)	
February 14	Engaging in Professional	Feeney: Chapter 6; Wink: Chapter 3	
	Development	Sugarman (2011)	
	Theory	Self-Assessment for Chapter 4 (pp.	
	Dilemmas/Critical Reflection	115-119) due BEFORE class	
		Reading Selection for Seminal	
		Leadership Project	
February 21	Pursuing a Career in Early Childhood	Wink: pp. 110-141	
	Education	Fitzgerald & Theilheimer (2012)	
	Dilemmas/Critical Reflection	Share TWO resources for a career	
		in early childhood – Post on	
		BlackBoard Discussion –	
- 1		due BEFORE class	
February 28	Facilitating Professional Development	Feeney: Chapter 6	
	Future Professional Development	Wink: Chapter 4	
	Critical Reflection	Diamond et al (2013)	
16 15	Core Knowledge		
March 7	The Critical Advantage: Developing	Group seminar plans	
	Critical Thinking Skills in Schools	Have 'Student-selected reading' for	
	Bill Gormley	group seminars decided on PRIOR to	
	Constitution of the state of th	class	
	Small group meetings	Career Trajectory & Professional	
		Development Plan Due BEFORE class	
March 14	No Class – Spring Break	Class	
March 21	Engaging in Evidence-Based Practice	Preskill, Jones & Tengue (2013)	
17101 011 21	*Student-Facilitated Seminar	NAEYC-NAECS/SDE (2003)	
	Teaching children in poverty: focus	Student- selected reading	
	on SES	Student Selected reading	
March 28	*Student facilitated Seminar:	NAEYC (1995) &(2009 c)	
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Class	Topics	Assignments & Readings Due	
	Linguistic Diversity in Young	TESOL (2010)	
	Children, Families and Communities	TESOL (2009)	
	Guiding Principles	Student-selected reading	
April 4	*Student-Facilitated Seminar:	Ponciano & Shabazain (2012)	
_	Cultural Diversity Families, Children	DEC (2010)	
	and Communities	Student-selected reading	
	Guiding Principles		
April 11	*Student-Facilitated Seminar:	DEC/NAEYC (2009)	
	Inclusion in Early Childhood	DEC (2009 b)	
	Education Classrooms	DEC/NAEYC/NHSA (2013)	
	Response to Intervention (RTI) in	Student-selected reading	
	early childhood		
April 18	*Student-Facilitated Seminar:	DEC (2007 a)	
	Understanding and Responding to	NAEYC (2009 a)	
	Challenging Behaviors	Student-selected reading	
April 25	*Student-Facilitated Seminar: Trends	Wink: Chapter 5	
	in Early Childhood Education	Student-selected reading	
May 2	Moving Forward	Bring a completed Guiding Principles	
	Review of semester	in ECE paper to class for peer review.	
	Peer Review of papers		
May 9	No Class: Finals Week	<b>Guiding Principles Paper; Program</b>	
		Feedback Due by NOON	

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

#### **Core Values Commitment**

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: <a href="http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/">http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/</a>.

# **GMU Policies and Resources for Students**

#### **Policies**

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/</a>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <a href="http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/">http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/</a>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.

- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <a href="http://ods.gmu.edu/">http://ods.gmu.edu/</a>).
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be silenced during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

# Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to <u>tk20help@gmu.edu</u> or <u>https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20</u>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <u>http://coursessupport.gmu.edu/</u>.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <a href="https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus.">https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus.</a>

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website: <a href="https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/">https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/</a>.

# **Seminar Criteria for Grading**

The seminar is 30 points of the total semester grade. Students will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

/8	Planning and Preparation
	Posted a relevant article that contributed to classmates' understanding of the topic to
	Blackboard by assigned deadline
	Submitted a draft of detailed plans and agenda to instructor by assigned deadline
	Posted a handout that included clearly presented information to support the learning and
	discussion to Blackboard by the Monday before the seminar
	Brought a hard copy of the outline and agenda for the seminar to class on assigned class
	4 Seminar Facilitation
In	troduction
	Introduced the topic to classmates in an interesting and thought-provoking manner
$A_{I}$	pproach
	Used a multimedia product or products that stimulated critical reflection and dialogue
	Used adult learning principles to facilitate activities that scaffolded and supported classmates' understanding of key issues faced by early childhood professionals
	Facilitated a stimulating and thought-provoking learning process that included multiple and varied learning activities, including at least one interactive activity
Ca	ontent
	Reinforced previous program readings and experiences and included a focus on the position
	statements outlined in the syllabus
	Facilitated the discussion in a way that engaged all participants in the dialogue, supported
	their interaction with the main points of the articles read, and made strong connections to
	implications for their work in ECE settings
	Functioned as experts with reference to the topic and their ability to support, monitor, and
	evaluate classmates' learning
	Provided opportunities for classmates to discuss and reflect critically on the issue in their current and future professional lives
	Provided sufficient information about the issue that classmates are able to state their position
	on the issues if asked to do so in a job interview, by professional colleagues, or by families
	and community members
	dosing
	Closed the discussion with a clear and concise summary of the main points considered and left
	the participants with some future questions and thoughts to explore
	Concluded the seminar in a timely manner
	Seminar lasted for 75 minutes
/8	Reflection
	1
	Wrote an individual reflection approximately two to three double-spaced pages in length that
	included insightful reflections on the collaborative process with an emphasis on their own role

in the collaborative planning and implementation process and what they learned about themselves as collaborators  ☐ Posted the reflection no later than one week after the seminar was presented on BB for instructor's review. This will be an individual/private reflection
Guiding Principles Criteria for Grading The Statement of Guiding Principles for Early Childhood Education is 30 points of the total semester grade. Students will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
<ul> <li>/4 Introduction</li> <li>This section tells the readers what you will tell them in your paper.</li> <li>□ Situates the writer as a graduate student in Early Childhood Education and identifies the degree program in which you are enrolled</li> <li>□ Provides an overview of the 6 to 8 guiding principles that guide or will guide your practice with culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse young children and their families</li> <li>□ Includes a graphic that logically represents your guiding principles</li> </ul>
/20 The Guiding Principles  This section tells the reader why you chose the principles you did, why they are important to you, and how your experiences and coursework helped to inform your thinking. For each principle, you will need to do the following:  /5 Discuss the program experiences, coursework, and/or internships that influenced the development of the principle and the related practices  /5 Use specific examples/stories to illustrate your points, including examples from your field experiences and the dilemmas you faced  /5 Examine and analyze critically the themes and connections you made with texts, ideas, theories, and experiences  /5 Explain how and why these themes and connections were significant to you and the development of the specific guiding principles
/3 Summary  This section brings the paper to a close and reminds the readers what you have told them:  □ Summarizes the guiding principles  □ Concludes with thoughts related to future activities guided by these principles
/3 Style and Format  APA style should be used throughout the paper, including the following:  □ Correctly formatted cover page  □ Appropriate use of headings  □ Correct citations in the body of the paper and on the reference page(s)

# Career Trajectory and Professional Development Plan Criteria for Grading

The Career Trajectory and Professional Development Plan is 15 points of the total semester grade. Students will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

/3 Deciding to pursue a Master of Education degree  Reflect on past experiences that lead to decision to enter the mater of education program to prepare for/or further enhance career in early childhood education (ECE)  □ Describe the key factors that influenced your decision to enter the mater of education program  □ Explain how these key factors came together as you made your commitment to the program
/4 Pursuing a master of education degree
Reflect on experiences in the Mason ECE program that influenced beliefs and practices
□ Described key readings, class experiences, field experiences, and interactions that were influential in developing your beliefs about ECE and the practices you enact or will enact in your work in ECE
☐ Explained how these key experiences interacted to inform your belief and practices
☐ Reflected on what this means to your work in ECE
/5 Future trajectory and professional development plan
Discussed future professional goals, including goals 5, 10, 20, and 30+ year from now and
a plan for professional development meet these goals:
☐ Describe future professional goals over the next 30+ years and a plan
☐ Describe a plan for professional development to meet these goals
☐ Explained how these goals and plans for professional development will interact to support your career in ECE
☐ Reflect on what these goals and plans mean to your work in ECE and what might influence
the path you take as you move through your career
/3 Writing and Graphic Expression
Use a combination of narratives and graphics to convey path to this point in career
☐ Present ideas in a clear, concise, and organized manner using words and graphic representation
☐ Develop points coherently, definitively, and thoroughly using written words and graphic representations
☐ Use correct capitalization, punctuation, spelling, and grammar in narrative and graphic

# **TOTAL /15**

representations