

Typical and Atypical Development in Young Children Spring 2009



Assignment Descriptions

1. Blogs

(5 @ 2.5 points each = 15%)

Students will be required to engage in reflective journaling through the creation of individual blogs. Blogs will be required each week the class meets face to face (with the exception of week 1). Each blog posting will encompass a different topic related to child development. Students should look to the weekly pages in the course wiki to determine the blog topics for each week.

2. Course Wiki

(4 @ 5 points each = 20%)

Students will collaborate to develop a course Wiki page encompassing the course content. Students are expected to review and summarize the course content in addition to searching out additional resources and practical applications. The course wiki will be graded on breadth and depth as well as richness and creativity.

3. Online Discussions

(3 @ 5 points each = 15%)

Students will engage in three (3) online discussions using the discussion tabs on the weekly pages in the course wiki. We will not meet face to face during the weeks online discussions are taking place. Online discussions encompass back and forth conversation between students based on course content using statements supported by research. Students will be graded on participation and adherence to the discussion requirements, the ability to support an argument, and the use of APA citations.

4. Research Papers

(2 @ 10 points each = 20%)

Each student will complete two research papers. The first paper will outline the importance of motor development in early childhood and discuss how professionals can support it in blended classrooms. Why does IDEA provide for Adaptive PE and no other service? The second paper will describe the evidence-base for play in early childhood and summarize how play impacts child development. Be sure to look outside of educational literature. The papers should be 3 to 5 pages in length and include at least ten (10) citations from refereed academic journals using careful APA formatting throughout. Graduate students are encouraged to purchase the APA fifth edition manual.

5. Online Activities

(4 @ 6 points each = 30%)

Various online activities will be an integral part of the course. For example, students might be asked to view an online video and respond to a set of questions or students may be asked to take a quiz on the weekly content. Student participation in each activity is required. Students should look to the weekly pages in the course wiki to determine what the online activity will be for the week. Daily access to a computer will be necessary.