

CHILD DEVELOPMENT (CHD)

CHD-110 Child Health, Safety and Nutrition

3 Credits

Lecture: 3 hours per week

Offering: Fall, Spring, and Summer, All Years

This course introduces students to best practices in nutrition, health, and safety for young children, prenatal through age eight. Students will explore equipment and environment safety, prevention of infectious diseases and injuries, nutrition planning and preparation, physical and mental health issues, and available community resources. Emphasis is placed on establishing and maintaining a healthy, safe early learning/home environment, planning nutritious meals and snacks for young children, and educating young children on a wide variety of health, safety, and nutrition topics.

CHD-134 Infancy Through Middle Childhood

3 Credits

Lecture: 3 hours per week

Offering: Fall, Spring, and Summer, All Years

This course provides an introductory overview of human development from conception through middle childhood. Physical, cognitive, and social-emotional development of typically and atypically developing children will be examined in the context of biological, historical, cultural, and familial influences.

CHD-150 Professional Partnerships - Families, Schools, and Community

3 Credits

Lecture: 3 hours per week

Offering: Fall, Spring, and Summer, All Years

This course will cover the essentials for professionally managing an effective early care and education program or classroom by developing partnerships among staff, family, and community members. Topics include the design and implementation of contracts and policies, record keeping, communication strategies, family involvement, professional affiliations, and the importance of collaboration to supporting typically and atypically developing children and their families. Students will become aware of the impact personal attitudes and philosophies have on building partnerships, solving problems, and resolving conflicts. Students will become familiar with the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct and its practical application.

CHD-165 CDA Professional Portfolio Development

1 Credit

Lecture: 1 hour per week

Offering: Fall, Spring, and Summer, All Years

This course is designed as the final step for individuals working in early childhood programs who are preparing to apply for their national Child Development Associate (CDA). Participants will be guided through the development of the final requirements for the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, including: professional portfolio completion, collection of required resources, writing of six reflective statements of competence, administration/summary/reflection of parent questionnaires, and development of a professional philosophy statement as outlined by the CDA application requirements. Students will also prepare for their CDA verification visit, online exam and will finalize their application to the National Council for Professional Recognition.

Pre/Corequisites: CHD-110, CHD-134, CHD-150

CHD-171 Early Childhood Curriculum

3 Credits

Lecture: 3 hours per week

Offering: Fall and Spring Only, All Years

This course will examine the critical role of curriculum in meeting the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive needs of typically and atypically developing children from birth through age 8. Strategies for creating a child-centered approach to curriculum will be practiced including the use of space, materials, relationships, and routines. Students will gain experience in observing, assessing, and documenting children's ideas and works. Self reflection and hands-on learning are vital components of this course. Some class sessions will be held at the NIC Children's Center to facilitate this process.

Prerequisites: CHD-134

CHD-235 Observation Assess

3 Credits

Lecture: 3 hours per week

Offering: Fall Only, All Years

This course provides students with the skills necessary to observe, record, and interpret the behavior of young children.

Prerequisites: CHD-134

CHD-243 Early Childhood Education

3 Credits

Lecture: 3 hours per week

Offering: Fall and Spring Only, All Years

This course introduces students to the field of early childhood education. Developmentally appropriate practices for programs serving both typically and atypically developing children birth to age eight are examined. Topics include curriculum, play theory, literacy, behavior guidance, early care, education programs in the U.S. and internationally, primary grade education, and working with families.

CHD-254 Child Guidance Theory

3 Credits

Lecture: 3 hours per week

Offering: Spring Only, All Years

This course examines techniques for understanding and effectively guiding the behavior of young children, both typically and atypically developing. Included are skills for managing classroom situations, encouraging conflict resolution, effective use of praise, preventing problems, promoting self esteem, and setting individualized goals for young children in a classroom setting.

Recommended Pre/Corequisites: CHD-134

CHD-298A Child Development Practicum A

3 Credits

Lecture: 3 hours per week

Offering: Fall and Spring Only, All Years

This course offers a supervised experience working with young children in the NIC Children's Center and is the first of three practicum experiences for students in the A.S. Child Development program. Students gain practical experience working with mentor teachers, observing and assessing classroom environments, and learning how to meet the individual needs of children with varying abilities.

Prerequisites: CHD-134

CHD-298B Child Development Practicum B

3 Credits

Lecture: 3 hours per week

Offering: Fall and Spring Only, All Years

This course offers continued experience working with young children in a supervised setting. Emphasis is on observing young children, using observation as a tool for creating classroom curriculum, and partnering with mentor teachers to practice reflective teaching. Students are encouraged to continue their lab experience at the NIC Children's Center or at a NIC Head Start program.

Prerequisites: CHD-134, CHD-298A

CHD-298C Child Development Practicum C

3 Credits

Lecture: 3 hours per week

Offering: Fall and Spring Only, All Years

This course is the final experience working directly with young children in a supervised setting in the NIC Children's Center, NIC Head Start program, or in an approved off-campus setting. During practicum lab, students will continue to practice skills in team teaching, curriculum development, guidance techniques, and working with young children of varying abilities. Practicum C seminars will focus on professional roles and responsibilities in early childhood education and students will create a professional portfolio.

Prerequisites: CHD-134, CHD-298A

Pre/Corequisites: CHD-298B

CHD-298D Child Development Practicum D

3 Credits

Lecture: 3 hours per week

Offering: Fall and Spring Only, All Years

This course is intended primarily for those students who have completed degree or certificate programs, but need ongoing college credit for professional development purposes. This may include those professionals seeking CDA Certificate renewal, Head Start staff, and community early childhood teachers who have already completed child development courses at NIC but need further skill and development in a particular domain. Topics of study and application will be individualized according to student and program need.

Prerequisites: CHD-134