

# EDU 151 Creative Activities

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

## Description

This course introduces developmentally supportive, diverse, equitable, and inclusive creative learning environments with attention to divergent thinking, creative problem-solving, evidence-based teaching practices, and open-ended learning materials and activities that align with the NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development. Emphasis is placed on best practices providing process-driven culturally diverse, learning experiences in art, music, creative movement, dance, and dramatic play integrated across all domains and academic content in indoor/outdoor environments for every young child age birth through age eight. Upon completion, students should be able to observe, examine, create, adapt, and advocate for developmentally appropriate creative learning materials, experiences, and environments for children that are culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse.

Course Hours per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completing requirements for this course, the student will be able to:

1. Observe for developmentally appropriate creative learning materials, experiences, and environments for children that are culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse.
2. Examine developmentally appropriate creative learning materials, experiences, and environments for children that are culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse.
3. Create developmentally appropriate creative learning materials, experiences, and environments for children that are culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse.
4. Adapt developmentally appropriate creative learning materials, experiences, and environments for children that are culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse.
5. Advocate for developmentally appropriate creative learning materials, experiences, and environments for children that are culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse.

## OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

- I. Creative Thinking
  - A. Importance of creative thinking
  - B. Creativity and cognition
- II. The Creative Process
  - A. Process not product
  - B. Divergent and convergent thinking
  - C. Creativity and stages of development
- III. Learning Environments that inspire and support creativity
  - A. Planning effective environments
  - B. Creative beautiful, natural environments
  - C. Elements of learning environments
    - i. Sense of place – diversity, warm and nurturing, sounds, color and light
    - ii. Variety of spaces for groups and individual

- iii. The Project Approach
  - iv. Learning centers that support creativity
  - v. Visual arts
  - vi. Music
  - vii. Movement/Dance
  - viii. Creative Drama/Theater
    - 1. Story telling experiences
- IV. Characteristics of creative children and adults
  - A. In Children
    - i. Curiosity, independence, playfulness, adventurous, imaginative
  - B. Seeing creativity in all children
    - i. Children with diverse abilities
    - ii. Supporting individual interests
  - C. In Adults
    - i. Playfulness, trust, emotional support
    - ii. Exploring creativity
- V. Teacher's Role
  - A. Supporting the development of creativity
  - B. Extend thinking with a variety of materials
    - i. Loose parts
    - ii. Natural Materials
    - iii. Using materials to support development across all domains
    - iv. Managing materials
  - C. Documentation and Display
    - i. How to effectively display children's creative expressions
    - ii. Documentation Steps
- VI. The importance of play
  - A. Types of play and creativity
  - B. Stages of play
  - C. Impact of play
  - D. Play is children's work

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIAL:**

The textbook and other instructional material will be determined by the instructor.