



Syllabus: **ECE 229 CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE (CDA) DIRECT ASSESSMENT**

Course Information

Course Prefix/Number: ECE 229
Semester: Spring 2018
Class Days/Times: Wednesday
4:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.
Site visits to be scheduled by student/teacher

Credit Hours: 4
Course Title: Child Development Associate
(CDA) Direct Assessment
Location: Pascua Yaqui Education Center
Room: 243

Instructor Information:

Name: Patty Todd

Phone/Voice Mail/Text: (520) 623-6037

E-mail: ptodd@tocc.edu

Office Location: PYEC Room 243

Office hours: 3:30 - 4:00 Wednesday

Course Description:

This course prepares students for earning their National CDA Credential from the Council for Professional Recognition. Using the CDA Competency Standards book for their preferred Credential (Infant/Toddler, Preschool, Home Base or Family Child Care) as their text, students follow the well-defined guidelines provided to ensure readiness for submitting their CDA Direct Assessment request to the Council.

Course Objectives:

During this course students will:

- Create a Professional Portfolio following the Council's requirements
- Educate families about the criteria included in the Family Questionnaire
- Prepare for passing a national test in the field of early childhood education
- Prepare for an observation by a CDA Professional Development Specialist
- Write self reflections, competency statements, and a Professional Philosophy

Student Learning Outcomes

After completion of the course students will be able to:

- Maintain their Professional Portfolio using an organizational tool that defines the order and content to be included
- Explain to family members the developmentally appropriate education they provide to the children
- Pass a national test that assesses their knowledge in the field of early childhood education
- Use an observation tool to self-assess their skill level in working with the children in the environmental setting in which they work
- Write reflections, competency statements, and a Professional Philosophy

Course Structure:

The course text (*The Child Development Associate National Credentialing Program and CDA Competency Standards*; Council for Professional Recognition; 6th printing January 2016) clearly defines the CDA credentialing requirements. This text is used as the basis for the course structure that follows:

1. Students will create a Professional Portfolio resource collection that meets the defined criteria of the Council for Professional Recognition. The nine learning activities and ten children's book bibliographies will reflect the culture of the children.
2. Students will write reflections and competency statements for each of the six Competency Standards and corresponding 13 Functional Areas.
3. Students will prepare families for completing a CDA Family Questionnaire. Students will submit Family Questionnaires to each family. Returned Family Questionnaires will have a majority of level 3 ratings on the questions.
4. Students will write a Professional Philosophy Statement.
5. Students will take a practice test in preparation for the national CDA exam.
6. Students will be observed by the course instructor as they work with children. The Comprehensive Scoring Instrument will be used as the observation tool.
7. After the classroom observation session the student and course instructor will complete a Reflective Dialogue Worksheet identifying areas of strength and areas for future professional growth.

Text: The Child Development Associate National Credentialing Program and CDA Competency Standards, *Educational Setting Specific Edition*.

Portfolio: Student must purchase a 3" 3 ring binder.

Other Materials: Relevant articles, videos, and research links will be provided throughout the course.

Evaluation and Grading & Assignments:

Grading policy:

A = Attend all classes; submit all required assignments on time.

B = Miss up to 3 classes with excused absences; submit all assignments.

C = Miss up to 4 classes with excused absences; submit all assignments.

D = Miss more than 4 classes; submit less than 100% of assignments.

F = Miss more than 4 classes; submit no assignments.

Assignments: See the Course Structures in this syllabus for required assignments. An assignment schedule will be provided during the first class.

Himdag Cultural Component:

Discussions involving Tohono O'odham and/or Pascua Yaqui traditions and cultural beliefs are an integral part of this course. During the course students will explore ways in which cultural beliefs and practices influence young children's development and attitudes. Portfolio learning activities and the book bibliography will support preserving and revitalizing Tohono O'odham and/or Pascua Yaqui culture and language.

Policies and expectations:

Expectations: 100% attendance, arrive on time, and submit all homework assignments on time. Your initial grade is an A.

Cell Phone Policy: Cell phones must be turned off during class.

Required for Excused Absences: You **MUST** call or text me at 520-623-6037, or email me at ptodd@tocc.edu if you will be missing a class for it to count as an excused absence. I check my phone and email frequently so please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or information that you may need to clarify or complete assignments.

Course Outline:

- Introduction and overview of the requirements needed in order to submit a Direct Assessment request to the Council for Professional Recognition
- Criteria required for creating the Professional Portfolio
- Distribution and collection of the Family Questionnaires
- Develop a resource collection file, write reflections, competency statements and a Professional Philosophy
- Practice for the national CDA exam
- Practice for the Direct Assessment visit by a national Professional Development Specialist

DISCLAIMER: This syllabus is designed to evolve and change throughout the semester based on class progress and interests. You will be notified of any changes as they occur.

