Murray State University
COMMON SYLLABUS

DEPARTMENT: ECE   COURSE NUMBER: FCS 234   CREDIT HOURS 3

I. **TITLE:** CDA Practicum

II. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

Supervised work experience, dependent on program requirement, by which students expand their career opportunities and enhance their employment potential. Prerequisite consent of instructor.

III. **PURPOSE:**

To prepare the student to meet the specific needs of children and who, with parents and other adults, work to nurture children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual growth in an early childhood development framework. Focused on the acquisition of practical skills needed to prepare the student to be credentialed as entry-level early childhood education Professional upon completing the CDA assessment processes.

IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The behaviors listed below are understood to be reflective of, but limited to those behaviors advocated by the Kentucky Reform Act guidelines and the CDA Competency Standards. Following each objective, and enclosed in parentheses, are roman numerals, which reference the Kentucky IECE Teacher Standards and in brackets are the CDA Competency Standards.

As a result of participation in this course, the student will:

A. Recognize that early childhood education is a profession with a body of knowledge and theoretical precepts that professionals apply to help children learn and grow. (V){VI}

B. Assess own performance, review and implement recommended practices when working with young children. (VII) {V} {VI}

C. Demonstrate the role of an early childhood educator to facilitate learning by preparing the environment, providing appropriate activities, and interacting with children. (III),(II), {I} {II}

D. Design and implement developmentally appropriate curriculum in early childhood setting’s. (I),(II), (III), {I}, {II}

E. Explore strategies for involving parents in early childhood programs. (VIII), {IV}

F. Analyze and expand their awareness of the early childhood workforce profiles and demonstrate the importance and value of continuing education and advocacy for professional development. (VII), {VI}
G. Understand and be committed to the profession's code of conduct.
H. Examine current information and research about early childhood issues.
I. Develop skills using technology to support learning activities.

I. COURSE OUTLINE:

A. Introduction to Early Childhood Profession.
B. Ways to Study How Children Grow and Learn.
C. Ways to Set up a Safe, Healthy, Environment to Invite Learning.
D. Positive Ways to Support Social and Emotional Development.
E. Steps to Advance Children's Physical and Intellectual Competence.
F. Keys to Establish Productive Relationships with Families
G. Ensure a Well-Run, Purposeful Program Responsive to Participant Needs.
H. Maintain a Commitment to Professionalism.

VI INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

A. Laboratory experiences working with children.
B. Portfolio Notebook
C. Thematic Unit and Lesson Plans
D. K-TIP Preschool Lessons
E. K-TIP Infant/Toddler Lessons
F. Formal and Informal Assessment
G. Log and Reflections
H. Formal Observations.
I. Professional Growth Plan
J. IEP/IFSP or observation
For CDA Credential must complete the following;
   CDA Resource File
   Parent Opinionaires

VII FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:

A. 50 contact hours with children, (30 with preschool children and 20 with infant/toddler age.)
   For CDA Credential 480 contact hours with preschool or infant/toddler age children with in the last 5 years.
B. Resource People (Head teacher, Educational Supervisors, CDA Advisor)
C. Child Development Lab, / Private Child Development Centers/ Public pre-schools and Center based Pre-School Programs.
VIII. RESOURCES:

A. KY Early Childhood Standards
B. CDA Caregivers Manual.
C. Community Resources
D. Libraries: University/Community
E. Professional Journals

IX. GRADING PROCEDURES:

A. Grade Scale:
   90-100 = A  
   80-89 = B  
   70-79 = C  
   60-69 = D  
   Below 60 = E
B. CDA Observation Assessment instrument. CDA Resource File.
D. Completion of 480 hours working with children in early childhood setting.

X. ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are responsible for being at the practicum cite on time and prepared to assume the head/lead teacher role, on day or observation by CDA Advisor. Comply with the attendance policies of the field cite.

XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY:

The Department adheres to the University Policy on Academic Honesty found in the current MSU undergraduate bulletin.

XII. TEXT AND REFERENCES:


Dombro, Colker & Dedge 2002 Creative Curriculum for Infants & Toddlers. Revised ed. Gryphon Teaching Strategies. Washington, DC
XIII. PREREQUISITES:

Permission of the instructor

XIV. STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:
Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, marital status, age, or disability in employment, admission, or the provision of services, educational programs and activities, and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in all programs and activities. For information regarding nondiscrimination policies contact the Office of Equal Opportunity, 270-809-3155