

**University of Arkansas – Fort Smith**

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**General Syllabus****ECTC 2603 Practicum**

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 0

Laboratory: 4

Prerequisites: ECED 1411 Early Childhood Field Experience II, ECTC 2403 Math and Science for Early Childhood, ECTC 2503 Child Guidance, ECTC 2703 Preschool Curriculum (B-Pre-K)  
Prerequisite or corequisite: ECTC 2303 Literacy and Language Arts for Early Childhood

Effective Catalog: 2018-2019

**I. Course Information****A. Catalog Description**

Students must be employed or volunteer in a licensed childcare facility to apply the knowledge acquired and skills learned in previous coursework. Observation of the student's work and evaluation of student skills are conducted by instructors following the NAEYC Associate Standards. Students must demonstrate competency in all areas observed and complete a minimum number of clock hours, determined by the institution, of observation and work experience with children birth to five. At UAFS there will be 96 hours in a daycare or classroom. An emphasis will be on the observation of physical, cognitive, language, social, and emotional development in connection with previous courses. This class is taken in the student's final semester.

**B. Additional Information - None****II. Student Learning Outcomes****A. Subject Matter**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Apply new knowledge regarding how children grow and learn in a childcare setting designed for children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of developmentally appropriate practices for children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs. Reflect using prior knowledge to link new ideas to familiar ones while working with children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs.

3. Demonstrate proficiency in working with diverse populations of students, families and community groups.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of a variety of observational and authentic assessment options and their appropriate use with children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs.
5. Evaluate the early childhood environment for children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs developmental appropriateness.
6. Use a variety of observation and assessment strategies with children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs.
7. Connect ethical practices and standards and other professional guidelines to staff behaviors.
8. Integrate reflective and critical perspectives on early education practices.
9. Engage in informed advocacy for children and the profession.

#### **B. University Learning Outcomes**

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

##### **Ethical Decision Making**

Students will recognize and analyze ethical dilemmas, based on the Code of Ethics set forth by the National Association for the Education of Young Children in relation to the practicum experience.

##### **Global and Cultural Perspectives**

Students will make observations during the practicum experience and plan activities that will include appropriate early childhood standards for diverse students.

##### **Communication Skills**

Students will communicate proficiently in written and verbal presentations regarding the practicum requirements.

##### **Analytical Skills**

Students will use analytical/critical thinking skills to draw conclusions and/or solve problems in analyzing classroom behavior, instruction, classroom practices, room arrangement, types of centers, and daily experiences.

#### **III. Major Course Topics**

- A. Documentation of Completion of 96 Clock Hours of work Involving Children Each Week, (Beginning the First Week)
- B. Completion of Weekly Observation Assignments
- C. Preparation of Language Lesson
- D. Video of Language Lesson by the Student With Self-Evaluation and Instructor Evaluation
- E. Evaluation of Student's Practices in Current Employment/Volunteer Childcare Work Site by the Director/Lead Teacher of the Childcare Facility
- F. Active Participation in Class Discussions