

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### COURSE OUTLINE – Spring 20223

#### **CD 1330 EC: Understanding Children’s Play– 3 (3-0-0) 45 hours for 15 weeks**

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jennifer Durling                      **PHONE:** 780-271-9107  
**OFFICE:** N.A.    **E-MAIL:** [jdurling@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:jdurling@gprc.ab.ca)  
**CONTACT:** Daily Monday to Saturday, Noon to 8 p.m.

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** This course provides an introduction to the central role of play in early learning and childcare settings, with an emphasis on developmentally appropriate, culturally sensitive practices. This course focuses on a number of topics including the nature, value, and types of play, as well as important theories and issues regarding play. Students will also learn about the role of the practitioner in play, including the use of appropriate observation and documentation to understand and support children’s development through play.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** None

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:** Although a text is NOT required for this course, a number of readings/resources will be placed on myClass, it is your responsibility to become familiar with this learning tool and to check it regularly.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** Online Distance Delivery

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** The following areas of play will be discussed: definitions, theories, categories, issues, the importance in children's development and learning and ways in which the early learning practitioner can support play.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

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

- Explain how attitudes perceptions and theories of play have changed over time and how they have influenced practice in Early Learning and Child Care.
- Define play and identify examples of play and non-play experiences.
- Explain how play-based programs meet children's developmental needs.
- Classify children's play episodes, using the categories of play identified by Parten and Piaget.
- Use appropriate observation and documentation tools and techniques to understand and interpret children's play.
- Articulate the role of the practitioner in facilitating, supporting, and extending children's play.
- Discuss current issues regarding children's play.

**TRANSFERABILITY:**

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. **Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

*Learning Activities:*     **40% of your final grade**

*Assignments:*             **60% of your final grade**

**ALL learning activities and assignments MUST be completed and turned in to pass the course**

**All learning activities and assignments are to be submitted in myClass**

**GRADING CRITERIA:** (The following criteria may be changed to suite the particular course/instructor)

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

**COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:** There are due dates for unit written work completion listed throughout the course notes in each Unit – this will help students stay on track to a successful completion of the course.

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:** Northwestern Polytechnic expects students’ conduct to be in accordance with basic rights and responsibilities. Please refer to the NWTP calendar regarding rights and responsibilities. Checking myClass for all announcements or General information, checking GPRC e-mail for email from the instructor, submission of learning activities and assignments by the due date.

**STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.