**EDUC 2330**

**Diversity & Culturally Responsive Teaching for the Early Years**

**Course Description**

This course offers an introduction to the issues of diversity (e.g. gender, race/ethnicity, culture, class, language, exceptionality) that impact decisions that early educators must make regarding the design and implementation of curriculum, teaching strategies, materials, and communication. This course also offers an examination of different world views to prepare future teachers in the early grades to provide culturally responsive educational opportunities to children of all cultural and economic groups.

**Prerequisites**

**Intended Student Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of the course, the student will be able to:

Knowledge Outcomes

1) identify personal beliefs, attitudes, biases, prejudices, and values related to diversity;
2) describe issues in education surrounding culture, race, gender, and poverty and explain how they affect classroom instruction and learning in the early grades;
3) identify diverse influences on modes of communication; and,
4) define the concept and ideas related to multicultural education.

Skill Outcomes

1) produce instructional materials that address diversity in the early childhood classroom;
2) select and analyze children’s literature that reflects the diversity in the early childhood classroom;
3) develop a plan to interact and communicate with families, including those that have diverse characteristics, backgrounds, and needs; and,
4) utilize technology ethically and legally.

Values Outcomes

1) recognize personal biases and differences that may affect one’s teaching;
2) critically examine educational practices that may discriminate against particular groups of students;
3) appreciate the need for learner-centered practices based on students’ culture, race, socioeconomic status, gender, abilities, etc.;
4) recognize the value of reflective practice to facilitate growth as a professional educator;
5) value the need to create environments for all children that take into consideration culture, abilities, disabilities, socioeconomic status, etc.; and,
6) value the importance of building relationships, which is the cornerstone to providing effective instruction to all students.