Basic Course Information

Semester:	**Spring 2024**	Instructor Name:	**Rebecca Green**
Course Title & #:	**Early Learning Environments**	Email:	**Becky.green@imperial.edu**
CRN #:	**21065**	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	**2728**	Office #:	**2200**
Class Dates:	**2/12 – 6/07**	Office Hours:	**Call for appt.**
Class Days:	**W**	Office Phone #:	**760-355-6232**
Class Times:	18:00-20:05	Emergency Contact:	**Alexiss Castorena**
Units:	2	Class Format/Modality:	In Person

Course Description

Examines inquiry based, developmentally and culturally appropriate learning environments for infants, toddlers, preschool, transitional kindergarten, and children through third grade. Students will discuss the environment as a significant educator that provokes a sense of community, creativity, and intellectual challenge. Principles of planning, assessment, and design will be explored.

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

None

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the impact of the environment on children's learning, behavior, and well-being.
2. Design indoor and outdoor environments that are based on the needs of the whole child and support development and learning.
3. Identify, describe, and assess environments from a variety of program types, materials, equipment, and other factors that contribute to children's learning and development.

Course Objectives

- Compare and contrast environments for a variety of program types
- Assess and design appropriate indoor and outdoor environments
- Describe environments appropriate for different needs and abilities; infants through third grade and how to adapt the environment to meet those needs
- Identify and utilize environmental assessment tools
- Describe the role of environments on children's learning and behavior
- Identify strategies to create a sense of identity and belonging

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Designs for Living and Learning Transforming Early Childhood Environments 2nd addition
Deb Curtia and Margie Carter
ISBN: 9781605543727

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Design an indoor early learning environment for Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten or Kindergarten children. Identify the program grade level you would be offering. Draw the floor plan including placement of interest areas and furniture, keeping in mind all of the factors outlined in class e.g. regulations, health and safety, parent and staff considerations, etc. Include a 3-4 page explanation/rational giving your reasons for the specific location of areas, equipment, types of materials you would include and other aspects you have taken into consideration.

Observe an early childhood environment and complete the assigned environmental assessment based on your observation.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

100-90%   A

89-80%   B

79-70%   C

69-60%   D

59 and below   F

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Course Policies

Class attendance is an essential piece of everyone's growth. However, I also understand that there are circumstances beyond our control, and you may occasionally need to miss class. The knowledge and skills you will gain in this course highly depend on your participation in class learning activities. Because of that, I expect you to attend all class sessions unless you are ill or have a valid reason for missing. I will be tracking class attendance. If you are ill or have another valid reason for missing, please contact me by email in advance of the absence.

Work can only be done with the instructor's permission and will be based on why you missed class. Make up work must be turned in by the week following the absence.

Other Course Information

Participation is important for everyone's growth.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Updated 6/2023

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

[Provide a tentative overview of the readings, assignments, tests, and/or other activities for the duration of the course. A table format as in the example below may be used for this purpose.]

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1	Syllabus & Introduction	Read Text Introduction
Week 2	Foundation for Learning	Pgs. 17-33
Week 3	Beyond the Traditional Classroom	Pgs.34-59
Week 4	Types of environments	
Week 5	Creating a Community of Learners: A Sense of Place and Belonging	Pg 59-88
Week 6	Including Families	
Week 7	Materials	89-126
Week 8	Using Natural materials	127-152
Week 9	Creating an Environment for Investigation and Exploration	153-188
Week 10	Curriculum Areas	189-216
Week 11	Meeting the Needs of All Children	
Week 12	Standards	
Week 13	The outdoor Classroom	
Week 14	The Outdoor Classroom Continued	

Subject to change without prior notice