ECED605
Early Childhood Development Research and Practice
S2 External 2013
Institute of Early Childhood

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Helen Little
helen.little@mq.edu.au
Contact via helen.little@mq.edu.au

Credit points
4

Prerequisites
ECED602

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit is designed to extend students' understanding of child development with a particular emphasis on approaches to understanding and measuring child development, considerations for quality in childcare, and evaluation of children's environments. Recent research studies of child development, especially in relation to prior-to-school settings, will be used as a major resource for examining contemporary theory and research in child development. Students will analyse research to develop their skills in using evidence-based approaches in teaching, to inform policy, and evaluate programs within prior-to-school settings.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate critical analytical and integrative thinking in applying developmental theory and research in prior to school settings
2. Have a good understanding of child development theory to enable the critical assessment of children’s learning environments
3. Use sound analytical skills and evidence from child development research to address everyday problems concerned with children’s early development
4. Utilise child development knowledge in actively contributing to policy discussions concerning early childhood practice
Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Topic Quiz</strong></td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>02/09/2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information for parents</strong></td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30/09/2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>annotated bibliography</strong></td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>25/10/2013</td>
</tr>
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**Topic Quiz**

Due: **02/09/2013**  
Weighting: **20%**

Content of first 5 lectures and readings

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Have a good understanding of child development theory to enable the critical assessment of children’s learning environments
- Use sound analytical skills and evidence from child development research to address everyday problems concerned with children’s early development

**Information for parents**

Due: **30/09/2013**  
Weighting: **30%**

Powerpoint presentation and handout on child development topic

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Have a good understanding of child development theory to enable the critical assessment of children’s learning environments
- Utilise child development knowledge in actively contributing to policy discussions concerning early childhood practice

**annotated bibliography**

Due: **25/10/2013**  
Weighting: **50%**

Annotated bibliography of 5 recent child development research articles

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Demonstrate critical analytical and integrative thinking in applying developmental theory and research in prior to school settings
• Have a good understanding of child development theory to enable the critical assessment of children’s learning environments
• Use sound analytical skills and evidence from child development research to address everyday problems concerned with children’s early development
• Utilise child development knowledge in actively contributing to policy discussions concerning early childhood practice

**Delivery and Resources**

**Technology Used and Required**

Students are required to access iLearn at least once per week and for submission of assessment tasks.

**On campus sessions**

Please check the university timetable for updates. On-campus sessions are currently scheduled for 3 August 2-5pm and 12 October 2-5pm.

**Teaching and Learning Strategy**

Weekly content is delivered through lectures and readings. Lectures are available through ECHO360 on unit website

**Unit Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 July</td>
<td>Lecture – Introduction to unit content, theoretical approaches and requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 August</td>
<td>Lecture – Australian studies of child development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 August</td>
<td>Lecture – International studies on child development and early childhood education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 August</td>
<td>Lecture – Key transitions in early childhood development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 August</td>
<td>Lecture – Culture, child development and early childhood education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Lecture &amp; Topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 September</td>
<td>Lecture and tutorial – Early brain development in children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 September</td>
<td>Lecture – Effects of child abuse and neglect on the developing child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 October</td>
<td>Lecture – Social-emotional wellbeing and development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 October</td>
<td>Lecture – Research and evidence-based practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 October</td>
<td>Lecture – Risk-taking behaviour and child development</td>
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Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Special Consideration Policy [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html]

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of Academic Student Support Services. Details of these services can be accessed at [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/]

UniWISE provides:

- Online learning resources and academic skills workshops [http://www.students.mq.edu.au/support/learning_skills/]
- Personal assistance with your learning & study related questions.
- The Learning Help Desk is located in the Library foyer (level 2).
- Online and on-campus orientation events run by Mentors@Macquarie.

Student Enquiry Service

Details of these services can be accessed at [http://www.student.mq.edu.au/ses/]

Equity Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.
IT Help

If you wish to receive IT help, we would be glad to assist you at http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/.

When using the university’s IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students and it outlines what can be done.