

STARS - STARS Course Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR: Jennifer Armas
ROOM NUMBER: F7
OFFICE HOURS: Not Applicable
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COURSE PAGE: whs.rocklinusd.org/CTE
ACADEMIC UNITS: 5 units per semester
ACADEMIC CREDIT: Technology Credit

DESCRIPTION - STARS is a Career Technical Education course that is offered to Junior and Senior students and is the capstone course for the Education Pathway. Students study positive interactions and guidance techniques and developmentally appropriate practices and curriculum activities. Students will also study education as a profession and a field of study, California's content standards and frameworks, teacher performance standards, theories of human development and implications for a classroom, principles of teaching and learning, principles of team-building and creating a positive school climate, philosophies of education and leadership, exceptional student issues, controversial issues in education, and job-seeking skills. Once trained, students are assigned a classroom at a school within our district where they participate in an internship allowing students to apply their learning in authentic situations in order to deepen their ability to think critically and solve problems in real-life situations and reflect on their own teaching practices. Upon completion, students will finish the year with over 75 hours of practical Early Childhood work experience and a portfolio with a resume, references, and work samples. Students must provide their own transportation to and from the assigned school site. Project ownership requires monetary contribution of \$40.

PURPOSE - This class offers the student an opportunity to learn and perform typical tasks required for employment in the child care field through a combination of classroom instruction and training in local schools. Students will have the opportunity to explore the fascinating world of children by learning and working in locally operated schools. Students gain experience in working with elementary, high school and/or Special Education students. Instruction may include introduction to educational philosophies, stages of early development, behavioral guidance skills, health and safety, development of appropriate materials and learning activities, such as math, storytelling, reading, music, science, and art activities.

COURSE OBJECTIVES - By the end of this course, students will be able:

- To prepare students for a career in child care, development, and education field.
- To understand and comply with safety regulations.
- To prepare students to have a basic understanding of teaching techniques in the child development and education field.
- To help students examine appropriate curriculum practices that effectively promote the children's physical, cognitive, and social/emotional development.
- To prepare students for post-secondary opportunities by demonstrating professionalism in the field of education by creating a professional portfolio.

COURSE TOPICS - The course will cover the following topics: The course will cover the following topics: Curriculum Development, Becoming a Professional, Job-Seeking Skills , Team Building, Climate Building, and Leadership Development, Implementing Early Childhood Programs and Appropriate Guidance and Discipline Strategies , Major Theories, Theorists, and Brain Development, Developmentally Appropriate Practices and Play as a Vehicle for Development and Learning , Exceptional Student Issues, and Learning Experiences in Art and Music, Storytelling, Math and Science/Technology.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) ELEMENTS - The following information is directly related to this course and its designation as a CTE course on campus:

- INDUSTRY SECTOR: Child Development and Education
- COURSE LEVEL: Capstone
- ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The advisory committee for this course meets annually. Additional meetings are held at the discretion of the instructor and/or district office.
- ARTICULATION INFORMATION: Articulation with Sierra College
- OCCUPATIONS FOR IDENTIFIED PATHWAY: Pathway occupations organized by level of education and training required for workplace entry.
 - High School - After-School Program Supervisor and Preschool Aide
 - Post-secondary Training - Preschool Teacher and Child Psychology Aide
 - College/University - Child Psychologist and Elementary, Secondary, and Post Secondary Teacher

GENERAL: Recorded grades will be available for review at any time on Schoology. Remember to keep all class items returned so that any discrepancies can be easily and fairly straightened out. Except in cases of actual error, semester grades are permanent.

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES - Students may be required to purchase specific projects if they want to keep them and take them home. The list below provides information for the student regarding items they will be using in this course. Students may want to purchase items on this list if they are very interested in this course and/or pathway. Please see the instructor for specific information regarding supplies.

- Text: Not Applicable
- Computer Programs and/or software: Not Applicable
- Supplies: 2-inch 3-ring binder, dividers, sheet protectors, binder paper, pens, pencils, highlighter, voluntary contribution of \$40 for classroom projects and activities.

GRADING PLAN - Coursework will be weighted as follows: Professional Agreements 25%, Projects/Tests/ESA's 25%, Classwork/Assignments 50%

CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT

- Be positive and professional at all times - act as a role model
- Be in attendance, punctual, and prepared to work
- Promote learning and academic success with all students

- Show initiative by doing what needs to be done without waiting to be asked

In general, your ideas, comments, suggestions, questions, grade challenges, and more are welcome. However, your discretion in these matters is expected. Furthermore, no part of your grade will be based on anything other than your coursework and attendance. You are encouraged to take advantage of instructor office hours for help with coursework or anything else connected with the course and your progress.