

Minutes for 3/19/12

Attendance: Rob Dedmon, Christine Lotter, Zach Kelehear, Erin Miller (by phone), Michelle

ITE Early Childhood proposal

Erin Miller presented the following course change paperwork:

Rationale for All Changes: Early Childhood Undergraduate Program

The Early Childhood Program within the College of Education is revising our curriculum in light of the Carolina Core, the need for focused attention to issues of linguistic diversity in public schools, and NAEYC's focus on building content area knowledge. The new courses and course and programmatic changes we propose are itemized below:

New Courses:

- 1. EDEC 444 - Teaching Social Studies in Early Childhood Education (3 credits).** This course has been developed in response to a call from our accrediting body (the National Association for the Education of Young Children) to bring a focus on discrete content areas to programs of early childhood education. Prior to this, the teaching of Social Studies was integrated within a course which also focused on Science. This new course allows us to provide more specific Social Studies content for prospective teachers of young children.
- 2. EDEC 344 - Linguistic Pluralism Across the Content Areas (3 credits).** Speakers of languages other than English and speakers of African American Language make up a large percentage of students in our schools, but teachers are ill-prepared to meet their needs. This course will focus on issues, theory, and practice to prepare educators for teaching in linguistically diverse classrooms, embracing and building home and heritage languages while helping students acquire expertise in Academic English.
- 3. EDEC 592: Internship in Curriculum, Assessment, Teaching and Professional Roles in Early Childhood Education (9 credits).** This course is proposed to replace three 3-credit hour courses currently being used to cover our students' fulltime internship experience (EDTE 590 A, EDTE 590 B, and EDTE 590 C). Replacing these three courses with the proposed one 9-hour course (EDEC 592) will ensure a seamless student teaching experience in terms of student perception, ease in registration, and clarity in grading for faculty and adjunct instructors (internship supervisors). By changing to the prefix EDEC, we also make a clear distinction between generic courses used across the department (EDTE) and this early childhood internship (EDEC)

Course Changes:

- 1. CURRENTLY: EDEC 442: Teaching Science and Social Studies in Early Childhood
CHANGE TO: EDEC 442: Teaching Science in Early Childhood Education**

We propose to change EDEC 442 from its focus on *both Science and Social Studies* to a course focusing *solely on Science*. This is in response to a call from our accrediting body (the National Association for the Education of Young Children) to bring a focus on discrete content areas to programs of early childhood education. Prior to this, the teaching of Science was integrated within the course also focused on Social Studies. This new course allows us to provide more specific Science content for prospective teachers of young children.

2. **CURRENTLY:** **EDRD 345: Language and Literacy in Early Childhood Education, Part I**
Examination of key concepts in language and literacy theory (birth through age 8) and implications for educators.
- CHANGE TO:** **EDRD 345: Teaching Reading in Early Childhood Education**
Theory and practice in the teaching of reading for children from birth through age eight for undergraduate majors in early childhood education.

We propose to change the title and bulletin description for EDRD 345 to more accurately reflect the focus of the course on methods for Reading Instruction.

3. **CURRENTLY:** **EDRD 445: Language and Literacy in Early Childhood Education, Part I**
Examination of key concepts in language and literacy theory (birth through age 8) and implications for educators.
- CHANGE TO:** **EDRD 445: Teaching Writing in Early Childhood Education and Literacy Practicum**
Theory and practice in the teaching of writing for children from birth through age eight for undergraduate majors in early childhood education including a literacy practicum.

We propose to change the title and bulletin description for EDRD 445 to more accurately reflect the focus of the course on methods for Writing Instruction.

Program Changes:

Add Speech 140 (Public Communications) as a required course. This course will be added as a requirement to be consistent with Carolina Core Requirements. SPCH 140 will take the place of one elective in the Early Childhood undergraduate program. The EC program is in agreement with Carolina Core committee that skill in Public Communications is essential for well-educated citizens in the 21st Century.

Replace ENGL 431 (Children's Literature) with a choice between ENGL 431a and ENGL 431b. This change is in response to changes made in the English department replacing ENGL 431 with an option of two courses appropriate for Early Childhood majors.

Change the fine arts course requirement from 3 required courses to 2 required courses. Students are currently required to choose three fine arts courses, one of which must be either ARTE 520 or ARTE 530. The other two courses may be selected from a range of courses (THEA, DANC, MUSC, ARTE, MUED). With this change, ARTE 520 and 530 would join the overall list of fine arts courses and from that range, students would choose two. This is an essential change that still allows students to choose ARTE courses, but makes room for a new course in *Linguistic Pluralism* (EDEC 344, listed under "New Courses"), an essential course for prospective teachers in a State with the one of the most rapidly growing populations of English language learners in the country). We have support from the ART department for this change.

Delete EDEC 570 - Internship in the First Three Weeks of Teaching This course is no longer necessary in our program. It was developed to create a credit-bearing 3-week student teaching experience for Early Childhood majors prior to the start of USC's academic year. However, the schedule for local schools has changed and schools are no longer in session in early August so our students are not required to return to campus three weeks early to begin student teaching.

Delete:

EDTE 590 A - Internship in Curriculum

EDTE 590 B - Internship in Assessment

EDTE 590 C - Internship in Teaching and Professional Roles

These are the three 3-credit courses covering students' fulltime internship that we propose to replace with one 9-hour course (EDEC 592, described under "New Courses"). EDEC 592 will replace these three courses to ensure a seamless student teaching experience in terms of student perception, ease and clarity in registration and faculty grading.

All changes were approved with some minor edits to APA bulletin program change form—number of credits in part 3 changed to 72 instead of 75 and the addition of Speech 140 needed to be deleted and number of electives put back to the original number of 6 credits (instead of 3).