



**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES**  
**GLOBAL CAMPUS**  
St. Kitts-Nevis

**PRINCIPLES OF TEACHING YOUNG CHILDREN**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course presents an overview of the knowledge and skills that are needed to develop and present an appropriate curriculum and the learning environment for young children from birth to age 8. The course will examine the teacher's role in facilitating learning and supporting development of the child. This course will introduce participants to learning through play, which is the central principle of learning at the early childhood level. It will look at integrated learning and explore observation and assessment strategies. This course also seeks to emphasize the role that the teacher-child relationship plays in child development in all domains of learning.

**AIM**

The aim of this course is to provide an overview of the planning, preparation and delivery of a developmentally appropriate curriculum for young children and the role the teacher plays in supporting the holistic development of the child.

**OBJECTIVES**

**At the end of the course, students should be able to:**

1. Describe the central principle of early childhood education, learning through play
2. Discuss the role of the teacher in the early childhood environment
3. Identify developmentally appropriate outdoor /indoor environment to promote learning
4. Explore a variety of developmental and culturally appropriate curriculum and teaching techniques.
5. Use active learning approaches such as the Theme Approach and Project Approach to organize learning activities
6. Apply the skills needed for planning curriculum
7. Demonstrate an understanding of planning developmentally appropriate curriculum for children from birth to 8 years
8. Prepare instructional materials that promote children's learning through play.
9. Show an awareness and appreciation of the use of appropriate learning activities to facilitate the holistic development of young children including those with special needs.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

This course includes the following topics:

Unit 1: High Quality Education: Learning Through Play

Unit 2: The Role of the Teacher

Unit 3: Intentional Teaching and Children's Approaches to Learning

Unit 4: Early Childhood Curriculum

Unit 5: Curriculum Planning

Unit 6: STEM

Unit 7: Language and Literacy

Unit 8: Creative Expression and Sensory Exploration

Unit 9: Creating Appropriate Learning Materials

Unit 10: Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood Development

## **HOW MUCH WILL THIS COURSE COST? COURSE CONTENT**

This 10-week course costs EC\$600.00.

The University reviews tuition fees annually and course fees may be subject to change.

**Courses are only offered if there is a viable class size.**