Course Description

Focuses on children’s exploration, play, and creative expression in the areas of art, music, and movement. Emphasis will be on developing strategies for using various open-ended media representing a range of approaches in creative thinking. Addresses strategies for intervention and support for exceptional children and English Language Learners. Lecture 2 hours. Laboratory 2 hours. Total 4 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

To prepare the student to provide for the development of children’s creativity in art, music and movement using materials and activities which promote thinking and exploration of materials and concepts.

Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites

Functional literacy in the English language; reading at the 12th grade level.

Course Objectives

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- Describe the developmental characteristics of young children as they relate to the areas of art, music and movement.
- Create age and stage appropriate learning experiences for children in the areas of art, movement, and music.
- Demonstrate techniques for differentiated instruction and process learning in the areas of art, music and movement.
- Explain the importance of culturally diverse activities in the areas of art, music and movement.
- Demonstrate techniques for adapting art, music and movement instruction for children with special needs.
- Provide rationale and employ techniques for ongoing assessment in art, music and movement activities with children.
- Identify and apply learning standards as they relate to art, music and movement: the Virginia Foundation Blocks, the Child Development Milestones, the Virginia Standards of Learning, and Core Competencies for Early Childhood Professionals.

Major Topics to be Included

- Play, development and creativity
- Developmental levels of art, music and movement
- Creative environments
- Communicating with families
- Varieties of media appropriate for young children