

## ELIS 2601 - Development, Learning and the Arts

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 02, CRN 41867,

Credit hours: 3

### Instructor

Crystal Ratican

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### Public Instructor Information

Professor: Dr. Crystal L. Ratican

Professional Qualifications:

*Ph. D., Early Childhood Education, Walden University*

*Master's, Reading and Literature, Walden University*

*Bachelor's, Elementary Education/Early Childhood Education, Edinboro University*

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### Course Description

2601. Development, Learning and the Arts. This course examines the theoretical foundations and application of developmental and post-developmental pedagogical approaches to whole child education and the arts in the P-2 classroom. Candidates will explore a variety of arts-based, play-based, relational, and interdisciplinary teaching strategies that respond to contemporary educational research in early childhood education. Field hours required. Prereq.: EDFN 1501. 3 s.h.

### Course Readings

| Group    | Title                                          | Author                      | ISBN |
|----------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|
| Required | Child Development: An Active Learning Approach | Levine, L. E., & Munsch, J. |      |

Levine, L. E., & Munsch, J. (2022). *Child Development: An Active Learning Approach*

(4th ed.). SAGE Publications.

National Association for the Education of Young Children. (2022). *Developmentally*

*Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs Serving Children from Birth*

*Through Age 8* (4th ed.). NAEYC.

Whole Child Education. <http://www.wholechildeeducation.org/>

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

### Schedule of Topics and Assignments

| Week of | Reading(s)                                                                                                             | Proposed Topic                                                | Due/To Prepare for Class |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 8/24    | Levine Ch. 1—Issues and Themes in Child Development<br>Levine Ch. 2—Theories of Development<br>DAP Text Ch. 3 Appendix | Course Overview<br>Module 1 Introduction to Child Development | Quiz 1                   |



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|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8/31  | Levine Ch. 4—Nature Through Nurture DAP Text Ch. 2 – The Principles in Practice: Understanding Child Development and Learning in Context                                                                                                                                                                              | Module 2 Nature/Nature Child Development in Context                                       | Quiz 2 Assignment: Practical Application of Early Childhood Development Theory |
| 9/7   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Module 2 Nature/Nature Child Development in Context                                       |                                                                                |
| 9/14  | Levine Ch. 7—Cognitive Development Levine Ch. 8—Intelligence and Academic Achievement Levine Ch. 9—Language Development                                                                                                                                                                                               | Module 3 Cognitive and Language Development                                               | Quiz 3 Assignment: Cognitive and Language Development                          |
| 9/21  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Module 3 Cognitive and Language Development                                               |                                                                                |
| 9/28  | <a href="https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-topic/arts-education">https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-topic/arts-education</a> <a href="https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Fine-Arts/Fine-Arts-Standards">https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Fine-Arts/Fine-Arts-Standards</a> | Module 4 Development through the Arts                                                     | Quiz 4 Assignment: Development Through the Arts Lesson                         |
| 10/5  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Module 4 Development through the Arts                                                     |                                                                                |
| 10/12 | Levine Ch. 10—Emotional Development and Attachment Levine Ch. 12—Social Development                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Module 5 Social and Emotional Development                                                 | Quiz 5                                                                         |
| 10/19 | DAP Text Ch. 3 – Context Matters: Reframing Teaching in Early Childhood Education DAP Text Ch. 6 – Creating a Caring, Equitable Community of Learners                                                                                                                                                                 | Module 6 Creating a Caring, Equitable Community of Learners                               | Quiz 6 Assignment: Lesson to develop social/emotional skills                   |
| 10/26 | <a href="https://www.naeyc.org/resources/topics/special-education">https://www.naeyc.org/resources/topics/special-education</a>                                                                                                                                                                                       | Module 7 Welcoming Children with Special Needs                                            | Quiz 7 Assignment: Screening Assessment                                        |
| 11/2  | Whole Child Education website: <a href="http://wholechildevelopment.org">wholechildevelopment.org</a> Field Work (10 hours)                                                                                                                                                                                           | Module 8 The Whole Child Approach to Child Development                                    | Quiz 8 Assignment: Field Journal Entries                                       |
| 11/9  | Module 9 Introduction to Planning and Implementing Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Module 9 Introduction to Planning and Implementing Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Quiz 9 Assignment: DAP Critical Task Lesson Plans                              |
| 11/16 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Module 9 Introduction to Planning and Implementing Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum |                                                                                |
| 11/23 | Levine Ch. 13 – Partnering With Families DAP Text Ch. 7 – Engaging in Reciprocal Partnerships with Families and Fostering Community Connections                                                                                                                                                                       | Module 10 Partnering with Families                                                        | Assignment: Communication                                                      |
| 11/30 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Module 10 Partnering with Families                                                        |                                                                                |
| 12/7  | Final Exam                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Course Conclusion                                                                         | Final Exam                                                                     |

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.