

Course Description

MEDD6144 Contemporary Issues in Early Childhood Education

| Course description | |
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| <p>This course will consider global, contemporary and controversial issues in early childhood education (ECE). It will consider (1) international trends in ECE policy and provision including concerns with equitable access to quality services, (2) trends and issues in ECE curriculum, (3) issues related to the professional development of teachers, (4) issues related to parental choice of ECE programs, and (5) selected controversial issues in ECE. The course will analyse trends and issues from multiple perspectives.</p> | |
| Course objectives | |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyse global issues in early childhood education (ECE) by examining their impact on educational practices. 2. Evaluate contemporary issues in ECE by exploring their relevance and implications for educators and policymakers. 3. Investigate controversial issues in ECE by examining different perspectives and arguments surrounding these topics. 4. Identify key trends and developments in global ECE that are shaping the field. 5. Develop a critical understanding of the challenges and opportunities faced by early childhood educators in a global context. 6. Apply theoretical frameworks and research findings to propose strategies for addressing global, contemporary, and controversial issues in ECE. | |
| Course learning outcomes (CLOs) | Aligned programme learning outcomes (PLOs) |
| 1. Demonstrate a general understanding of global, contemporary and controversial issues in ECE | PLO 1 |
| 2. Explain the importance of quality, equity and sustainability in early childhood provision from a global perspective | PLOs 1, 4 |
| 3. Demonstrate a keen understanding of the historical and philosophical foundations of trends and issues in contemporary ECE curriculum | PLO 1 |
| 4. Analyse issues related to the professional development of teachers in different contexts | PLOs 1, 4 |
| 5. Demonstrate understanding of issues related to parental choice of ECE programs | PLO 1 |
| 6. Demonstrate oral and written communication skills in analysing selected controversial issues in ECE | PLOs 1, 2, 3, 5 |
| Course assessment methods | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual web-based exercises • Group presentation • Multimedia presentation and written assignment | |
| Course content and topics | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Broader Picture of Early Childhood Development and Education • Why invest early? Economic perspectives • Science of ECD: Neuroscience and education • Policy and Quality • Culture, Policy and Pedagogy • The Sustainable Development Goals • Trends and Issues in ECE Curriculum • Play and Learning • Parents and ECE | |

- The impact of professional and international organisations on ECD and ECE
- Early Learning and Development Standards
- Promoting Education for Sustainable Development
- Professional Development of Teachers
- Clashing Views on Controversial Issues
- General Review and Synthesis

Required / recommended readings and online materials

Recommended Journals

Asia-Pacific Journal of Research in Early Childhood Education
 Australasian Journal of Early Childhood
 Child Development
 Child Development Perspectives
 Early Child Development and Care
 Early Childhood Education Journal
 Early Childhood Research Quarterly
 Early Education and Development
 European Early Childhood Education Research Journal
 Infant and Child Development:
 International Journal of Child Care and Policy
 International Journal of Early Childhood
 International Journal of Early Childhood Special Education
 Journal of Early Childhood Research
 Journal of Early Intervention
 Journal of Research in Childhood Education

Recommended Websites

Asia Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood
<http://www.arnec.net/>
 Center of Developing Child
<http://developingchild.harvard.edu/>
 Child and Family Blog
<https://childandfamilyblog.com/>
 COVID-19: 24/7 Parenting
<https://www.covid19parenting.com/>
 Early Childhood Teacher
<http://www.earlychildhoodteacher.org/teacher-tools/>
 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
<http://www.naeyc.org/>
 Society for Research in Child Development
<https://www.srkd.org/policy-engagement/resources>
 Zero to Three
<https://www.zerotothree.org/early-development>

Reading are available at the following link.

https://julac-hku.alma.exlibrisgroup.com/leganto/public/852JULAC_HKU/lists/16606675990003414?auth=SAML

Other additional course information

Note: Students should have an academic background in Early Childhood Education or teaching experience in early childhood settings.