



Course Outline

EDECE2012 INVESTIGATING: SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Title: INVESTIGATING: SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Code: EDECE2012

School / Division: School of Education

Level: Advanced

Pre-requisites: Nil

Co-requisites: Nil

Exclusions: Nil

Progress Units: 15

ASCED Code: 070101

Objectives:

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

Knowledge:

- understand the importance of demonstrating a positive attitude towards science and the environment;
- understand that science includes attitudes and processes as well as concepts;
- select science experiences appropriate for teaching to young children.

Skills:

- explain why science and environmental education should be taught to young children;
- describe the various ways in which science experiences and environmental education can contribute to a child's/children's development;
- identify the major areas of science instruction;
- understand the role that the adult can play in assisting young children to explore science and their environment.

Values:

- appreciate the relevance of science and environmental education to one's daily life;
- appreciate that science is a natural experience for young children;
- recognise what sustainability in early childhood means;
- be empowered to work towards a sustainable future;
- identify environmental challenges in early childhood environments.

Content:

Topics may include:

- Science, what it is and why it is important to young children



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- An understanding of what children can gain developmentally through science and environmental experiences
- Australia's early childhood environmental education networks
- Initiating a connection with the environment
- Initiatives for developmental challenges in early childhood environments
- Sustainability in early childhood
- Day-to-day activities offer frequent opportunities for science
- Science and environmental learning
- Science processes of observing, comparing, classifying, communicating, predicting, measuring and experimenting
- Appropriate science experiences to implement with young children in the areas of water, air, sound, animals, plants, electricity, magnets, light and environmental awareness
- Relationships between an adult's positive attitude towards science and the environment on a child's eagerness to learn
- Concept development from science
- Identifying science and environmental experiences in daily routine tasks, planned and unplanned.

Learning Tasks & Assessment:

Learning Task	Assessment	Weighting
Reflecting on your personal participation in learning experiences of young children	Resource collection and reflection.	40 - 50%
Write an essay informing parents how you wish to achieve the changes with the active involvement of children, families and the community.	Written report.	50 - 60%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Handbook Summary:

Science and environmental education covers the concepts of science and environmental awareness appropriate for young children in an early childhood environment, ensuring the knowledge to plan and implement appropriate science activities.