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EDEC 3613 is a 3 hour NextGen course that meets face-to-face, “In class” meetings and online through class discussions, quizzes, assignments, research, and supplemental instruction (SI).

Students in this class learn about the Foundations of Early Childhood Education including current programs, best practices, and ethical issues. They are also introduced to teaching young children and the influences of research, theory, program practices, and teaching strategies on young children and early childhood classroom practices.

This course also implements the Early Childhood Professional Preparation Standards of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Pictures By: Ms. Patricia Arreguin, Student Office Assistant
Teacher Education & Administration
EDEC 3613 looks forward to Infant and Toddler Day with enthusiasm and excitement each semester. Students are encouraged to bring their own infant or toddler to class. The children visiting may be a son/daughter, niece/nephew, godchild, or friend. This semester 15 children visited EDEC 3613 with ages ranging from 3 months to 6 years. The students participating in the activity sent a power point with the child’s developmental profile. I discussed with the parent or participating student each child’s profile in the order of age. Students volunteered to read to the children as the class observed the movement and actions of each of the children. Each child was given a new book and a UNT ball for visiting EDEC 3613. The EDEC 3613 students enjoyed the active class observing the different stages of infants and toddlers.”

~ Professor George Morrison

“Infant and Toddler Day was a great opportunity to observe the rapid development throughout early childhood. Not only did we get to see the different developmental stages of children, we were also able to see the different cultures and backgrounds that children are raised in. Attending Infant and Toddler Day opened my eyes to the uniqueness of all children, and I will definitely remember this in my future career in education.”

~ Ms. Brittany Brozek, Student

“Today I am a grandparent of a 2 1/2 year old granddaughter who is the light of my life and we attended Toddler Day with Dr. George Morrison, about 80 undergraduate students and another 15 or so children and their parents. It was a fabulous day and though I did not know what to expect, we came into the classroom and were immediately met with new friends and fun things that kept us busy during the entire class. My granddaughter makes friends everywhere and toddler day was no exception. She found a boy coloring and began to color and talk with him. She found a younger boy that had a ball and each time he would throw the ball she would get the ball and throw it back. The students joined in and found the ball when it went under the seats. Aria read books, talked to teachers, and when it was our turn to talk about Aria, she started in the front of the room while I was talking about her and then spied some of the students eating a snack. She got down and joined the students in the classroom and sat with them and shared the chips they had out the bag. The students were very helpful and everyone laughed and sat comfortably and watched the presentation. Normally, I teach leadership to doctoral students in the Education Leadership program at UNT, but on Toddler Day at UNT I was just Aria’s granddad, and that is enough.”

~ Dr. Royce Jefferson George

Pictures By: Ms. Patricia Arreguin, Student Office Assistant
Teacher Education & Administration
HONORS DAY RECOGNITION

For Honors Day 2015, each award recipient was asked to name a member of the faculty or staff at UNT who has been a source of support and inspiration. Congratulations to those who have been part of this prestigious list.

* Dr. Rosanna Boyd
* Dr. Jimmy Byrd
* Dr. Chelleye Crow
* Dr. Colleen Eddy
* Ms. Jessica Edwards
* Dr. Royce George
* Dr. Alexandra Leavell
* Dr. George Morrison
* Dr. Nancy Nelson
* Dr. Lorena Ponce
* Dr. Lorena Ponce
* Dr. Linda Stromberg
* Dr. Robyn Tschantz
* Dr. Frances van Tassell

RECOGNITION & AWARDS

* Drs. Pamela Harrell & Colleen Eddy have received additional funding for the amount of $515,434.00. Project Title: North Texas Collaborative for Science, Math and Writing.
* The Online Program for the Master’s in Curriculum and Instruction has received a funding of $12,500.00 from members of the CLEAR Steering Committee. Congratulations to Dr. Kelley King, Dr. Jim Laney, Dr. Alexandra Leavell, Dr. Ricardo Gonzalez, Dr. Sarah Pratt & Dr. Jamaal Young for putting this together.
* Ms. Cecelia Joyce Price was nominated for this year’s Outstanding Teaching Fellows and Teaching Assistant Award.

PUBLICATIONS

* Drs. Karthigeyan Subramaniam’s & Pamela Harrell’s article has been accepted for publication in the National Foundation for Educational Research. “An Analysis of Prospective Teachers’ Knowledge for Constructing Concept Maps”.
* Ms. Alexandra Babino’s (graduate student) and Dr. Ricardo Gonzalez’s paper has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Bilingual Education Research and Instruction. “Advocating for Dual-Language Programs: Implementation of a Public Policymaking Model”.

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BESO AT THE BIG EVENT

“The Big Event is a nationally recognized day of service celebrated by the UNT community on Saturday, March 28, 2015. Volunteers perform hours of service including environmental programs, assisting local schools and nonprofit organizations, and more. 12 BESO Volunteers worked at the Cardo’s Farm Project in Denton. It is a local community farm and education center that uses sustainable agriculture to engage the Denton community and to teach the significance of farming and land stewardships in our daily lives.”

~ By Ms. Yuliya Summers

PROJECT NEXUS WORKSHOP

ON MARCH 17, 2015 - MATTHEWS 209

Math Content Specific Training for teaching ELLs.

Presenter Ms. Beth Loughry trained the Project Nexus Pre-service participants about strategies on how to teach Mathematics to English Language Learners (ELL).
CELEBRATING MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March Birthday Celebration on 03/24/2015 - Matthews Hall 206
Dr. Laney having his own party.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Kia Rideaux
June 02
Joy Blackwell
June 04
Doug Shouse
June 04
Shirley Bonkowski
June 16
Eunice Hobkirk
June 30

White chocolate Raspberry Bundtlet from Nothing Bundt Cakes
Dr. Dina C. Castro, Professor and Velma E. Schmidt Chair in Early Childhood Education at the Department of Teacher Education & Administration was an invited speaker at the International conference “Our Multilingual Schools: An Opportunity or a Threat/ Tante Lingue Nelle Scuole: Un’opportunità O Un Ostacolo? Held in Milan, Italy, March 13 - 15, 2015.

In her presentation titled “Multilingualism and instructional approaches in early education : A cross-cultural review of the research” Dr. Castro discussed how the societal status of children’s first language or mother tongue (as a minority or majority language) will influence the type of programming made available to bilingual children in early education programs. Specifically, she shared findings from a review of research on language of instruction approaches in the education of young bilingual children and their language policy contexts.

Dr. Ricardo Gonzalez co-presented with two of his undergraduate students at the Bilingual/ESL Education Association of the Metroplex (BEAM) annual symposium in Arlington. Both Kristina Hays and Joshua Carpenter did very well in their presentations. Picture above.

Fantastic conference! Dallas ISD supports BEAM!
Bilingual teachers joined the largest dual language program in the nation!
Dr. Lois Knezek’s presentation with Dr. Nancy Nelson.

Title of Paper: Thinking—Aloud in Reading Research: Still valuable but still Controversial.

Abstract: The growing number of English Language Learners (ELLs) in the United States may face challenges when enrolling in higher education, especially with the increasing prevalence of online text in academic coursework. Using a multiple case-study approach and think-aloud procedures, this descriptive study focused on the strategies that four doctoral-level ELLs used when reading academic text online. Results reported in the paper are from think-aloud analyses along with relevant data from the interviews and class observations. As the socio-cognitive perspective gains prominence, there is a need for studies that focus on the cognitive process but give attention to social, sociocultural, distributed, and embodied aspects.

Ms. Yuliya Summers attended the AERA Division K New Faculty Pre Conference Seminar on April 15 and April 16.

They were flooded with applications, and Ms. Summers was selected out of the 30 candidates from all the universities and faculty that applied.

Above is group photo with UNT Faculty and Students.

Ms. Amanda Hurlbut’s AERA 2015 abstracts.

Submission 1: Elementary Pre-service Teachers’ Perception and Experiences of Mathematics Intervention: A Study of Course Embedded Response to Intervention Practices.

Response to Intervention is a widely implemented intervention and pre-referral program in many schools is a result of the reauthorization of the 2004 individuals with Disabilities Education Act. This study examined elementary pre-service teachers’ perceptions of and experiences with mathematics intervention and RTI practices in a methods course at one North Texas University. Data were collected using Seidman’s three-step interview series with nine pre-service participants and through document analysis of the Mathematics Interactions Project (MIP). Haskell’s transfer theory was used as the theoretical framework from which to analyze the data. Preliminary results with participants suggest a wide variance in RTI understandings according to their coursework and the inclusion of RTI principles in the mathematics methods course.

Submission 2: Pre-Service Teacher Preparation in Texas: Training General Educators to Teach Students with Disabilities.

Students with disabilities are increasingly receiving the majority of instruction in the general education classroom as a result of recent legislation. Research suggests that many teachers have historically held negative attitudes towards inclusion and feel underprepared to work with students with specialized learning needs. The purpose of this study was to examine how universities in Texas prepare pre-service teachers to work with exceptional students through degree plans, course objectives, assignments, and instructional delivery. Degree plans and syllabi were analyzed in multiple certification areas. Several programs required teachers to take the same special education courses. Results indicate that most elementary teachers receive at least one special education exceptionalities course, while many secondary programs do not require any such course.
Presentation By Ms. Eun Young Lee, Dr. Karthigeyan Subramaniam & Dr. Pamela Harrell

Science Methods Course Influences on Early Childhood Preservice Teachers’ Evolving Self-Efficacy about Equitable Science Teaching.

Abstract: This study investigated the effect of a science methods course on the self-efficacy beliefs of early childhood preservice teachers in regards to equitable science teaching and learning. Using the Self-Efficacy Beliefs about Equitable Science Teaching (SEBEST) instrument (Ritter, Boone, & Rubba, 2001), pre-and post test data from 67 preservice teachers who were enrolled in four different sections of science methods courses were analyzed. Results from this study suggest that after taking a science methods course, there was statistically significant change in early childhood preservice teachers’ Personal Science Teaching Efficacy (PSTE) toward equitable science teaching and learning for diverse learners.

TE & A DOCTORAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The TE & A Doctoral Student Association (DSA) encourages and facilitates collaboration within our department. This gathering created opportunities for graduate students to engage in scholarly endeavors.
Dr. Ricardo Gonzalez shared a few pictures of his group of student teachers in Spain (above). They were placed in the bilingual K-12 schools where they had great time, worked hard and enjoyed one of the most remarkable Spanish cities.

Student Teachers (from left to right) : Ms. Britney Butler, Ms. Sadie Harvey, Ms. Armando Varela & Mr. Carla Villa.

**NEWS**

Ms. Michelle Lee, one of our students who will be graduating next month, has accepted a position as an ESL teacher in South Korea.

- Message from Dr. Ricardo Gonzalez, Assistant Professor
Teacher Education & Administration.

The COE Doctoral Student Association has won the award for the 2014-2015 Outstanding Organization Event from UNT Student Activities for the DSA Pathways for Success Conference held in September. The award recognizes an organization for its positive impact on the UNT and/or Denton community and its contribution to the growth, learning, or development of the constituent group impacted. This achievement was announced at the Eagle Awards Banquet on Tuesday, April 14.

Congratulations to Mr. Brandon Bush, Julie Williams, Lois Knezek & other Graduate Assistants along with Dr. Nancy Nelson who contributed and guided them in receiving this award.

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

Dr. Jane Huffman will be attending the International Symposium on Global Perspectives on Developing Professional Learning Communities in Hong Kong, May 30, 2015.

She will be delivering a speech on Professional Learning Community Research: United States and Global Model. The Global PLC Network team will also host workshops in Mandarin and English.

Mr. Robert Basurto has been named Associate Superintendent of High Schools in the Ysleta ISD. He as seven high schools under him and was in our second Superintendent Certification Cohort.

Ms. Karlyn Keller has been named Assistant Superintendent in the Southside ISD - San Antonio. And she is also the Director of Special Programs.

5 new administrators were just appointed in Denton ISD, 4 are our students and former students : Shaun Perry, Lesli Guajardo, Robin Brownell, and Marcus Bourland.

Dr. Robert Stewart, executive director of human resources for Denton ISD, has been named the Region IV Personnel Administrator of the Year by the Texas Association of School Personnel Administrator Association.
On Friday April 10, 2015, Dr. George Morrison with the assistance of Ms. Inna Robitaille Dolzhenko and Ms. Darla Taylor attended the Federation of North Texas Area Universities Graduate Student Research Symposium at Texas Woman’s University. The universities represented were Texas Woman’s University, University of North Texas and Texas A & M University—Commerce. Posters were judged in two categories: 1) Humanities, Education, Social Sciences and Business; or 2) Mathematics, Science, and Technology. Dr. Morrison judged graduate student posters and provided guidance and advice to graduate students. The event culminated with a luncheon, keynote speaker, Dr. Michelle Chin, Legislative Assistant for U.S. Senator John Cornyn (TX), and awards.

At the Honors College Scholars Day, Dr. Janet Ray’s Students Ashleigh Krastin placed FIRST and Noel Marquez placed THIRD competing against category of social sciences - psychology, sociology, business, and hospitality management.

“Thank you Janet for inviting me to Honors Day to see the three students in your cadre present their papers on their action research they conducted during student teaching. Noel Marquez, Ashleigh Krastin, and Evyn Edwards did very well in presenting their work and representing the TE & A Elementary Program”.

- Dr. Colleen Eddy

Denton Cadre Presenters
Staff Appreciation Lunch at Hannah’s Off the Square on April 22, 2015.
Thanks to the TE & A Social Committee.

Celebrating Inna’s Citizenship, Julie’s and Lois graduation & farewell to Ms. Robyn Tschantz at Hoochies Denton.
With Ms. Denise Stansel, Irene Frank and rest of the Graduate Assistants.