California Community Colleges ECE/CD 2013 Curriculum Alignment Project Expansion

Title: Infant and Toddler Development  
Suggested Short Title: Inf Tod Dev

Course Description
A study of infants and toddlers from pre-conception to age three including physical, cognitive, language, social, and emotional growth and development. Applies theoretical frameworks to interpret behavior and interactions between heredity and environment. Emphasizes the role of family and relationships in development.

Student Learning Outcomes
Students who complete this course will be able to:
1. Demonstrate knowledge of biological and environmental factors that influence pre-conception and prenatal health and development.
2. Connect observed behaviors of children birth to 36 months to developmental concepts and theories in the physical, cognitive, language, social and emotional domains.
3. Analyze the multiple contextual influences on infant and toddler development including diverse family practices and environments.

Objectives
Students in this course will:
1. Summarize the developmental milestones, characteristics, and growth patterns of children from conception through 36 months.
2. Use current research to evaluate the impact of various birth practices on the newborn and family.
3. Describe the primary role of the family in the development of the child.
4. Link neurobiological processes to infant and toddler development.
5. Relate developmental theory to infant and toddler development, interactions and relationships.
6. Compare and contrast caregiving practices and environments that support optimal development.

Content
A. Overview of Developmental Theory and Processes
B. Current Research
   1. Brain development
   2. Social development
   3. Influences on growth patterns
   4. Early intervention
C. Developmental Domains and Processes
   1. Prenatal development and birth
      a. Preconception influences
      b. Conception
      c. Prenatal development
      d. Birth
   2. Physical development
      a. Brain development
b. Health and nutrition
c. Growth patterns

3. Cognitive development
   a. Sensorimotor stages
   b. Information processing
   c. Language development
   d. Theories of language development
   e. Multi-language learning
   f. Critical periods

4. Social and emotional development
   a. Attachment
   b. Reciprocal relationships
   c. Psychosocial theory
   d. Temperament

5. Variations in Development

D. Influences on Development
   1. Family
   2. Cultural perspectives
   3. Care settings
   4. Routines and schedules