Courses of relevance and interest for early years education

EDEM611: Contemporary Issues for Curriculum and Diversity
The course explores the ways in which the curriculum reflects the ‘knowledge considered worth knowing’ at a particular social and historical point in time. We critically engage with the extent to which both the intended and operational curriculum shape notions of learner difference and diversity, and can play a role in perpetuating the status quo in a society. The course also investigates agentive possibilities for engaging with learner difference and diversity within a range of curriculum contexts.

Course Coordinator: Kathleen Quinlivan
kathleen.quinlivan@canterbury.ac.nz

EDEM650: Educational Philosophy and Policy
This course will be of interest to anyone who has pondered the nature and purpose of education and considered its significance in building better worlds. With a central theme of ‘utopia and education’, the course encourages students to address questions such as these: What is education for and why does it really matter? How can education contribute to a more meaningful and worthwhile life? What should we seek to know and why? What social ideals should we seek to uphold, and what are some of the impediments to the pursuit of these ideals? The course will draw on literary works and the visual arts as well as more traditional educational and philosophical sources. Students will have the opportunity to apply insights from the course to policy contexts, and to explore the implications of educational theory for professional practice and everyday life.

Course Coordinator: Peter Roberts
peter.roberts@canterbury.ac.nz

EDEM631: Foundations of Language Acquisition and Learning
This course extends the professional knowledge base of educational professionals through the examination of the main theories of first and second language acquisition, examining the linguistic, psychological and social processes that underlie language(s) learning and use. We consider current national and international issues, policies, and initiatives, including potential effects on practice, related to languages teaching and learning in Aotearoa/New Zealand, including bicultural/bilingual education; language immersion programmes; te reo Māori language revitalization initiatives; heritage language maintenance; ESOL/TEFOL, and multilingualism. The course runs online in Semester 2.

Course Coordinator: Una Cunningham
una.cunningham@canterbury.ac.nz

Leadership courses of interest for early years education:

EDEM634: Leadership of learning
EDEM635: Leadership of effective teaching
EDEM637: Distributing leadership for learning
EDEM638: Curriculum Leadership
EDEM639: Leadership for school and centre improvement

Contact: Susan Lovett
susan.lovett@canterbury.ac.nz

For further information contact:
Student Advisors
Tel: +64 3 364 9606
Email: education@canterbury.ac.nz
www.education.canterbury.ac.nz

University of Canterbury
Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha
Private Bag 4800,
Christchurch 8140,
New Zealand
www.canterbury.ac.nz
Courses Designed to include Early Years Education

EDEM614: Assessment for Learning
This course seeks to promote the understanding and use of assessment for improving learning. Recognising the diversity of learners and education sectors, topics covered will include discussion of and experience with socio-cultural theories of assessment; narrative assessment approaches; national exemplars in special education, early childhood, primary and secondary settings; assessment and reporting against national standards in literacy and numeracy; and national assessment tools. There will be an opportunity for class members to pursue an assessment topic of their own interest. The course will adopt formative assessment practices to facilitate the learning interests of class members.

Course Coordinator: Missy Morton
Missy.morton@canterbury.ac.nz

EDEM603: Research Project in Teaching, Learning and Curriculum
This course focuses on teaching, learning and curriculum issues in the primary and early childhood areas and enables students to examine and critique the theories and ideological principles which underpin the New Zealand Curriculum and Te Whāriki. As part of this course students will spend time in classrooms/centres during which they will conduct a teacher inquiry based research project which investigates and reflects on the relationships of curriculum planning, decision-making and implementation issues to their own philosophies and practices. This course is designed to provide students with an initial start to their postgraduate educational research career as they develop academic skills necessary to undertake postgraduate research.

This course specifically refers and uses Te Whāriki to help examine how curriculum is developed and implemented and the research projects are based on relevant issues to the student and the sector. It encourages a cross-pollination of ideas across the sectors and incorporates a practical element which helps to provide a clear rationale and focus for practitioner based research which is relevant to both the individual student and profession.

Course Coordinator: Fiona Gilmore
fiona.gilmore@canterbury.ac.nz

EDEM622: Teaching and Learning in Inclusive Settings
This course examines the theoretical and practical aspects of teaching and learning in inclusive settings from the early years to high school. Students will examine and critique current teaching and learning theory and practices as they pertain to inclusive and special education in early childhood and compulsory schooling sectors. Students will gain knowledge of and skills in a range of inclusive teaching and learning practices and processes within a framework of Universal Design for Learning. The course provides flexible options for assignment work that enables students to focus on their particular areas of interest or education contexts.

Course Coordinator: Trish McMenamin
trish.mcmenamin@canterbury.ac.nz

EDEM627: e-Learning and pedagogy: Effective strategies for the classroom
The course focuses on developing a critical awareness of the pedagogical issues involved in the integration of ICTs to support learning in early childhood, school, and tertiary settings. Exemplars of curriculum based activities involving a variety of digital technologies will be related to theories of learning and relevant academic research. Participants will develop their digital skills as well as investigate, analyse and evaluate contemporary theories and predictions related to the effective use of technology in education.

Course Coordinator: Julie Mackey
julie.mackey@canterbury.ac.nz

EDEM639: Leadership for School and Centre Improvement
This course relates the theory of educational leadership and management to school/centre improvement to seek better understandings of what leaders can and might do to ensure their schools/centres are effective in learning for students and teachers. The course includes themes of distributed leadership, teacher leadership and the building of leadership capacity.

Course Coordinator: Susan Lovett
susan.lovett@canterbury.ac.nz

Courses specifically designed for early years education

EDEM651: Re-examining early years education
This course introduces students to a critique of early years education using postmodern theories to analyse research, teaching practices, and New Zealand educational contexts for the very young child. This course is available both oncampus and FLO.

Course Coordinator: Kathleen Quinlivan
kathleen.quinlivan@canterbury.ac.nz

EDEM687: Ecopedagogies in Early Years Education
The purpose of this course is to explore and critique pedagogies that are applied in environmental programmes; particularly in the early years but also schooling, community and tertiary education settings. The course is designed for all those with an interest in exploring their understandings of ecopedagogies and will give opportunities to enquire and analyse issues that impact on themselves, the children and their communities. Students will critically analyse and reflect on their practice and be required to investigate issues around ecojustice and sustainability that are relevant to their setting.

Course Coordinator: Glynne Mackey
glynne.mackey@canterbury.ac.nz