



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
PULASKI TECH

Assessment Report:
2019-2020
ECTC 2603: Practicum



Course-Level Learning Outcomes - Practicum

1. What are the Course-Level Outcomes (CLOs)?

1. Apply new knowledge regarding how children grow and learn in a childcare setting designed for children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs (NAEYC 1a, 1b, 4c, 4d, SS4)
2. Demonstrate knowledge of developmentally appropriate practices for children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs (NAEYC 1a, 1b, 1c, 4b, SS 1, 3, 4)
3. Reflect using prior knowledge to link new ideas to familiar ones while working with children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs (NAEYC 4b, 4c, 4d)
4. Demonstrate proficiency in working with diverse populations of students, families and community groups (NAEYC 2a, 2b, 2c, 4a)
5. Demonstrate knowledge of a variety of observational and authentic assessment options and their appropriate use with children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs (NAEYC 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d)
6. Evaluate the early childhood environment for children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs developmental appropriateness (NAEYC 1a, 1b, 1c, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 4b, 4d, 5a, 5b, 5c, 5e)
7. Use a variety of observation and assessment strategies with children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs.(NAEYC 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d)
8. Connect ethical practices and standards and other professional guidelines to staff behaviors. (NAEYC 5a, 5b, 5c, 5e, 6d)
9. Integrate reflective and critical perspectives on early education practices. (NAEYC 6d)
10. Engage in informed advocacy for children and the profession. (NAEYC 5e)

2. Which CLOs were addressed for this academic year? (2019-2020)

CLO #5. Demonstrate knowledge of a variety of observational and authentic assessment options and their appropriate use with children birth through Pre-kindergarten, including children with special needs (NAEYC 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d).

3. Which CLOs are being addressed in your assessment plan next academic year? (2020-2021)

CLO #5 will be assessed again in 2020-2021.

4. Explain the assessment cycle.

CLO #5 was selected to be assessed last year as it is one of our capstone key assessments for NAEYC accreditation. Faculty met over the summer and did some tweaking to the instructions and grading rubric for this project, and intend to collect data on CLO #5 next year as well. When an appropriate amount of data has been reached, the faculty will meet and determine which CLO to report on next.

5. What are the assessment methods? Are they direct or indirect?

Indirect. For this CLO, faculty selected the Child Case Study project for assessment. Over the course of the semester, students learn about and implement a variety of assessments on a young child that the student has selected as their case study. Students then compile an overall Case Study notebook and analysis of the child's development based on the assessments used during the semester. A rubric is used to grade the project and measures several areas of competence.

6. What are the assessment goal(s)?

Students will achieve 70% or better proficiency on the grading rubric.

7. What were the findings for this academic year? (2019-2020)

Practicum did not run in the fall of 2019. In the Spring of 2020, 5 students enrolled in the course. One student withdrew due to the pandemic conditions. Of the 4 remaining students who completed the Child Case Study assessment, students scored an average of 92%, with the highest grade being a 98.8% and the lowest grade being an 85%. Student performance on this assessment has met the current achievement goal.

8. What is your analysis of the findings?

Overall, students performed well on this assessment. This project is worked on by the student over the course of the entire semester and it is expected that students will perform relatively well. Because this assessment is a key assessment project for NAEYC national accreditation, students must achieve a 70% or better on this project in order to pass the course.

9. What is the action plan for the next academic year? (2020-2021) Explain.

The Early Childhood Program is currently in the 7-year self-study period of re-accreditation through NAEYC. As a part of this self-study, Faculty met and discussed changes that might be made to this key assessment. While significant content changes were not made, the Faculty did make some changes to the grading rubric used (including alignment to NAEYC standards), and also made changes for clarity to the instruction sheet used. Additionally, Practicum has been moved to a fall-only course. Because the grading rubric has changed somewhat and there was only one measure of data for 2019-2020, the Faculty would like to collect data on this measure again in 2020-2021 for comparison.