

ANTIOCH UNIVERSITY

NEW ENGLAND

A Program Series in Nature-Based Early Childhood Education



FALL 2019

NBEC PROGRAM-ELECTIVES

Natural History for Early Childhood

EDC 5030.NE 1 credit
September 14–15, 2018 9:00 am–5:00 pm Ellen Doris & Liza Lowe

The best forest kindergarten and nature-based preschool teachers are knowledgeable about young children and local natural history. This course will focus on learning the natural history of northern New England that most directly relates to being outdoors with children. Wildflowers, fungi, bugs and tadpoles are some of the topics considered, along with nature art, tracking, wild edibles, and using children's literature as a vehicle to nature exploration. Seasonal events of autumn will serve as a model for how to discover nature's surprises at any time of year. We'll be outside regardless of the weather, and discuss ways to keep children engaged under cold and/or wet conditions.

Landscape Analysis and Design for Nature Play

EDT 5100 1 credit
October 19–20, 2019 9:00 am–5:00 pm Nancy Striniste

This course focuses on how outdoor spaces can contribute to early childhood education. It uses site assessment, analysis and schematic design as tools to reveal the potential of a location for a nature-based early childhood program. Students will engage in a hands-on sequence of exploration together, imagining how an actual outdoor space can be transformed by using and modifying the existing landscape. Each student will apply understanding through creating a schematic design. Learn how to use boundaries, pathways, and destinations to support play and learning, how experiences in nature can support early childhood learning standards, and deepen your understanding of your role as teacher.

Movement and Storytelling in the Early Childhood Classroom

EDC 6650 1 credit
November 16–17, 2019 9:00 am–5:00 pm Carla Beebe Comey

Young children are natural storytellers, making sense of the world through imaginative, dramatic play. Young children are also inclined to move! They explore their surroundings and express ideas and feelings with their bodies. This course highlights the importance of story and motion in children's daily lives and focuses on ways to use storytelling, story acting, and creative movement to enrich the early childhood classroom.

Advanced Topics in Nature-based Early Childhood

EDT 6600 1 credit
EDT 6650 2 credits

Internship in Nature Preschool or Forest Kindergarten 3 credits
EDT 5900

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For more information on the Nature-Based Early Childhood Certificate Program and Education Department Masters programs, contact Sarah Wilson in the Admissions Office at: admissions.ane@antioch.edu, 800-552-8380, www.antioch.edu/new-england/nature-based

SPRING 2020

NBEC REQUIRED COURSES:

EDP 5600
Business Planning for NbEC Programs

January 2020 TBD

EDP 5580
Working with Parents and Community

April 2020 Liza Lowe
9:00 am–5:00 pm

OTHER POTENTIAL ELECTIVES:

EDC 6590
Living and Healing Arts

January TBD Karine Munk Finser
12:30 pm–5:30 pm

EDNC 0110
Handwork in Waldorf Schools

March TBD Elizabeth Auer
9:00 am–5:00 pm Glynn Graham

Note: Many other Education Department weekly classes and online classes are available as well. See the semester-by-semester course descriptions to review other course opportunities as well.



wood engraving by Randy Miller



Place-based Education

EDC 5490

September 6, 2019 Hybrid 9:00 am–5:00 pm

2 credits

Paul Bocko

Drawing on children's natural fascination with the world around them and their desire to make the world right, place-based education in the school setting offers an opportunity to develop a classroom into a living center of materials-based, community-related, cooperative learning, while fostering in children the attitudes, understandings and skills of environmentally literate citizens. This course will explore the potential roles of place-based education in an integrated curriculum examining both environmental education content areas and teaching strategies for the elementary years. Additional course focus will include approaches to dealing with environmental issues, both in the classroom as a school community; strategies for taking full advantage of a school's outdoor site; and techniques for promoting a working interrelationship with the community.

Nature-Based Leadership

IDS 5000

October 19 – 21, 2019 9:00 am–5:30 pm

1 credit

Cheryl Charles

This interdisciplinary course provides an overview of and immersion in the emerging field of nature-based leadership. In a world in which people are increasingly disconnected from the healthy, generative and renewing ways of nature, this course offers a framework and strategies by which to apply nature's lessons to enhance your life and career. Nature-based leadership is inherently collaborative. It differs significantly from current mechanistic and hierarchical leadership models and is a way forward to restore a healthy and dynamic balance between people and nature. The course recognizes and builds on contributions from ecology, indigenous wisdom, environmental studies, systems theory, complexity, biomimicry, eco-psychology, conservation psychology, and place-based education.

Two ways to enroll:

- ❖ Enroll in a non-credit workshop for the on-site weekend only– Sat. Oct. 19 to Mon. Oct. 22
OR
- ❖ Choose the 3-credit graduate course, starting October 1 online, plus the 3-day on-site workshop. Contact Shelley Viles for more information, sviles@antioch.edu.

