SUMMER 2019

NbEC REQUIRED COURSES:

Risk Management for Nature-based Early Childhood Education
EDP 5620  2 credits
May 13–17, 2019  9:00 am–5:00 pm
Anne Stires

Children enjoy learning that is challenging and adventurous, where they can reach beyond their abilities and test themselves. Nature readily provides such experiences. Being outdoors with children in all kinds of weather requires another level of risk management beyond fire drills and correct hand washing instructions, and teachers must prepare to provide it. Topics that will be considered in this course include: hazard identification, appropriate planning for risk, what kinds of risky play to allow and which to discourage, and research on the relationship between nature play and overall health and development. The course will include opportunities to observe a nature-based early childhood program in action.

Nature-based Early Childhood Curriculum
EDC 5090  2 credits
July 8–12, 2019  9:00 am–5:00 pm
Eliza Minnucci

Nature preschools and forest kindergartens have a unique approach to curriculum, different than conventional indoor early childhood centers. This course will focus on the distinctive elements of outdoor programming for children aged three to six. Topics will include the value of unstructured play, fostering independence, nature and language development, the balance of indoors and outdoors experience, interfacing with the conventional elementary curriculum in literacy, math and science, and connections to the community.

Ecology of Imagination
EDC 5280.NE-A  1 credit
July 10–12, 2019  12:30 pm–5:00 pm
Paul Bocko

This course investigates ways in which children’s nature play can be used to invigorate the writing process. Making forts, hunting and gathering, constructing small worlds, going on adventures, and fantasy play are children’s instinctive ways of being in the natural world and these activities can be used as the basis for curriculum. We’ll use the surrounding neighborhood and hills to reconnect with childhood play. Out of these natural world experiences, each participant will craft a finished piece of writing by the end of the week.

FALL 2019

NBEC ELECTIVE COURSES:

EDC 5030.NE  1 credit
Natural History for Early Childhood
September 14–15  9:00 am–5:00 pm
David Sobel & Ellen Doris

EDT 5100  1 credit
Landscape Analysis and Design for Nature Play
October 19–20  9:00 am–5:00 pm
Nancy Striniste

EDC 6650  1 credit
Movement and Storytelling in the EC Classroom
November 16–17  9:00 am–5:00 pm
Carla Beebe Comey

IDS 5000  3 credits (optional)
Nature-based Leadership
October 19–21, 2019  9:00am–5:30pm
Cheryl Charles

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

Making Math Magical  $150
July 23, 2019  9:00 am–4:00 pm Jen Kershaw
6 hours professional development-not for credit

How can we, as educators, meet the mathematical standards in a play-based environment? How can we teach and engage through imagination so that the spirit of the child is enlivened and nourished?

This workshop will bring current mathematical standards and curriculum to life in an imaginative, play-based arena. Through music, movement, poetry and story, teachers will learn strategies and tools for teaching mathematics through play. This workshop will feature creative exploration of shape and number as well as a chance to brainstorm and discuss ways to bring curriculum concepts and procedures to children in a way that meets the developing child. This full day workshop will also include ways to differentiate curriculum to meet different learners as well as strategies for assessment. Teachers will receive a collection of resources and should come dressed to move.

https://tinyurl.com/y43v897j

Playful Learning in Kindergarten
July 29–30, 2019  9:00 am–4:30 pm Hannah Lindner-Finlay
Not for Credit $300
1 grad credit $700

This course will provide teachers with a framework for facilitating play-based learning in the kindergarten classroom. We will begin with a brief introduction, pairing kindergarten history and traditions with recent research on learning and play. Participants will learn strategies for supporting purposeful-play by establishing clear expectations, providing play prompts, observing children, and designing curriculum that responds to student interests. Classroom design, provisioning of materials, and pacing the day will also be considered as important components of play-based programs. When teachers leave this course, they will have practiced identifying the learning that occurs during play, and will have seen many samples of ways that they might share these learning journeys with colleagues and families. They will also have a toolbox for using curriculum standards and published programs to inform and guide play-based learning experiences. There will be time for all participants to plan for their own classrooms or for theoretical classrooms, and receive feedback from the group about next steps.

https://tinyurl.com/y3gvslmo

To register for these Continuing Education offerings, click on the links directly following each event.

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