

# A Program Series in Nature-Based Early Childhood Education



### FALL 2020

#### NBEC PROGRAM-ELECTIVES

##### Natural History for Early Childhood

**EDC 5030.NE** 1 credit Ellen Doris  
September 12–13, 2020 9:00 am–5:00 pm & David Sobel

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 Nancy Striniste  
October 10–11, 2020 9:00 am–5:00 pm

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 Carla Beebe Comey  
November 14–15, 2020 9:00 am–5:00 pm

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.

*Note: Many other Education Department courses are available as electives. Some meet on campus, others are hybrid or fully online. See the semester-by-semester course flyers and the Academic Catalog for additional offerings in Integrated Learning, the Reggio Emilia approach, Trauma-Informed Teaching, Mindfulness for Educators, and more.*

##### Nature-Based Leadership

**IDS 5000** 3 credits\* Cheryl Charles  
October 17–19, 2020 9:00 am–5:00 pm

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. 17 to Mon. Oct. 19, 2020  
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](mailto:sviles@antioch.edu).

#### ANY SEMESTER

##### Advanced Topics in Nature-based Early Childhood

**EDT 6500-A** 1 credit  
**EDT 6500-B** 2 credits

##### Internship in Nature Preschool or Forest Kindergarten

**EDT 5900** 3 credits

##### School Change Practicum in Nature Preschool/Forest Kindergarten

**EDC 5160** 3 credits



wood engraving by Randy Miller

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](mailto:admissions.ane@antioch.edu), 800-552-8380, [www.antioch.edu/new-england/nature-based](http://www.antioch.edu/new-england/nature-based)