



Child Development Associate (CDA) Vocational Course Part I

Welcome to CD011: Child Development Associate (CDA) Part I

Please read the information in this syllabus before proceeding to the course materials.

Credits 1 credit hour

Prerequisites None

INSTRUCTIONAL TEAM

Teachers: Deann Deloney and Jocelyn Jones

Our Academic Advisors are also available to help you when you need it. They are trained to provide answers to your questions about the course or program.

Phone: 1-800-224-7234

Hours: 8:30AM – 8:30PM (Eastern Standard Time), Monday-Friday

MAIL

James Madison High School

6625 The Corners Parkway, Suite 500

Norcross, GA 30092

TEXTBOOK

Browne, K.W., & Gordon, A.M. (2013). *Early childhood field experience: Learning to teach well* (2nd ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, Inc.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Child Development Associate (CDA) Vocational Electives provide students with the knowledge needed to start or further their careers in the education field. Each lesson in this two-part online program aligns with the professional child care competency areas required for the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential™. Lessons show students how to understand a child's development process, recognize similarities and differences in young children, handle issues related to child behavior, create a safe and effective classroom environment, and plan age-appropriate learning activities. Part I is comprised of the following Lessons:

1. Introduction to Early Childhood Education
2. Foundations of Teaching
3. Understanding and Guiding Behavior
4. Observing and Assessing Children
5. Environments and Schedules



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After completing Child Development Associate (CDA) Part 1, students will be able to:

Program Objectives

After completing the Child Development Associate program, students will be able to:

- Recognize the many roles of a teacher and describe the tools they use to enhance teaching skills.
- Summarize the role of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and outline the tools it makes available to early childhood professionals.
- Apply the essential elements to create meaningful lesson plans that will enrich the learning outcomes of every child.
- Describe the evolving definition of *family* and explain the impact on the classroom.
- Identify the requirements necessary to obtain the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential™ and prepare a plan to meet those requirements.

LESSONS	TOPICS & Objectives
Lesson 1:	<p><i>Introduction to Early Childhood Education</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Define <i>early childhood education</i>.• Explain the importance of the Heckman equation.• Describe how the brain develops.• Understand the importance of early interactions and experiences.• Explain why it's important to know the various developmental milestones.• Identify the different roles and positions available to educators in the early childhood field.• Describe the role of the NAEYC in early childhood education programs.
Lesson 2:	<p><i>Foundations of Teaching</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe the ten fundamentals of teaching.• Explain the roles of the student-teacher and describe appropriate professional behavior for the student-teacher.• Compare and contrast the roles of the teacher and student-teacher.• Identify strategies to create positive interactions with children and adults.• Compare and contrast the key characteristics and settings of different early childhood programs.• Develop professional goals and objectives in accordance with the NAEYC Standards for Initial and Advanced Early Childhood Professional Preparation Programs.• List the four sections of the code of ethics developed by the NAEYC and apply them to various professional scenarios.• Explain the importance of teacher evaluations and describe how they create more effective teachers.



Lesson 3:	<i>Understanding and Guiding Behavior</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify effective guidance strategies.• Describe developmentally appropriate guidance strategies.• Explain culturally responsive guidance strategies.• Describe how to apply developmentally appropriate guidance strategies to behavioral situations.• Compare and contrast direct and indirect guidance.• Define <i>discipline</i>, and contrast it with <i>punishment</i>.• Describe the behavior of infants and toddlers.• Explain the appropriate guidance techniques to use with special needs children.
Lesson 4:	<i>Observing and Assessing Children</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explain the characteristics of quality child assessment.• Compare and contrast narrative, checklist, and behavior sampling forms of assessment, and describe when it is appropriate to use them.• Explain the various types and uses of behavior samplings, including time and event samplings.• Outline the guidelines of teacher interpretation.• Identify and explain common pitfalls in teacher assessment.• Describe the precautions to take when assessing children for disabilities.• Identify items to include in a student portfolio.
Lesson 5:	<i>Environments and Schedules</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify the important elements of classroom design, and explain how to create a positive learning environment.• Describe how program goals impact the classroom environment.• Explain how to adapt and accommodate the classroom environment for children with disabilities.• Outline the components of an effective classroom schedule, explain the influence of program goals, and create an appropriate classroom schedule.



GRADING

The following point totals correspond to the following grades:

POINTS	GRADE
---------------	--------------

100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
65-69	D
Below 65	F

James Madison High School allows 2 attempts on exams. If a student is not satisfied with his/her score on the 1st attempt, an exam may be resubmitted. The 2nd attempt is not required as long as the final course average is above 65%. The higher of the 2 attempts will be the score that counts towards the final average.

Exams are timed and once you begin an exam, the timer runs continuously, even if you leave the course. Refer to the exam instructions for the time limit (in most cases 3 hours), but the time limit cannot be spread over multiple days.

GRADE WEIGHT

TOPIC	ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE
Lesson 1: Introduction to Early Childhood Education	MC Quiz	20%
Lesson 2: Foundations of Teaching	MC Quiz	20%
Lesson 3: Understanding and Guiding Behavior	MC Quiz	20%
Lesson 4: Observing and Assessing Children	MC Quiz	20%
Lesson 5: Environments and Schedules	MC Quiz	20%

ACADEMIC AND COURSE POLICIES

Please see the Academic Policies section in the James Madison High School Catalog for information on Course policies, including the Exam/Assignment Retake Policy, Grading Policy, Academic Honesty Policy, and Student Conduct Policy.