



# DEERFIELD HIGH SCHOOL APPLIED ARTS

## CHILD DEVELOPMENT I



Instructor: Karen Degen  
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Free Periods: 3,7,8 and by appointment  
Textbook: Working with Young Children, Judy Herr

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### COURSE OVERVIEW

Child Development I is designed to help students understand the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development of the preschool child. We will study the needs and milestones of young children as well as brainstorm teaching strategies and guidance techniques. Students will spend time both learning in our classroom as well as in Deer Park Teaching and Learning Center. We are so fortunate to be able to learn with and from these two- to five- year- olds in our onsite child care center! Our curriculum focuses on group collaboration; when we work together and share ideas, we can provide the best possible activities for the young children. This course will be helpful to those interested in teaching, counseling, physical therapy, medicine, and eventually, parenting.

### PROJECTS

Students will complete a project each quarter: Baby Book, Assessment of Developmentally Appropriate Skills, Researching an Early Childhood Theorist, Creating a Child Care Center.

### UNITS OF STUDY

Developmental Stages of the Preschooler  
Guiding Children's Behavior  
Positive Communication  
Lesson Planning  
Observing Young Children  
Preschool Curriculum: Literacy, Math, Science, Art, Music  
Accommodating All Learners  
Enhancing Creativity

### EXPECTATIONS

Assigned work is due at the beginning of the period and your best effort is expected. If issues arise, please let me know before the assignment is due. I will accept work late without penalty until the end of each semester; I want your best work, and I'd rather receive an assignment late that is done well, than an assignment turned in just to meet the deadline. I use the grading schedule in the student handbook, rounding grades up starting at .5. All work, unless specified as group work, should be your individual ideas. While preschool activities are taught in a small group, individual grades are assigned.