FOUNDATIONS IN EDUCATION

Course Syllabus

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Foundations in Education is the foundational course for both the Educators in Training and the Early Childhood Education programs. It presents a broad overview of the work of education professionals, the history of education, the roles and responsibilities of educators, strategies for creating and presenting engaging lessons and activities, methods of measuring student progress, and the domains of development. Foundations in Education is the gateway to specialized courses and internship opportunities in the Education and Training cluster. Observation opportunities are strongly encouraged. Career and Technical Student Organizations are integral, co-curricular components of each career and technical education course. These organizations enhance classroom instruction while helping students develop leadership abilities, expand workplace-readiness skills, and access opportunities for personal and professional growth. Students in the Education and Training cluster affiliate with FCCLA. Foundational standards, shown in the table below, are an important part of every course. Through these standards, students learn and apply safety concepts; explore career opportunities and requirements; practice the skills needed to succeed in the workplace; take advantage of leadership, teamwork, and personal growth opportunities afforded by Career and Technical Student Organizations; and learn and practice essential digital skills.

The Foundational Standards:

The Students will…

1. Incorporate safety procedures in handling, operating, and maintaining tools and machinery; handling materials; utilizing personal protective equipment; maintaining a safe work area; and handling hazardous materials and forces.

2. Demonstrate effective workplace and employability skills, including communication, awareness of diversity, positive work ethic, problem-solving, time management, and teamwork.

3. Explore the range of careers available in the field and investigate their educational requirements and demonstrate job-seeking skills including resume-writing and interviewing.

4. Advocate and practice safe, legal, responsible, and ethical use of information and technology tools specific to the industry pathway.

5. Participate in a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) to increase knowledge and skills and to enhance leadership and teamwork.

Content Standards:

The Students will…

1. Research and report on historical events and current trends in education within the United States. Examples: Plessy v. Ferguson, Brown v. Board of Education, No Child Left Behind, Title IX, creation of school calendar, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, First Class Pre-K

2. Explore and deliberate current issues in education within the United States.

3. Analyze the Alabama Educator Code of Ethics to obtain personal and professional guidance.

4. Identify and interpret teacher observation and evaluation tools currently established by the State of Alabama or LEAs.

5. Compare and contrast the roles and responsibilities of teachers, administrators, and specialized instructional support personnel.

6. Create age-appropriate learning activities that actively engage students in the learning process.

7. Describe ways in which teachers can show respect and appreciation for each student.

8. Explain how physical and instructional environments can be engineered to be conducive to learning for students of various ages. Examples: indoor/outdoor play, traditional/non-traditional instruction

9. Research and report on how the connection between learning styles and teaching methods impacts student learning.

10. Compare and contrast classroom management procedures for various ages, subjects, and settings. Examples: classroom layout, policies and procedures, facility safety

11. Summarize current research on the processes of early brain development.

12. Explain the importance of social interaction, communication, and self-concept in social and emotional development.

13. Describe physical developmental milestones from birth through adolescence.

14. Create learning activities that apply knowledge of physical, social and emotional, and cognitive development.

15. Research and analyze developmental theories. Examples: theories of Freud, Piaget, Marzano, Erikson, Skinner, Bowlby, Vygotsky, Maslow

Fees: **$25 Class Supplies Fee (required for all ACTC students)**
$15 membership fee for FTA (Future Teachers of Alabama) Organization
$20 FCCLA membership fee

Career and technical student organizations are integral, co-curricular components of each CTE course. These organizations serve as a means to enhance classroom instruction while helping students develop leadership abilities, expand workplace-readiness skills, and broaden opportunities for personal and professional growth. **Please use the included insert with my GoFan link and QR Code to pay your fees if possible or use cash or ONE check for the total amount may be paid to ACTC by September 5, 2025.**

Assessment Procedures:

Daily assignments, tests and quizzes, discussion/participation, and project presentation are used in assessing student learning and progress throughout the course. Students who have an excused absence will have **3 days** to turn in make-up work.

Grading:

Major Grades 65% Minimum of 3 per 9 weeks (Tests or Projects)
Minor Grades 35% Minimum of 6 per 9 weeks (Daily work, quizzes or class assignments)

Grading scale:

100 – 90 A 89 – 80 B 79 – 70 C 69 – 60 D 59 – 0 F

Available credential: CDA (Child Development Associate Credential) – lab and practicum hours will count toward the CDA, but more hours and coursework will be required. Seniors will be offered the opportunity to take the Praxis ParaPro Exam for a paraprofessional certification (possible fee – more discussion on this opportunity will come at a later date)

Class Rules & Expectations: Be respectful, be responsible, be kind. All rules of the Code of Conduct and ACTC Student Handbook apply to this class. Please be seated and ready for instructions when the bell rings. Disregard for our class rules and procedures will initiate a student/teacher conference, parent contact and/or office referral. In short, you are a pre-professional.

Classroom Management Plan:

As a classroom teacher at Autauga County Technology Center, I will adhere to the following procedures for consequences in the event of Class A Violations (as listed in the Teacher Bill of Rights and in the ACBOE Code of Conduct):

◊ First offense - Student-Teacher Conference
◊ Second offense - Parental Notification
◊ Third offense - Parent-Teacher-Admin Conference
◊ Fourth offense - Refer to Office as Habitual Class A Offender

Personal Devices: Cell phone, airpods, or headphones usage is not allowed in the classroom.

Classroom Supplies Needed: You will only need to purchase a **vinyl folder with prongs and pockets**. All other classroom supplies will be covered by your mandatory $25 class fee.

Classroom Resources Provided:

Textbooks:
Teaching
Working With Young Children
Hacking Classroom Management

Various articles & books from educational contributors
YouTube videos from various contributors such as:
- Special books for special kids
- Jack Hartmann Kids Music Channel
- Edutopia

Classroom communication: **"Parent Square" App**

*******Please sign and return the bottom of this page along with your class fees.********

I have read the classroom syllabus and management plan, and agree to follow all rules and procedures. I understand that the student's image may be featured on the ACTC website, ACTC social media, or lobby TV.

_____	_____	_____	_____
Student's Printed Name	Student's Signature	Date	class period

_____	_____
Parent/Guardian's Signature	Date

Parent/Guardian's phone number : _____

Class fees payment: (check method of payment) _____ cash _____ check _____ GoFan
My payment includes fees for:

_____ $25.00 (mandatory) class supplies fee

_____ $15.00 FTA Membership

_____ $20.00 FCCLA Membership

_____ TOTAL PAYMENT