**FCS 402: The Role of Play in Child Development (3 Credits)**

**Summer 2019: May 20 – June 21**

**MTWH 9:15 – 11:00 am & Fri. 6/14**

**Clinical Sciences Building 350**

**Instructor**: Heather Von Bank, PhD

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Office**: WC 102

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Required Text: Frost, J., Wortham, S. & Reifel, S. (2012) *Play and Child Development* (Ed.4) Pearson: Upper Saddle River, NJ

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In this course we will focus on the importance of play in the cognitive, emotional, physical, and social development of the child. The culminating class project will be the development and organization of a Play Day that takes place on **Friday June 14th 10:00 – 12:00 pm**. Students will develop an activity and create an informational poster. Attendance at the Play Day is **MANDATORY**.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Welcome to a class all about Badges! Students will engage in activities, write a play journal, participate in class discussions, and create a Play Day project in order to earn the following five badges.



 **Understand Historical and Contemporary Views on Play**: Participate in class lectures, and readings to understand the historical and contemporary play theories, and theorists.

**Explore Play Types**: Encourage students to become aware of different types of play that are important for life-long human development parent-child interactions, solitary vs. social play, the role of play in learning (e.g., movement based learning), and physical challenges and play.



**Identify Play Spaces and Places:** Explore different contexts of play, for example the effects of culture on play, gender differences in play, age changes in play, recess, competitive and non-competitive play, technology and play, violence and play



**Communicate Effectively about Play**: Improve students’ verbal and writing skills through written assignments, classroom discussions, and observation strategies in order to better communicate the benefits of play in their future careers.



**Discover the Benefits of Play**: Add to students’ knowledge base about the benefits that play has on children’s physical, social-emotional, cognitive and language development.

**PLAY BADGES: collect them all!**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Badge | Areas | Learning Activity | Evidence | Criteria | Rubric |
| Understand Historical & Contemporary Views on Play(Play Product) Understand Historical & Contemporary Views on Play  |   | Gather quotes about play to create a t-shirt, poster, coffee mug, or promotional item using classic & contemporary research. | Submit the design of the product **BONUS 1) Create sample product by 5/23** | Must …Use theory/info from play theoristsCompleted or individual group | Will receive the History of Play badge when product meets criteria & pic uploaded D2L **Due Friday 5/24 @****11:59 pm** |
| Explore Play Types (Observation)Part A:*Choose* 2 from these 4 settings to Observe, record, reflectExplore Play TypesPart B:*Required* to observe, record, reflect # 5-7 | 1) Playgrounds Parent- Child Play | Observe playground or other location, and watch parents & children at play | Choose a setting. *Observe* in the setting, *record* what you see using the observation template, & *reflect* on what you’ve seen in 1 page paper. **Bonus**: **choose 1 more setting**  | Must…-Complete observation template -Write 1 pg. double spaced. Reflection paperNo spelling errors  | Will receive the Play Type Badge when observations meet criteria & submitted to D2L **Parts A & B: Due Friday 6/7** |
| 2) Children in Nature  | Observe children’s play nature and natural settings |
| 3) PreschoolsRole of Play in Learning | Compare/contrast play at two different preschools |
| 4) Risky Play | Observe adults or children doing risky/adventurous play |
| 5) Parten's Play Types | Observation of Play types @ TCH | Must complete observation templates for these locations  | Must…-Complete template -1 page Reflection double space -No spelling errors |
| 6) Socio- dramatic | Observe for superhero play @ CMSM |
| Identify Play Spaces & Places (Play Journal) Identify Play Spaces & Places |  | Choose 3 issues from the 6 areas below & post a comment/reply on D2L Discussion boards on the **Online play journal**  | Write & submit 3 discussion posts (comments or reply). Each post counts as one posting**Bonus: Write on all six articles**  | Must be…-Comparable to 1 page length, double spaced.-Cite at least ONE reference per discussion- Free from spelling errors | Will receive the Play Spaces & Places Badge when posts meet criterial & are submitted to D2L **Due Friday 6/14 @ 11:59 pm**  |
| 1) Play Environments | Go to a playground and connect to *(*[*Rosin*](http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/04/hey-parents-leave-those-kids-alone/358631/)*)* |
| 2) Recess | Read and review LiiNK program and connect to *(*[*Jarrett, O., & Waite- Stupiansky*](https://www.naeyc.org/files/yc/file/200909/On%20Our%20Minds%20909.pdf)*,)* |
| 3) Online Play | Find examples of on-online games & evaluate and connect to *(*[*J. Gee*](http://www.academiccolab.org/resources/documents/Good_Learning.pdf)*)* |
| 4) Outdoor or nature play | Interview people across generations & report on their nature play histories - connect to (an *article here* [*https://natureplaysa.org.au/research/*](https://natureplaysa.org.au/research/)*)* |
| 5) Gender & Play | Visit toy store and report on gendered toy marketing - connect to ([Daitsman](https://www.naeyc.org/files/naeyc/file/vop/VOP_Daitsman_Final%281%29.pdf))  |
| 6) Cultural Play | Compare/contract cultural games - connect to ([Rettig](https://www.cdrcp.com/pdf/Play%20and%20Cultural%20Diversity.pdf)) |
| Badge | **Areas** | **Learning Activity** | **Evidence** | **Criteria** | **Rubric** |
| Communicate Effectively About Play(Project, Paper, Present)Communicate Effectively About Play | PLAY DAY | Work with class to gather materials for play day | Project | See Rubric on next page | Will receive Communication badge when play project is done, paper & presentations meets criteria. **Paper &** **Presentation Due: 6/20@11:59pm** |
| Connect material to play day observations | Paper |
| Articulations about play observations | Presentation: **Bonus: Make a “**[**buzzfeed**](https://www.buzzfeed.com/)**”** [**listicle**](http://www.wikihow.com/Write-a-Listicle) **of what advice you can give for others to do (or not to do) for the Play Day Project** |
| Discover the Benefits of Play(Create a badge)Discover the Benefits of Play | Cognitive, Physical, Social & Emotional  | Create and design your own badge. What badge would you create if you could promote what you learned from this class? (onlinebadgemaker.com, or canva.com, or credly.com) | Draw it by hand or use credly software. Describe how the badge is achieved and what credentials come with the badge. **Bonus: Post your Credly badges to LinkedIn** | Screenshot of badge upload to D2L (or send to me via Credy) -1 page description of the badge and credentials | Will receive Benefits of Play Badge when “own badge” meets criterial & is submitted/sent to Dr. VB **Friday 6/21 @ 11:59 pm**  |
|

**Grading Scale For Badges**:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | A | B | C | D | F |
| + | Complete 5 Badges & two bonus  | Complete 4 badges & two bonus | Completed 3 badges & two bonus | Completed 2 badges & two bonus |  |
|  | Complete 5 Badges & one bonus | Complete 4 badges & one bonus | Completed 3 badges & one bonus | Completed 2 badges & one bonus | Complete < 1 badge |
| - | Complete 5 Badges  | Complete 4 badges  | Completed 3 badges | Completed 2 badges |  |

T*he instructor reserves the right to modify or correct errors on this syllabus*

**ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**: Reasonable Accommodations. MSU, Mankato provides students with disabilities reasonable accommodation to participate in educational programs, activities or services. Students with disabilities requiring accommodation to participate in class activities or meet course requirements should first register with the Office of Disability Services, (Memorial Library 132, telephone 389-2825, TDD 711) to establish an accommodation plan and then contact me as soon as possible. As a particular acknowledgment of an individual’s service to our country faculty are committed to providing resources to veterans/military students which will assist in smooth navigation of the university environment and a successful educational experience. Veterans and student soldiers with special circumstances or who are activated are encouraced to notify the instructor.

**DESCRIPTION OF BADGING LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**1) Understand Historical and Contemporary Views on Play Badge (Due 5/24 @ 11:59 pm)** Gather quotes about play to design a t-shirt, poster, coffee mug, promotional item, or infographic using classic & contemporary quotes on play. Activity can be completed as individual or group, be creative. Submit the design of the product to earn the badge. Complete when submitted by

**BONUS: Create sample product and submit it to Dr. Von Bank by 5/23 @ 10:00am**

**2) Explore Play Types: Observe, record and reflect (Parts A & B Due Friday 6/7 @ 11:59 pm)**

**A) Observe, record, reflect CHOOSE 2:** Students will have ample opportunity to observe children in their natural habitat. First, students will choose **TWO** setting below to observe out of class. Students will observe their chosen situation and will record what you see using the observation template, then reflect on what you’ve seen in a 1 page paper. Students will be awarded the badge when they fully complete the template, submit the 1 pg. double spaced reflection, and the paper is free from spelling errors.

1) **Playground & Parent-Child Play** Observe playground or other location, watch parents & children play. It can be difficult to find these dyads in action, it’s a rare find, but so rewarding to see.

2) **Children in Nature** Observe children playing in nature or natural play setting. Invite the children in your life to go for a walk in the woods, climb a tree, visit a river/lake, or just watch children play in the grass.

3) **Role of Play in Learning.** Students may choose to observe at two different preschools, and then compare the play settings. This might be just the right challenge if you already work at a child care center, and want to compare the play environment with another. Compare/contrast play at different preschools.

4) **Risky Play** Observe adults or children doing risky/adventurous play. In your paper consider the following questions: What is risky play? What is the balance between making sure our children are safe versus letting children play in challenges environments? How do different types of environments allow or inhibit risky play?

**B) REQUIRED Observations**. We will go on several “field trips” and have a chance to

observe children at play. Students must complete observation templates for ALL of these locations. To earn this part of the badge, students should submit completed observation templates and 1 pg double spaced reflection paper that is free from spelling errors

A) Parten's Play Types Observation of Play types @ The Children’s House

B) Socio- dramatic Observe for superhero play @ Children’s Museum of Southern Minnesota..

**Bonus**: Choose an additional setting outside your comfort zone to observe, record, reflect (contact Dr. Von Bank to check with how you define “comfort zone”)

**3) Identify Play Spaces & Places (Due Friday 6/14 @ 11:59 pm)**

To achieve this badge, students will complete three journal entries to the Online Play Journal. Journal postings must be 1) free from spelling errors, 2) Comparable to 1 page length (250 words), double spaced paper in Word, and 3) cite at least ONE reference per discussion. Badge is achieved when 3 posts meets criteria

1) **Play Environment** Go to a playground & describe features in detail. What do you see? How are the children playing with the equipment? What materials are on the ground? What seems to be attractive to the kiddos - connect to *(*[*Rosin*](http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/04/hey-parents-leave-those-kids-alone/358631/)*)*

2) **Recess** Read and review [LiiNK program](http://liinkproject.tcu.edu/) – connect to *(*[*Jarrett, O., & Waite- Stupiansky*](https://www.naeyc.org/files/yc/file/200909/On%20Our%20Minds%20909.pdf)*,)*

*3)* **Tech Play** Find two examples of on-online games & evaluate. What is is about the game that makes it appealing to children or adults? Why did you choose these games? Compare and contrast the games? - connect to *(*[*J. Gee*](http://www.academiccolab.org/resources/documents/Good_Learning.pdf)*)*

4) **Outdoor or nature play.** Interview three people across generations & report on their nature play histories - What were their favorite games and/or favorite games of their era? Are they still their favorite games? What does each generation think of the other generations’ games (you might want to think ahead and have some examples)? Do they think play has changed? For better or worse? connect to (an *article here* [*https://natureplaysa.org.au/research/*](https://natureplaysa.org.au/research/)*)*.

5) **Gender & Play**. Visit toy store and report on gendered toy marketing. Visit a toy store or a toy section in a discount store (i.e. Walmart, Target, etc.). Study the packaging. Are there differences in elements of packaging for the different age groups? Genders? How about colors? Photos? Design of the toys? Accessories? How might these features and differences affect development? - ([Daitsman](https://www.naeyc.org/files/naeyc/file/vop/VOP_Daitsman_Final%281%29.pdf))

6) **Cultural Play.** Compare/contrast two cultural games. In what ways are these cultural games similar? In what ways are they different? Is one game more complicated or sophisticated than the other? What is it about these games that transcend cultural differences? - connect to ([Rettig](https://www.cdrcp.com/pdf/Play%20and%20Cultural%20Diversity.pdf)) **Bonus: Write posts for all six articles**

**4) Communicate Effectively About Play: Play Day Event**

The culminating class project will be the development and organization of an Adventure Play Day that takes place on **Friday June 14th 10:00 – 12:00 pm**. Students will gather materials for the event and will help plan. Attendance at the Play Day is **MANDATORY**. Students will receive this badge when play day project is completed, paper and presentation meets criteria.

**Bonus:** Make a “[buzzfeed](https://www.buzzfeed.com/)” [listicle](http://www.wikihow.com/Write-a-Listicle) of what advice you can give for others to do (or not to do) for the Play Day Project

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Objectives | Assignment | Assessment/Evaluation |
| Personal Play Philosophy Paper: In this 5-6 page paper, students will write about their philosophy of play: Due 6/20. | Based off of your classroom experiences students will write about their play philosophy (lectures, guest lectures), adventure playground observations, other observations (from job or class field trip observations). Synthesize and analyze your Play Day observations paper. Make connections between the observations and course material. | Brief introductory paragraph about your play philosophyDescribe how your classroom experiences informed your play philosophyReflect on and analyze observations from Play DayConnect to course material that you read from you Play Spaces/Places Badge.Students can also include their "advice" for students who will be taking this class next year. What insights would you share with the play class students for 2019 about the play day?5-6 pages in length written as individual (12-point font and 1 inch margins.  Late papers will not be accepted!. Due 6/21 @ 11:59 pm |
| Presentation Due 6/21: Present your findings from the Play Day with the class.  | Presentation: This short (10 minute) informal presentation should provide the class with a summary of your paper including | 1. Describe your project
2. Include developmental theory into your discussion about the play day

Suggest ways you could change your activity. |

**5) Discover the Benefits of Play (Due Friday 6/21 11:59 pm)**

Create and design your own badge. What badge would you create to show what you learned from this class? Draw it by hand or use software through [Credly](https://credly.com/). Then describe in a one page paper how the badge is achieved (ie learning activities), the materials that needs to be provided (ie evidence), and the criteria determines whether the badge is achieved (ie criteria). Screenshot of badge upload to D2L (or send to me via Credy) and includes 1 page description of the badge and credentials. Completed when “own badge” is submitted Thursday **Bonus:** Post your Credly badges to LinkedIn, send me screenshot.

**5/20 – 6/21 FCS 402: The Role of Play in Child Development MTWH 9:15- 11:00am**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week  | Date | Topic | Activity/Readings | Due Dates |
| 1 | Mon 5/20 | Introduction to Theories | Chapter 1: Play’s History, Chapter 2: Theory as a Lens |  |
|  | Tues5/21 | Cognitive Development | Chapter 4: Infants and Toddlers (pp 91-102), Chapter 5: Preschool Years (pp130-135), Chapter 6: School-age Child (pp 169-173) |  |
|  | Wed.5/22 | Social Development | Chapter 4: Infants and Toddlers (pp 91-96), Chapter 5: Preschool Years (pp 125-130), Chapter 6: School-age Child (pp162-169) |  |
|  | Thurs5/23 | Adventure Play | Virtual Guest Speaker: Ross Thompson @ Wildflower Nature Preschool9:45 – 11:00 | **Badge Historical & Contemporary Play Theories (Promotional Play Product)****Due Fri 5/24 @ 11:59 pm****(Bonus submitted on 5/24 in class)** |
| 2 | Mon5/27 | Memorial DayNO CLASS | Take this time to conduct your observations. Choose two settings: *playground & parent-child play, children in nature, role of play in learning, risky play.* |  |
|  | Tues.5/28 | Field Trip | **Pop-up Play Adventure: Hoover Elementary School (Observe)** |  |
|  | Wed.5/29 | Field Trip | **Pop-up Play Adventure: Hoover Elementary School** |  |
|  | Thurs5/30 | Playful Movement | **Field Trip: Meet at Sun Moon Yoga 9:15** |  |
| 3 | Mon.6/3 | Socio-Dramatic Play | **Observation @ Children’s Museum of Southern MN 9:15 am & time for observation**  |  |
|  | Tues.6/4 | Play Based Preschool | **Observation @ TCH, 10:00am** |  |
|  | Wed6/5 | Play and Child Life | **Speaker: Melissa Schmautz, Child Life Specialist @ Sanford Hospital, Fargo ND** |  |
|  | Thurs6/6 | Modern Day Issues | What are the modern day “things” that get in the way of children’s time for unstructured play? Find an website, blog, or article about this topic and bring it to class.  | **Badge Explore Play Types: (Observation)****Parts A & B Due Fri 6/7 @ 11:59 pm** |
| Week  | **Date** | **Topic** | **Activity/Readings** | **Due Dates** |
| 4 | Mon6/10 | Play within OT Profession | **Speaker**: Allison Gilbert, Pediatric Occupational Therapist |  |
|  | Tues.6/11 | Play with Music | **Speaker:** Autumn Zander from Musikgarten |  |
|  | Wed.6/12 | Dramatic Play & Play Therapy | **Speaker:** Play Therapist (TBD) |  |
|  | Thurs6/13 |  | **Field Trip: Rasmussen Park Elks Nature Center** |  |
|  | **Fri.****6/14** | **PLAY DAY: Adventure Playground** | **Play Day, Rasmussen Woods Elks Nature Center** **Set-up as early at 8:30, 10:00am – 12:00pm** | **Badge Identify Play Spaces & Places (Journal Entries)** **Due 6/14 @ 11:59 pm** **Badge 4: Play day Due 6/14** |
| 5 | Mon6/17 | Field Trip | **Tour of Playgrounds (Rosa Parks, Hoover, Sibley, Fallenstein)** |  |
|  | Tues.6/18 | Play and (un)Curriculum | Where do the children play?  |  |
|  | Wed.6/19 | Children with Disabilities | **Guest Speaker: MN Autism Center** |  |
|  | Thur6/20 |  | Play Day Presentations**Play Philosophy Paper DUE** | **Badge Communicate Effectively about Play** **Presentation Due 6/20****Badge Discover the Benefits of Play (Create your own badge & email badge to me)****Due Fri 6/21 @ 11:59 pm** |