



PRE-SCHOOL TEACHING BA PROGRAM

PEDAGOGY-PSYCHOLOGY COMPREHENSIVE EXAM TOPICS & LITERATURE

2021/22. I. SEMESTER

1. Preschool, as an institution; transition to school

- Preschool's role in public schooling and education
- Rules and regulations in preschool education
- Transition from preschool to school: maturity, abilities and competencies to be reached for school
- Developmental Psychology of children at the end of preschool years

2. Education in preschool; preschool as a milieu of socialization

- Education, susceptibility to be educated
- Special issues in preschool education – preschool methods
- History of preschool education and of the evolution of the concept of the child – alternative methods in education and their historical roots in pedagogy
- Transfer of values in preschool
- General questions of socialization; preschool as the place of socialization

3. The preschool teacher – tasks, responsibilities

- Personality, communication, roles, tasks and authenticity of the preschool teacher
- Pedagogical planning – drawing up a pedagogical program, quality development and assurance
- The preschool teacher as a role model – social and ethical expectations to meet
- Methods and personal style of preschool education

4. Family, socialization and the role of parents in development

- The role of the family; functions and dysfunctions of families in socialization
- Psychological analysis of families
- Collaboration between preschool and families – socialization in two worlds
- Mother-child relationship; attachment theories, neglect and its effect on child development

5. Community development – socialization in communities

- Imitation, identification, identity development, ethnic identity
- Preschool and the development of relationships in groups



- Group identities and group norms
- Social competencies and the development of self-regulation, possible solutions in training and development
- Cooperation and enhancing the collaborative stance
- Conflicts and their solutions
- Being different – deviation, stigmatization in preschool, intercultural education

6. Moral development and education

- Theories of morality and socialization
- Ethics and morality in education and development
- Methods in education, and their application in preschool
- Behaviorist models of learning and acquisition, factors driving behavior
- Concept of rules, understanding and following norms, telling the truth, telling lies, guilt and shame
- Mental background of moral norms, Piaget, Kohlberg's theory of moral development

7. The child as an individual with a personality

- Personality: types and theories of personality traits
- Temperament and its interaction with the environment
- Methods, and understanding the importance of knowing the child's personality
- Personal and human rights of children
- Differentiation in a group of mixed age children – personal approaches to children as individuals
- Impairments and disturbances in emotion- and anger management
- Atypically developing or special need children – challenges in education with disadvantaged and special need children; understanding their needs and methods to their education
- Prevention

8. Cognitive development in preschool, development of preschoolers' cognitive competencies

- Preschool education for the development of cognitive skills
- Intelligence and methods for IQ development in preschool
- The child's world view, perception, cognition, understanding in different age groups
- Language acquisition – production and comprehension in language development at the preschool age

9. Learning and management of learning processes in preschool

- Notion and types of learning, typology of learners, planning and implementation of the types in learning materials in preschool
- Contents integrated into activity and skills – project method, implicit learning
- Piaget's theory of cognitive development



10. Psychological approaches to play

- Gamification and theories of play – pedagogical and psychological implications
- Types and features of play
- Conditions of play and gamification – planning and management
- The preschool teacher's role in preschool play

11. Tales and games

- Play, games and puppet-play in childhood cognition, in their personality development and in the processing of experiences
- Separating and integrating reality and fantasy in play and in tales
- Symbols in play and in stories and tales
- Tales in education: role and importance, applications

12. Aesthetic development and child drawing

- Aesthetics in education, shaping the child's taste and ethical preference
- The concept of creativity, measuring, roles and interpretations
- Aesthetic creativity and its development
- Child drawing and its role in the processing of emotions and experiences

13. Typical and healthy child development

- Concept of development, personal differences and stages
- Paradigms of development; nature vs. nurture, and their role in development
- Freud and Erikson and their theories of the development of identity and personality; defense mechanisms
- Factors of maturation in the development of preschool children
- Healthy lifestyle – learning to live a healthy in preschool
- A day in the life of a preschooler – daily activities and routines
- Negative factors affecting bodily development of children

14. Knowledge of the self, motivation

- Self-knowledge and consciousness in development
- Self-image, self-evaluation and their role in the child's image of the self and self-esteem
- Mental hygiene in education
- Motivation; hierarchy of motives

15. Emotions and attitudes

- Emotions, their characteristics and their emergence, motivation
- Emotional safety as a basic need
- Self-regulation, acknowledgement, and reinforcement as a basic need



- Attitude and cognitive dissonance





Compulsory literature

1. Mackenzie, Trevor - Bathurst-Hunt, Rebecca (2018). *Inquiry Mindset. Nurturing the dreams, wonders and curiosities of our youngest learners*. EdTechTeam, Irvine, CA, USA.
2. Oates, J. – Wood, C. – Grayson, A. (2005). *Psychological development and early childhood*. Blackwell. USA:
3. Brooks, P. – Kempe, V. (2014) (eds.). *Encyclopedia of language development*. Sage Publications. USA.
4. Schnell, Zs. (2016). pdf- Introduction to Psychology coursebook – compiled by your instructor.
5. Martin, J. – Nakayama, T. (2021). *Intercultural communication (ICC) in context*. McGrawHill, USA.

All books are available in PDF form from your instructor.

Recommended literature

1. *Pedagogy, Curriculum, Teaching Practices and Teacher education in developing countries* - online resource:
<https://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Portals/0/PDF%20reviews%20and%20summaries/Pedagogy%202013%20Westbrook%20report.pdf?ver=2014-04-24-121331-867>
2. Diane Pool Heller: Attachment for everyone.
3. Steven Small: Family life Education.
4. Smith, L. – Elliot, C. (2011). *Child psychology and development for dummies*. Wiley, USA.

All books are available in PDF from your instructor.