CDEC 2304

Child Abuse and Neglect

Spring 2025

Hybrid course

LAMAR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION
Instructor: Sharon Kruger, M.Ed.
Email: skruger@lit.edu
Office Phone:
Office Location: MPC
Office Hours: See Starfish for Available Office Hours

CREDIT
3 Semester Credit Hours

MODE OF INSTRUCTION
Tuesday, 5 to 6:30 pm face to face
Hybrid-Online component

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:
none

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Methods used in the identification of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse and neglect with an emphasis on developing skills for working with children and families. Includes methods of referral to public and private agencies that deal with investigation and treatment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to

- *Identify the physical and behavioral signs of child abuse and neglect in infants, toddlers, preschoolers, school-agers.*

- *Define your legal and ethical responsibility for reporting suspected abuse and neglect.*

- *Apply strategies to take care of yourself after reporting suspicions of abuse and neglect.*

- *Implement ways to support children and families affected by abuse and neglect.*

- *Understand program features and policies that protect children from harm in your program.*

- *Identify methods of referral to public and private agencies that deal with investigations and treatments.*

CORE OBJECTIVES

Objective 1: Demonstrate knowledge of the physical and behavioral signs of child abuse and neglect in children of various ages (infants, toddlers, preschoolers, school-agers).

Objective 2: Define legal and ethical responsibilities related to the reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect.

Objective 3: Understand program features and policies designed to protect children from harm.

Objective 4: Identify available resources and referral methods to public and private agencies that handle investigations and treatment of child abuse and neglect.

Objective 5: Apply strategies for self-care after reporting suspected child abuse and neglect.

Objective 6: Implement ways to support children and families affected by abuse and neglect within program guidelines.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS
Require a laptop or device to allow you to access LIT Blackboard

All course materials will be provided at each face-to-face class time and on the Blackboard LMS system.

It is mandatory that students access the Blackboard course a minimum of two a week for submission of discussion posts/journal entries/ quiz/assignments and for the reading/video course materials.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
1. You must log into Blackboard and access this course a minimum of 2 times per week.
2. Cheating of any type will not be tolerated.
3. Late assignments will be accepted with a deduction as a late penalty. Students will receive a zero for assignments not completed.
4. If you wish to drop this course, you must drop it administratively. If you do not drop, you will receive an F for the course.
5. Internet usage- students are to use proper netiquette when participating in course email, assignment submissions and online discussions.
6. Class attendance and participation in the one day a week face to face class is expected. You have made a professional and academic commitment by registering for the course. Attendance is an essential part of that commitment and of the utmost importance!!

> if you must be absent, YOU are responsible for determining what was missed.
(exchange name & phone number w/a class member today!!)
> it is your responsibility to sign in when an attendance sheet is available.
> it is important to stay awake during class - sleeping in class will be considered an absence
> be in class prior to class beginning and remain until class is dismissed.
> schedule personal appointments/business matters around your class load

> if you are late for class, enter quietly, don't let door slam, don't talk on your way in, AND take a seat near the door.

Drop Dates

This course adheres to the add/drop standards for each term as stated by Lamar Institute of Technology. For more details, refer to the **https://www.lit.edu/student-success/2024-2025-college-calendar**

STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT
Success in this course is dependent on your active participation and engagement throughout the course. As such, students are required to complete all assignments by the due date, and to actively participate in class discussions.

Discussion Boards

Students are expected to participate in threaded Discussion Board topics. Participation is required in the discussion posts by responding to the thread, then posting engaging comments or questions to at least two other peers' posting.

Late Discussions will receive a grade reduction. I take late work for 4 days past the due date.

Response Times

I expect to respond to your emails within 24 hours. For the most expedited response, please email me directly, not in the message box contained in the course on Blackboard. All discussion posts/responses, homework, quizzes, and assignments are usually graded by the Monday of the next week.

Course Instructor Evaluation

Instruction as well as student performance is subject to evaluation. Procedures for instructor evaluation will be provided near the end of this course via email from Lamar Institute of Technology. Save a screenshot of your instructor's evaluation completion page and upload it to the appropriate spot for extra credit.

COURSE EVALUATION
Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:
FP = Final Projects

The total of the Final Projects counts as your final exam grade.

Grading

Discussion posts   15%

video-reading quizzes		15%
Complete 6 case studies assignments		15%
journal entry		15%
Final Projects		
FP 1	Reflection on competency	10%
FP 2	Reflection on competency	10%
FP 3	Create a family notebook	10%
FP 4	Provide brochures or materials for other students to use in their family notebook	10%
Extra credit	Provide a speaker for our class	
		100%

_____

Total   = 100%

GRADING SCALE

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

MAKE-UP WORK

Late Discussions and Assignments will receive a 25% grade reduction. I take late work for 4 days past the due date. Quizzes and Assignments/Projects will not be accepted late without consultation with the professor.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution's Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty.

AI STATEMENT

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into classroom instruction and assignment appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own,

original work, unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to acceptable use of AI / ChatGPT in their courses.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or Wi-Fi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology (lit.edu).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand, and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

Remember this: Netiquette (Online Etiquette) Statement

GUIDELINES WHEN COMMUNICATING WITH OTHERS (EMAIL, DISCUSSIONS, BLOGGING, AND ETC.)

Always sign your names to any contribution you choose to make.

Be constructive in your responses to others in the class.

Do not use all caps (Doing so may be interpreted as shouting).

Re-read your postings before sending them.

Always think before you write. Respond respectably.

Use appropriate grammar and structure. Spell-check your postings.

Use short paragraphs focused on one idea.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION

COLLEGE LEVEL WORK IS EXPECTED

- o unless otherwise stated – all work is to be computer generated and double spaced.
- o no make-up work will be assigned.
- o if you use the LIT Learning Lab computers - save all your work on a USB device & not to hard drive
- o class time is NOT time to study and/or do course work for any class.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

> turn off all personal communication devices PRIOR to beginning of class period.

> remove cell phone and/or musical device ear buds from ears.

> do not pass notes.

> do not eat candy and/or gum.

> clear off tabletop/desk AND be prepared to take notes.

> courtesy is expected during question-and-answer time.

> throw trash away before and/or after class – not during class

> remove sunglasses, hats, and/or caps.

> be respectful to others – profanity and/or obscene language may be offensive to some people – a difference of opinion is acceptable.

> disruptive and rude behavior includes (but is not limited to!)

- going through day planner, purse, and/or backpack/yawning/stretching/tapping w/pen
- or pencil/crumpling up paper.

Course Requirements

Because we will have guest speakers at our face-to-face classes, the topics each week may change in order to have time to meet with our guest speakers.

Date	Topic	Blackboard assignments	Final Project submission
Week 1	Orientation to CDEC 2304	Netiquette and blackboard modules	
Week 2	Keeping Children Safe: Introduction to Child Abuse and Neglect for Infant and Toddler Caregiving Staff **(If you want to focus on Preschool age children, contact the instructor,)**	Reading and video on part 1 VLS web course on Child Abuse: Identification and Reporting—Infant Toddler Quiz on Reading/Video Discussion Post Journaling Infant Toddler Case Study: Part 1	**Complete competency evaluation. At the end of the 7th week, you will complete another one. Then submit both of them with a short statement of what you have learned.**
Week 3	Recognizing the Warning Signs of Child Abuse and Neglect	Reading and video on part 2 VLS web course on Child Abuse: Identification and Reporting—Infant Toddler Quiz on Reading/Video Discussion Post Journaling Infant Toddler Case Study: Part 2	
Week 4	Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect	Readings: VLS web course on Child Abuse: Identification and Reporting—Infant and Toddlers part 3 Quiz on Reading/Video Discussion Post Journaling	

Date	Topic	Blackboard assignments	Final Project submission
		Infant Toddler Case Study: Part 3	
Week 5	Recovering: Taking Care of Yourself	Readings: VLS web course on Child Abuse: Identification and Reporting—Infant and Toddlers part 4 Quiz on Reading/Video Discussion Post Journaling Infant Case Study: Part 4	
Week 6	Recovering: Supporting Children and Families	Readings: VLS web course on Child Abuse: Identification and Reporting—Infant and Toddlers part 5 Quiz on Reading/Video Discussion Post Journaling Infant Case Study: Part 5	**Final Project Create a Family Folder Submit it on Week 15 for your Exam grade.** **https://www.virtuallabschool.org/infant-toddler/child-abuse-identification-and-reporting/lesson-5#apply**
Week 7	Protecting Children from Harm in your Program	Readings: VLS web course on Child Abuse: Identification and Reporting—Infant and Toddlers part 6 Quiz on Reading/Video Discussion Post Journaling Infant Case Study: Part 6	**Complete competency evaluation. At the end of the 7th week, you will complete another one. Then submit both of them with a short statement of what you have learned.**
Week 8	Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect in Center Settings	VLS WEB course	**Final Project:**

Date	Topic	Blackboard assignments	Final Project submission
		Infants and Toddlers: Child Abuse: Prevention part 1 This builds on the knowledge you have gained over the last 7 weeks. Quiz on Reading/Video Discussion Post Journaling	**Complete this document on Direct Care Child Abuse: Prevention COMPETENCY REFLECTION in week 1.** **When we finish Direct Care Child Abuse: Prevention VLS course, complete the Competency Evaluation for Direct Child Care Abuse: Prevention a second time to reflect what you have learned from this course.**
Week 9	Understanding Development: Infants and Toddlers (If you want to focus on Preschool age children, contact the instructor,)	VLS WEB course Infants and Toddlers: Child Abuse: Prevention part 2 Quiz on Reading/Video Discussion Post Journaling	
Week 10	Promoting Children's Social Skills and Emotional Competence	VLS WEB course Infants and Toddlers: Child Abuse: Prevention part 3 Quiz on Reading/Video Discussion Post Journaling	
Week 11	Responding to Behavior that Challenges	VLS WEB course Infants and Toddlers: Child Abuse: Prevention part 4	

Date	Topic	Blackboard assignments	Final Project submission
		Quiz on Reading/Video Discussion Post Journaling	
Week 12	Making the Center a Safe Place for Children	VLS WEB course Infants and Toddlers: Child Abuse: Prevention part 5 Quiz on Reading/Video Discussion Post Journaling	**Final Project: Complete this document on Direct Care Child Abuse: Prevention COMPETENCY REFLECTION in week 1.** **Now that we have finished Direct Care Child Abuse: Prevention VLS course, complete it a second time to reflect what you have learned from this course.** **Submit both documents and your reflection on what you have learned.**
Week 13	Speaker— TBD	Discussion Post Journaling	
Week 14	Speaker— TBD	Discussion Post Journaling	**Submit your Family Resource Folder.**
Week 15	Speaker— TBD	Discussion Post Journaling	