

Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC) Field Experience Survey Results May 2014

Surveys were given to 107 students enrolled in FCS 120 Child and Adolescent Development (36 students) and FCS 150 Human Development (FCS 150 Section One – 27 students/FCS 150 Section Two – 44 students) May, 2014. A total of 100 surveys were returned. Numbers below indicate the total responses for each descriptor. Compiled comments are listed below as well.

1=ineffective 2=somewhat effective 3=effective 4=highly effective N/A=unable to rate

At the end of my field experience I am able to:	1	2	3	4	N/A
Identify the differences of cognitive, emotional, social and physical development of young children.	0	1	24	74	1
Engage with young children to assist in their cognitive, emotional, social, and physical development.	0	5	27	67	1

Comments:

1. Some experiences were frustrating at first, but as time went on, my patience grew.
2. Really interesting to learn about and use the skills I acquired.
3. I loved the children.
4. The facilities provided a great learning for both the children and for the observers.
5. Overall, I was very much able to see development and encourage it as well.
6. I learned a lot from the children and I hope I helped contribute to their development in some way.
7. Helpful! I want to be a teacher so I have loved working with the kids in the ECLC!
8. Volunteering at the Learning Center really helped me cement the lecture material from class, regarding childhood development, into my head.
9. I was able to effectively learn through the field experience.
10. It was fun engaging in play with the children but it felt like I was reaching sometimes in finding examples of certain domains.
11. The ECLC was a practical way to see these things.
12. Being at the ECLC.
13. I personally didn't have a lot of experience with children prior to this experience, so I do think I've gained significant improvements in these, considering where I started out.
14. I loved working at the ECLC!
15. Takes a long time to be highly effective.
16. It is so much easier to gage how a child is feeling and how to deal with them. It was much easier to learn by interacting.

17. Because of the comfortable environment at the ECLC, it was easy to engage with the children in many aspects of their development.
18. It has been a joy!
19. It was so interesting to learn how the kids work instead of just mindlessly entertaining them. It will help me in my career as an elementary teacher.
20. While it was sometimes difficult with my schedule to go to the learning center at a range of hours to see growth, working with them all semester I was able to develop a friendship with them and see them grow.
21. I was definitely out of my comfort zone at first but it got better as time went on.
22. I liked how the teachers asked us about the domains, after each session.
23. There were a variety of children who may have been similar ages, but it was very clear that they were at various levels of development.
24. I had a very positive experience for the most part because I love kids and it was fun seeing the theories displayed in the kids.
25. I loved being at the ECLC and it taught me a lot about child development.
26. I developed relationships with the children and was able to access how they developed.
27. It was very interesting to observe the three domains while interacting with the kids.
28. I learned a lot about children developing through this experience.
29. N/A

My field experience at the ECLC has helped me:	1	2	3	4	N/A
Gain a deep understanding of the three domains (physical, social/emotional, cognitive).	0	3	31	65	1
By providing opportunities to positively engage with young children and use my skills in positive communication with young children.	0	3	23	72	1
(1 – no response)					
Develop skills in effective communication with young children.	0	5	29	64	1
(1 – no response)					
Comments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I learned that effective communication means getting down to their level (on my knees). 2. Such a great experience to learn and enjoy! 3. I enjoyed working with children but occasionally felt like I was in the way when they just wanted to play with each other. 4. I didn't feel like we were put in a positive environment. The children are in charge at that preschool. 5. Helpful within the limited time frame. 6. Watching others interact with children was the most beneficial way. 7. I now know how to effectively resolve problems. 8. It was hard to identify cognitive growth. 9. I saw the theories in action, especially scaffolding. 10. I am constantly @ children so this was not a new experience; however, I am a kinesthetic learner so being able to move and interact with the children was very beneficial. 11. ☺ 12. I played with them and engaged in conversation. 13. I had a lot of fun having hands-on interaction with the Bears group especially. 14. I loved being able to interact with the kids. 15. N/A 					
The Lab Teachers:	1	2	3	4	N/A
Provided a positive role model of appropriate ways of interacting with young children.	0	6	19	69	1
(5 – no response)					
Effectively coached me in developing my skills interacting with young children.	1	16	24	52	1
(6 – no response)					
Were approachable if I had any questions or needed help.	1	5	10	77	1
(6 – no response)					

Comments:

1. They were very nice and helpful.
2. Loved them!
3. Very helpful and insightful!
4. Mrs. Ah Sing was awesome! Great help, pleasure to work with.
5. Amazing!
6. Everyone was more than helpful!
7. The Lab teachers were so helpful and engaging. They made me feel involved and not like I was just observing the class.
8. Staff were very calm, professional and competent.
9. I loved getting to know the teachers.
10. The teachers were all very nice. I enjoyed Mrs. Heinz class the most, and felt she dealt with sticky situations well.
11. The staff was very helpful.
12. The teachers were very knowledgeable and were able to teach me how to respond to situations.
13. The teachers were so nice and they were great with the children.
14. I learned so much from the staff! They were amazing with the children.
15. Teachers generally appeared uninterested in helpers, ignored inappropriate behavior of children, etc.
16. Sometimes when a kid would be severely misbehaving the teacher would make excuses for him/her and not really solve the issue. It made me uncomfortable because I felt like I didn't have the power to, but someone needed to tell the kid he was wrong.
17. Teachers seemed very confident yet endearing in their role.
18. Mrs. Ah Sing was awesome!
19. The teachers are very nice!
20. Mrs. Ah Sing especially was a great teacher.
21. I felt welcome, involved, and appreciated!
22. It was good that they had us recap what we learned/observed before signing.
23. I've learned new and more effective ways of how to interact with children by observing the lab teachers.

Open Ended Responses

1. What has the ECLC staff done to make your experience meaningful?

1. They have worked with me to develop my communication skills with children.
2. They made sure we were able to have something to write.
3. They were very friendly and welcoming.
4. They have helped me look for things to talk about in my journals that supported my area.
5. They established genuine relationships with us and made us feel welcomed.
6. Office staff, Mrs. Groves, Dr. Rogers were incredible. It was a great experience to have this opportunity.
7. Friendly and great role models for interacting with children.
8. They have been there when I have any questions.
9. The ECLC staff has made me feel very welcomed to the ECLC and has expressed how much I am benefiting the children.
10. Very kind, thoughtful, especially Mrs. Ah Sing – she made a point to talk and get to know me.
11. Loved the aids, all so nice!
12. Most of them were very nice and exemplified patience when dealing with the children.
13. Worked with myself and the children at our own level of understanding, encouraging a full grasp of concepts.
14. The ECLC staff was wonderful. Mrs. Ah Sing knew about my life, asked about my day, and disclosed details of her day with me. It helped me feel welcome.
15. Asked me questions and encouraged me to jump in and enjoy.
16. They were very caring and helpful.
17. Mrs. Ah Sing always took the time to answer questions if I had them, to make sure I grasped the concepts.
18. They were very friendly/welcoming.
19. Constantly assisted and did not ignore me.
20. ECLC staff were helpful and were always encouraging the children to interact with us.
21. Mrs. Ah Sing was always sweet; the staff made it a nice atmosphere to want to work at.
22. They answered all of my questions.
23. Showed positive interactions with children.
24. They included me and made me feel helpful and taught me a lot.
25. Made the process very organized and smooth.
26. The staff was all super friendly and willing to help in whatever way they could.
27. Mrs. Ah Sing having personal talks about teaching with me.
28. Get to personally know us. Ask us for help to be engaging.
29. They were just really respectful with everyone visiting or volunteering.
30. They were helpful in relating concepts I learned in class to the ways the children behaved.

31. Made the effort to get to know me.
32. The ECLC staff was very encouraging in my education of the development of children.
33. They explain situations and make sure I feel involved/appreciated.
34. They guided me when I wasn't sure of what I was doing.
35. They have always been there with a smiling face and available to answer any questions I might have.
36. Eased my anxiety about working in the ECLC and not knowing what to do.
37. They made sure I had models to follow in my interactions with the children.
38. They have given me lots of good advice that has been very helpful.
39. They took the time to explain why they acted the way they did towards the children.
40. Being friendly.
41. Teachers were very helpful in interactions with the children. They answered any questions and were very helpful in providing answers.
42. They answered my questions clearly and give new ideas of how child development works.
43. Called me by name, welcomed me in
44. The teachers are welcoming. They are willing to help teach us, mainly through modeling.
45. Vonda would help brainstorm things to look out for developmentally.
46. I could always ask questions to the teachers no matter what.
47. Mrs. Ah Sing really helped me see where the children were coming from and can compare to what I'm learning.
48. They were helpful with answering any questions and involving us.
49. When I first arrived, the teacher introduced me to the children so I wasn't just a stranger.
50. Modeled good techniques.
51. Engaged me personally and gave me helpful tips about how to interact with specific children.
52. Mrs. Groves was very helpful when I discussed wanting to work there.
53. Review at the end of each visit with Mrs. Rodeheaver helped realize/relate everything learned.
54. Been kind and friendly.
55. Mrs. Ah Sing would regularly point out developmental milestones to me. We often had conversations about things the children say or how their cognition is developing.
56. N/A
57. They have helped me understand the different domains.
58. They were really good about trying to include us.
59. Mrs. Ah Sing and Mrs. Heinz were both extremely helpful and were really nice and helped me correct my actions.
60. Great guidance from the teachers. They set good examples for interacting with children and handling conflict.

61. They were very good with the kids.
62. The staff was welcoming and encouraged my learning or development. They challenged me to think about what I was seeing and relate it to theory of development.
63. Everyone was nice and willing to help me when I had questions.
64. Helped me to effectively interact with children and diffuse disagreements with them.
65. They have been super understanding and always helpful whenever I had a question.
66. They provided me advice on what I should do. For example, one day on naptime, when a child woke up, they advised me to go up to her and read to her.
67. They were open to questions and constructive in their criticisms.
68. They are always super sweet and greet me with a warm welcome.
69. Always have been really helpful and encouraging. They helped me identify what to look for when playing with the children.
70. They have answered questions and been very supportive of me.
71. Always willing to talk, staying positive.
72. They got to know me outside the ECLC and were interested in my story. I appreciated that because it changed from just a class assignment.
73. Explained theories if I didn't quite understand them. Point out the differences between the three domains.
74. Every day when it was done we went over the domain (lady in main office) and that was helpful.
75. They helped me make connections between what I witnessed and the domain I was supposed to observe.
76. They really answered any questions that I had. They also made a point to teach me things and engage me by asking questions.
77. They were interested in my thoughts on the experience and in my life in general.
78. Instructed me on how to deal with certain situations as well as ask me each time what I learned and observed.
79. The teachers really let us get involved with the kids and asked every day what we observed, which I thought was helpful because then I really needed to be on it.
80. They make you feel part of the family there and make they (?) enjoyable just as much as the kids do.
81. I was able to create great relationships with the children and see their interactions in a completely different mindset.
82. Helped me understand how a preschool works.
83. Very helpful.
84. Mrs. Ah Sing was such a blessing to work with! What a role model she is to me!
85. They were always so nice to me when I went and the children were so great to play with.
86. Always made me feel comfortable.

87. The ECLC staff helped me by explaining certain behaviors and to guide me through how I should think like the preoperational child.

88. They remember my name and always ask how I'm doing.

89. Mrs. Ah Sing was an exceptional example of a great teacher.

90. Yes they were!

2. What could the ECLC staff do to make your experience more meaningful?

1. A little more clarification of role expectations for the students would have helped me interact more effectively.
2. They were great.
3. Nothing really.
4. I'm not sure.
5. Helped to intervene with misbehaving children. More than once I had one or two children hitting, kicking, and spitting on me, and they do nothing. It made me dread going there.
6. More help and coaching from the teachers about how to talk to the children and interact best with them.
7. Nothing I can think of, they did a great job.
8. At the beginning of our hours, maybe they could help us identify differences of cognitive, emotional, social, and physical development.
9. Not much. They have done a great job.
10. Learn our names, make an effort to include us in leading guided participation.
11. Try to learn our names and trust us when we deal with the children.
12. Nothing.
13. Just put us to use more! We are there to help and want to feel helpful.
14. I would love to be more involved or be asked for help or further assistance.
15. Nothing!
16. I had a truly meaningful experience. I don't believe there is anything they could have done.
17. Provide more advice on interacting with the children.
18. They're good now.
19. Everything was great.
20. Maybe have specific jobs to do to make the time going there more important.
21. Maybe be more inclusive.
22. Try to learn our names and interact with us rather than ignoring our presence most weeks.
23. I think they're already doing a great job.
24. Pointing out the examples of what we are learning in class.
25. Nothing!

26. Nothing.
27. Involve us even more.
28. Nothing.
29. Told me more about the children.
30. Possibly point us in the direction of examples where children are exhibiting the different domains of development.
31. They were excellent.
32. Nothing. I believe they were operating to the best of their ability.
33. N/A
34. N/A
35. Perhaps give them more coaching in how to verbally redirect children's behaviors.
36. Be more available.
37. Maybe point out things for each domain.
38. Ask us to do more. We are there to help!
39. Maybe be more interactive with the students in training.
40. An orientation to better explain the process of using language with the children. The ECLC uses a specific type of language with the children and it's hard to adapt when not trained.
41. The teacher could have been better about offering help in us solving our own problems, not just taking over for us.
42. Honestly they were perfect.
43. Share details about the children's life a little more to see where their attitudes came from.
44. Coach a little more.
45. Feedback briefing at the end of each day.
46. N/A
47. Keep engaging us during class time.
48. The staff could try to explain some experiences the child is doing to the students.
49. I think that the ECLC can just maybe give aides suggestions on which children they could help and learn from.
50. They weren't very gentle and often harsh with me.
51. Even with training, there were some specific rules or customs at the ECLC that I didn't understand.
52. Providing discipline! Students at the ECLC are very rude. I have worked with preschoolers for years, and last summer I interned at a preschool. In all my life I have never seen an environment so bad in terms of the children ruling that preschool.
53. For people who have to do 20 hours, lessen the time because it's difficult.
54. They could possibly have more adults on the playground, because sometimes it gets a little hectic.
55. They could of maybe told me how to improve on my interaction with the children more.

56. Provide more guidance in diffusing conflict between children.
57. Allow us (student volunteers) to mediate more situations, or teach us how to deal with different types of issues/situation as they occur in the class.
58. I really think they did a great job, and were helpful to the best of their abilities.
59. Nothing. All that I would recommend is that maybe try to ask us to do more to help them.
60. At the end of the day give examples of physical/cognitive/social to help us.
61. N/A
62. To be more open to talking with students.
63. They could allow more than one shift a week.
64. I thought they were helpful but it would be good if they could warn us when there was gonna be special events like the mother's day tea that would interrupt our time.
65. Nothing. They were great.
66. Honestly, I have no idea. It was great.
67. Hard to say.
68. Had the people who taught the workshop to invest in our experience while we worked.
69. Nothing. It was great, honestly.
70. N/A
71. They could partner the students up with the children.
72. They could put pics of the student helpers around the classroom so we feel a part of the classroom.
73. Perhaps help us understand how to deal with the kids.
74. They were great!

3. What suggestions would you offer for improvement?

1. I would suggest maybe better ways to make the children calm down and be quiet.
2. Maybe teach us more on how to communicate while we are interacting with them.
3. Have better conflict resolution training.
4. None.
5. None.
6. N/A
7. I just felt intimidated and unsure what to do at first – just be more welcoming.
8. Encourage climbing trees.
9. Nothing.
10. Being able to do more than one hour at a time.
11. It was hard to know all the children's names.
12. Less hours.

13. It might be good to give a little more coaching but not too much to where it's overbearing.
14. N/A
15. I would say to improve the kids' mannerism because some might have come off as rude to students.
16. Better name tag/plastic cases (always breaking).
17. More time with us for training.
18. I don't know.
19. Better explanation of how to talk to kids. Didn't pick it up 'til the end.
20. Do some things that are just fun that don't need to have learning focuses.
21. Including and interjecting the volunteers more.
22. It's hard to see the negative effects of all the transitioning involved with all the observers and aides. But I as an aide appreciate my experience greatly.
23. Maybe make those doing their field experience feel a bit more welcome. I often felt that my presence was completely ignored unless they needed my help, which is understandable because the staff was working but it would be nice for them to at least say hi instead of ignoring us.
24. I wouldn't (?) to offer suggestions . . . it is really well done. I just wish that one or two of my hours could have been just observation.
25. Tell the children they can't hurt other students because they'll continue that destructive behavior.
26. There are often too many aids for the children. It gets a bit too crowded most times.
27. Involve students more.
28. More organized outside activities.
29. Ask students which domain they were observing to point things out.
30. Less than ten hours, or able to do them in chunks.
31. I think it would be better to have students come in at different times of day throughout the ten weeks. When our scheduled times are always the same, it's hard to focus on certain domains depending on the activity.
32. More teaching for how to take care of children.
33. I can't think of any. I had a great time and it was a great learning experience.
34. It might have been the time I was there, but some days there would be more field volunteers than children.
35. I would suggest being kinder to the volunteers
36. Explain more specific explanations of rules and techniques at the ECLC to student volunteers.
37. Students need to be taught that it is never okay for children hit a teacher or a student. These children were rude and hit and nothing was ever done other than telling the student that hitting makes people sad. Those children need boundaries.
38. Less interrupting positive play with children.

39. A little more clarification of role expectations for the students would have helped me interact more effectively.
40. No suggestions.
41. Less volunteers at once. It was hard to talk to some kids with 3+ volunteers all trying to do the same thing.
42. I love everything.
43. Consistent discipline. Doesn't have to be punishment, but it must be consistent. Simply repeating "make a better choice" will not get these kids in control. They're not going to do well in kindergarten without discipline, and I feel bad for them.
44. It probably isn't possible, but it would've been nice to go at different times during the day and be able to observe the children's development during other activities instead of the same thing (recess, snack, etc.) each day.
45. Overall it was a good experience
46. Not much. They have done a great job.
47. Sometimes I feel like the teachers were too permissive and it would get frustrating.
48. Not to show favoritism to some of the kids.
49. None.
50. More debrief – including us more in daily class activities.
51. I suggest the school keeps up what they are doing and continues to allow students to play and engage with children.
52. Nothing!
53. I loved it all. I have no suggestions.
54. Less hours . . . it was a lot of out of class time.
55. On the first day have someone direct us, better coaching.
56. None.
57. None.
58. Maybe explain a bit what the students are supposed to do with the children the first day.
59. None! They're doing a great job over there!
60. Nothing.
61. Less hours!
62. Make the class 4 units. 14+ hours of our free time is a lot on top of the 3 units.
63. More workers at a time.
64. N/A
65. N/A
66. They are doing a great job.

67. N/A

68. N/A I think it all ran very smoothly ☺

69. N/A

4. What is your overall assessment of your field experience?

1. I loved it. The ECLC is wonderful.
2. Extremely fun and rewarding. I loved working with the kids!
3. I enjoyed it and I want to do it again.
4. I felt like it coincided well with the curriculum of FCS 150.
5. Very good and helpful.
6. Great experience, extremely helpful.
7. It was amazing! I loved taking a break out of my week to spend time with the kids and recognize their development.
8. Wonderful; so glad I was able to do it, great opportunity.
9. Good – loved the kids!
10. I enjoyed it.
11. Very good.
12. I gained a lot from this experience. It always brightened my day to go see the kids!
13. I mostly saw Piaget's theory throughout my time and I truly believe interacting and exploring develops healthy learning.
14. It was very enjoyable and I learned a lot about how children interact and the best way to handle different situations.
15. I loved my field experience and I enjoyed working with kids.
16. It was good but it took up a lot of time.
17. I had a great time. I highly encourage this experience to be done with everyone.
18. Positive experience with a variety of children.
19. It was very enjoyable and the kids were great.
20. It was a great experience. I had fun working the kids.
21. I thought it was fun and educational at the same time! I really loved it.
22. Really great.
23. The field experience was great and I learned so much from them.
24. I learned a lot about observing behaviors.
25. Too many hours, but otherwise okay.
26. It's fun, but it's hard to talk about 10 journals of only 3 domains of development.
27. It was a great time working there. I had fun.

28. It was really fun, favorite part of the class. Great hands-on way to see and learn.
29. Very good.
30. I loved working with the children and observing their growth and personalities throughout the semester.
31. It was wonderful! Two thumbs up.
32. It was truly a wonderful experience.
33. I believe my field experience was great! This was an awesome way of seeing what we learn in class first-hand.
34. It was a really fun experience that was really unique.
35. Very positive – fun; learned a lot.
36. Very good.
37. Good.
38. I enjoyed it very much, both the children and teachers.
39. My field experience was great, it really taught me things that I couldn't have learned anywhere else.
40. Positive, enjoyable, learning.
41. A great opportunity to learn in practice. Conflict management!
42. Overall, it was a good experience. The kids are great.
43. It was good, fun, helpful. I feel more comfortable with 3 and 4 year olds now.
44. It was amazing and I feel so blessed to have been a part of it.
45. Other than #3 (Tell the children they can't hurt other students because they'll continue that destructive behavior.) it was great. Mrs. Ah Sing was SO helpful!
46. Overall lit was a great experience and convenient that it was on campus making it easy to work with your schedule.
47. I did not enjoy it because it was too crowded. Competed for children's attention.
48. Good.
49. Very positive experience that helped me with basic skills on how to relate to young children.
50. I was always in Mrs. Ah Sing's class and I think she does an amazing job as a teacher.
51. Very beneficial to apply knowledge learned in class.
52. Very good, very organized.
53. Loved it ❤️ 😊
54. Great!! 😊
55. I had a great time and learned a lot.
56. I always learn a lot from my time, and I love working with the teachers.
57. I really enjoyed field experience. I thought it was really nice to be able to apply what we learned.
58. A good experience.
59. It wasn't my favorite because I didn't feel much positive reinforcement but I loved the kids.

60. Being at the ECLC was a great opportunity for me to gain firsthand experience with working with children to identify their forms of development and understand how to enrich that development.
61. The teachers and staff are kind and open to students who want to learn, but the environment is not a good place for the children. The children need more boundaries, rules, and enforcement. I fully understand that the goal is to foster the development of the children, and that's great, but when a child hits a teacher because they want to, that is not okay. The experience was so off-putting that it discouraged from ever wanting to help there again. Don't get it wrong, there are a few very sweet and kind children, but most were not. School is a place to prepare them for life later on, and this preschool is currently not helping students with that.
62. It was good.
63. I had a great time! It was definitely a great experience.
64. Overall, the field experience was very successful. I was able to improve on my skills and be more confident.
65. I liked it. Was overall very fun.
66. I gained quite a bit more experience with small children, and developed good relationships with the kids there.
67. Working with the children and observing how the staff worked with them, helped me learn how to properly care for children.
68. This was an amazing opportunity!
69. I had an awesome time.
70. GREAT – just a lot of hours for a senior to complete. But I know this is a freshman class.
71. I thought it was a great hands on environment that facilitated my learning.
72. Loved every part of it! I enjoyed going! +10/10 ☺
73. Overall, I love my field work experience.
74. It was very enjoyable and a very good learning experience. It was extremely beneficial.
75. It was very fun and an uplifting experience.
76. My field experience went very well, there is nothing I would change.
77. Working at the ECLC was hard because of time management, but it was fun and interesting.
78. I had an amazing field experience. All of the teachers and teacher aides were extremely helpful and helped me to better understand what I learned.
79. Really fun time with the children.
80. I loved it!
81. A pain to have to go for 10 hours but while there, enjoyed every second!
82. It was an enjoyable time. It made for a great stress-reliever.
83. I really enjoyed working with the children.
84. I really enjoyed it.

85. It was OK. Many times I'd prefer doing something else.

86. It was enjoyable just a lot of hours.

87. It was fun and great experience.

5. Other Comments:

1. The children are so cute and fun to be around! They made this very fun and easy.
2. Dr. Roubanis, you are such an amazing professor! Such a light to the world! Thank you for everything!
3. N/A
4. Thanks Mrs. Ah Sing!
5. I enjoyed this class.
6. I feel like certain situations became too stressful for even the teachers to handle.
7. Big thanks to the staff. They just made it such an amazing experience.
8. I am very glad we had field experience in this class to take the concepts we learned and put them into practice.
9. Thank you for all you do!
10. The ECLC is a really great childhood center!
11. I learned a lot in the required workshop, but over the course of the semester forgot a lot of the advice they gave us. It would've been helpful to have more practice throughout the semester on how to handle situations instead of just that one day at the beginning.
12. 😊 Thanks!
13. None.
14. This was such an enjoyable part to the class.

Please return survey to your professor.