

## Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC) Field Experience Survey Results December 2013

Surveys were given to 83 students enrolled in FCS 150 Human Development (FCS 150 Section One – 42 students/FCS 150 Section Two – 41 students) December, 2013. A total of 79 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**

| <b>At the end of my field experience I am able to:</b>  | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Identify the differences of cognitive, emotional, social and physical development of young children.  | 1        | 4        | 23       | 51       | 0          |
| Engage with young children to assist in their cognitive, emotional, social, and physical development. | 0        | 2        | 26       | 50       | 1          |

**Comments:**

1. It was just too short of time and too few to really make a difference.
2. As the semester progressed, I was able to recognize physical, cognitive, and social emotional skills while in the classroom.
3. It was very helpful when Vonda asked at the end every field experience hour what it was that I observed. She helped me to identify examples in each domain which helped me understand each one a lot better.
4. It was great to just sit back and observe or try and step in when I felt I could handle the situation.
5. The Piagetian environment facilitates learning for all types of children.
6. I spent 5 summers working with young children, and I felt I did not learn anything I had not learned at youth camps.
7. It was difficult to recognize the different theories.
8. I appreciated assisting in the development of the children. Being at the ECLC was my stress reliever as I was battling exams and essays.
9. However with the assigned time, some people had less experience with a certain topic because the children have set schedules of when they are outside and inside.
10. The kids were great!
11. Because I was learning different theories in class I was able to ask kids specific questions to assess what stage they were at.
12. N/A
13. I feel like I helped but I wasn't always sure how to aid and facilitate their development.

14. Leaned a lot through experience and involvement.
15. During my visits there, I wished the teachers would give me a little more guidance as to what to do. I always felt unsure of what I should do and how much I should interact with the children.
16. It was so fun being with them!
17. Ten hours was a lot.
18. I don't think 10 hours was necessary. Six would have been plenty, so that it only would have been 2x with each area of growth.
19. Has helped me observe known characteristics of the domains.
20. I always enjoyed my time and was able to identify things in the kids.
21. I definitely grew with this.
22. Very valuable experience that allows direct application.
23. I did not grow in my abilities due to the ECLC.
24. There is plenty of opportunity to observe and interact. The students and teachers were all helpful. It was observing the same time period "snack/play" 3x for each domain.
25. The teachers were very helpful with talking through the domains with me.
26. It was difficult to get multiple views and situations because I was in the same environment/schedule every visit.
27. It was really helpful in the engagement. I really liked how the teachers would talk with you about (what) your area was doing.
28. Interesting to observe differences between 3 and 4 year olds.
29. I ended up actually enjoying going to my field experience every week!
30. Sometimes it was a little harder to distinguish between the 3, but I loved working with the kids.

| <b>My field experience at the ECLC has helped me:</b>  | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Gain a deep understanding of the three domains (physical, social/emotional, cognitive).  | 3        | 4        | 22       | 49       | 1          |
| By providing opportunities to positively engage with young children and use my skills in positive communication with young children. | 2        | 1        | 24       | 52       | 0          |
| Develop skills in effective communication with young children.   | 2        | 3        | 24       | 49       | 1          |

**Comments:**

1. It was just too short of time and too few to really make a difference.
2. I learned how to better communicate with children under five years old.
3. Made me fall more in love with children. Also, revealed some practices I want to use on my own children.
4. Major gains in all 3 of those listed above.
5. The field experience did not help at all and I felt it was highly ineffective and a waste of time.
6. Since I already have babysat and I grew up in my mom's daycare, I feel like I didn't gain anything I don't already know.
7. I definitely became better at communicating with children and learning to facilitate their growth.
8. Talking with Mrs. Ah Sing at the end of every hour helped me further understand the three domains and identify them correctly.
9. Sometimes it was hard to know what to say when children were misbehaving, but watching the teachers was helpful.
10. N/A
11. The teachers always helped if they were close with how to talk to them.
12. Sometimes I felt unsure of how to help conflict so I just passed it off to a teacher.
13. Definitely helped me interact better with children.
14. Developed good communication skills with kids.
15. I felt as though the ECLC was a waste of time, and I didn't grow much in my knowledge of children.
16. Had many good experiences with the children.
17. Glad to have face to face interaction with pre op kids, much more interesting than textbook.
18. Gain so much understanding on how/what to look for, development wise, in children of preschool age.
19. The kids are amazing. I loved my experience with the children!

| <b>The Lab Teachers</b>  | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Provided a positive role model of appropriate ways of interacting With young children. | 0        | 5        | 19       | 54       | 0          |
| Effectively coached me in developing my skills interacting with young children.        | 2        | 12       | 35       | 27       | 2          |
| Were approachable if I had any questions or needed help.                               | 1        | 6        | 19       | 51       | 1          |

**Comments:**

1. After every session in the ECLC, the teachers helped me identify what I had seen during the hour and how it related to the domain I focused on.
2. Love Mrs. Ah Sing! Wonderful lady!
3. I had a great experience at the ECLC.
4. I love Mrs. Ah Sing. She loves her job and I can see that every time I am in the ECLC.
5. MRS. AH SING IS AMAZING! 😊
6. At times, I felt the hours were us volunteering as aids rather than observers.
7. I learned so much from just watching the teachers interact with the kids.
8. All of the teachers were very helpful.
9. N/A
10. The teachers did not talk to me all but one of the times I was there, except to tell me that I did something wrong. They hardly acknowledged that I was physically there.
11. They were so kind and helpful.
12. Great teachers
13. They didn't really coach unless I sought them out and asked specifically.
14. The teachers are mostly very sweet but sometimes they are intimidating and I found myself apprehensive in asking them questions.
15. The teachers were very welcoming and accommodating.
16. Sometimes the teachers did not always engage with me and my peers and there were a couple times that there was an Iphone out when it didn't seem like the time for it. The majority of the time everything was handled well though!
17. Teachers did not discipline rowdy children.
18. The teachers were so great with the kids and were very helpful.
19. The lab teachers were wonderful and very helpful.
20. Teachers were very helpful in assisting with problems among children and how to work with children.
21. The staff and aides were so friendly and helpful!
22. Three year old teacher is AMAZING! Very helpful in explaining.

**Open Ended Responses****1. What has the ECLC staff done to make your experience meaningful?**

1. They take an interest in our lives which I appreciate. Also, they were very helpful explaining things I may have not understood.
2. The ECLC offered a warm environment where I was able to learn about the three domains of development.
3. Vonda helped me to better analyze the observation I made at the ECLC which helped make my experiences more meaningful.
4. Always included me in conversations and made a point to see how I was.
5. The staff encouraged us to interact with the children and treated us as staff members. The children were told to call us "Miss\_\_" or whatever our title may be.
6. They always had a smile on their faces! They were able and willing to answer all questions.
7. They have included me in activities with the kids.
8. I love to see their love for all of the children.
9. Be friendly, open to questions and patience with our lack of knowledge or stupid questions.
10. They were very inviting. They always asked how my day was going whenever I showed up.
11. Specifically Mrs. Ah Sing welcomed me and guided me with the children. By the end of my sessions I have grown to be/have been inspired by her.
12. All were very friendly and explained components of the children's development.
13. It's furthered my learning by letting me apply what I'm learning in lecture.
14. ECLC has allowed me to observe young children as they develop their cognitive, physical, social/emotional skills. The staff has been very nice and approachable.
15. They have not only learned my name, but have welcomed me with the children in interacting with them and most of the time they recognize when we are having troubles with a child.
16. Mrs. Slater was great at explaining why she did different things to help the children focus, learn, or be more engaged.
17. The staff has always been laid back and easily approachable. They've been very helpful in teaching me components of the three domains.
18. Allowing the opportunity to participate in the ECLC.
19. They have teach (taught) me better ways to deal and manage children.
20. They were supportive and understanding of what my purpose and duty was for my time there.
21. The receptionist was the nicest and most helpful.
22. They made me feel welcome and gave me opportunities to work in the 3 domains.
23. The kids are great and it was fun to interact with them.

24. They always were so nice and helped me in understanding why the kids did what they did.
25. They were very encouraging and helped us learn significantly during our experience.
26. They took the time to talk to me and have meaningful conversations.
27. They were engaged in helping me understand what the kids were going through.
28. I did not feel that my experience was particularly meaningful.
29. They have made it easy to interact with kids. They were also helpful in their responses back when I told them what I learned.
30. The teachers were very welcoming and friendly.
31. Helped me be more comfortable with kids.
32. Asked me what I'm learning and been very friendly. Set good examples.
33. Very welcoming, friendly.
34. The ECLC staff helped to provide a good example on how to effectively discipline children.
35. The staff was welcoming and helped me when I signed out in identifying skills in each domain.
36. They have been friendly and helpful—especially Rhonda—what a gem!
37. The staff would engage in thoughtful conversation with me and would really listen to and answer my questions.
38. They have done a lot to make sure I was learning and that I got my questions answered and that I made connections that I might not have made otherwise.
39. They pointed out actions the children were doing that was related to my domain.
40. Been fun, inclusive and taught me more about kids.
41. They ask what you learned about the domain at the end of each day. The teachers exemplified ways to handle certain behaviors.
42. Providing experience with children in ECLC.
43. I enjoyed talking to the staff about my domain.
44. They welcomed us in and allowed us to ask many questions.
45. I barely communicated with any staff. The only lady I spoke with was Rhonda, and she was very sweet.
46. The entire experience.
47. I specifically worked with Mrs. Ah Sing and she worked very well with us.
48. Talked through the domains with me.
49. They were very helpful in pointing out examples of the three domains.
50. Making me feel as important as they are.
51. They have involved us in activities and coached us through situations.
52. They were very open when I had any questions, especially on methods of teaching.
53. The ECLC staff helped me with a lot of questions that I had. They were also great role models.
54. They have treated me as an equal.

55. Provide a variety of ways to interact with children physically, cognitively, socially.
56. They have gone out of their way to make me feel comfortable.
57. They helped me realize real moments of growth. For example Mrs. Slater would point out when a child was ordering colors or things.
58. Help me point out different social/emotional, physical, and cognitive development.
59. Great teachers and experience took lots of time to teach explain.
60. Helped point out behaviors to look for.
61. The teacher asked what I learned when I signed out.
62. At the end saying what your concentration was helpful for writing in the journal.
63. Very involved and helpful.
64. Teachers nice and willing to make relationships.
65. Provided insight into the physical, cognitive, emotional domains.
66. They gave me the opportunity to play with kids.
67. They asked me to assist with tasks, making me feel useful.
68. The ECLC staff in the 4 year olds room was friendly and helpful.
69. They got to know my name were always friendly.
70. Coach me in correctly talking to kids.
71. Helped me with the children.
72. Shared me different skills and techniques.
73. Helped with situations involving children.

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

1. Give more guidance for us while we are in the classroom.
2. Not sure! I felt it was right on point!
3. No comment. I had a great experience.
4. Get to know us on a more personal level.
5. Nothing.
6. Explain more theories/concepts.
7. Nothing. They were awesome.
8. At times I felt we were in the way or not helpful; I didn't know how to act about this.
9. The staff can provide more ways for us to help out during our time that we stay there.
10. It was a really good experience.
11. N/A
12. Possibly demonstrate more, or actively point out examples of concepts as they are occurring.

13. They could have explained the schedule and what the kids do at the beginning.
14. I felt uncomfortable at first so maybe if they met me before I would have known who was in charge and who to ask for help.
15. Give more direction of what to do, sometimes felt like I was in the way.
16. Perhaps let me know how I could be of help to them. I felt like I was more of a burden to them rather than a helper.
17. At first I didn't know what to do and I felt that the teachers could have given more direction in how to deal with our domains. I just had to throw myself in there.
18. Vonda was always helpful 😊
19. Point out rare things the kids did to observe and take note of.
20. The ECLC could be a little more welcoming of our presence.
21. Don't have any suggestions.
22. Allow us a bit more freedom to allow further interaction.
23. Had they introduced themselves to me and interacted with me a bit more, I would have enjoyed my experience a little more.
24. They could introduce themselves, not just expect us to know their name/role.
25. Be more open to us as students.
26. Lessen the amount of time we have to go. Ten hours is a lot.
27. Work alongside me when I'm trying to help resolve a conflict.
28. Not much. Very meaningful.
29. They could have interacted more directly with us like they do with their student workers.
30. Nothing—teachers and student teachers were very welcoming and helpful.
31. Help guide us more and allow us to help out more.
32. I truly had a wonderful experience at the ECLC. They always wanted me to interact with kids in a way I was comfortable.
33. The first day I was there I felt like I wasn't sure what I was doing... I got it eventually but it took me asking a lot of questions.
34. Be a little more interactive with us.
35. Observations were confusing, explain those better.
36. Help me gain more knowledge.
37. I felt that my experience was quite meaningful.
38. Be more open and allow us to participate more with everyday work.
39. They could have been more approachable and friendly.
40. Nothing.
41. Allow us to know what we can do to feel more useful.

42. Nothing.
43. Nothing, they did great!
44. Given me more feedback with what I could improve on.
45. They could have been more friendly.
46. Make us more a part of lessons.
47. I thought they did everything great.
48. On the first day, I was bit confused on what I should have been doing and nobody was helpful.
49. Nothing.
50. None.
51. The teachers could discuss the domains more while we are there.
52. Maybe help me match the theories to my observations.
53. Some staff members need to be more approachable.
54. I don't really know of anything.
55. Help identify theories as they are happening.
56. Connect with you, feel appreciated.
57. Don't ignore the field experience students.
58. Upon first arrival, have specific instructions so we know what our role is during our hour.
59. Give a little more coaching or training.
60. Provide a little more instruction of what to do.
61. Can't think of anything, they were great.
62. Engaging in us more in the moment or explaining our interaction.
63. Maybe learn more about how to talk to children when they aren't listening to you.
64. It was hard to hear some of the children in the observation rooms.
65. None.
66. Nothing.

### **3. What suggestions would you offer for improvement?**

1. No need for improvement from my experiences.
2. Perhaps class time discussion of our experiences would help.
3. Maybe give specific tasks for volunteers to do while in the ECLC.
4. Ten hours is a lot of time; perhaps 7 or 8 hours is sufficient. Towards the end of the semester it becomes difficult to devote time.
5. N/A
6. The only suggestion I would offer would be to have some sort of discipline besides discussion for bad

behavior.

7. Explain playground rules.
8. Explain all of the rules of the playground, etc. during training.
9. Some days I felt like there were more adults than children, so it was hard to interact with the children.
10. Teachers should explain more theories/concepts about specific area (cog., soc., phy., etc.) before and after our experience.
11. n/a
12. Help us understand what to do to not be in the way or doing volunteer activities; make it more about our learning.
13. Sometimes there are too many students.
14. None.
15. Giving the students a source of guidance based on what they are observing through pointing out children engaged in the activities they can write about.
16. N/A
17. Possibly demonstrate more, or actively point out examples of concepts as they are occurring.
18. Change up the journal topics.
19. Everything is wonderful.
20. Less mandatory hours, more explanation of what my role was for helping out.
21. The staff is not very trusting of volunteers as opposed to their own student workers.
22. Point out rare things the kids did to observe and take note of.
23. None
24. None
25. None
26. Less required times to go.
27. Don't be afraid to learn our names and engage with us.
28. More interaction with children and student.
29. They should tell the kids to say sorry. It's common courtesy.
30. Some of the students need better discipline in saying sorry.
31. I would suggest that teachers give us ways to engage our domains.
32. I think it would be helpful for students to know to what extent they are allowed to discipline.
33. Don't have any suggestions.
34. Observations were confusing, explain those better.
35. More in depth with teaching.
36. Maybe a little more guidance from the teachers.
37. More structure in jobs for volunteers.

38. Less hours!
39. Varying time.
40. I didn't see discipline of the misbehaving kids. They kind of just did what they wanted.
41. None, they are doing well!
42. Nothing, great experience.
43. Not as many hours.
44. N/A
45. None.
46. More guidance at first.
47. Nothing.
48. Assign daily tasks for students—more specific for each week.
49. None.
50. I really enjoyed it. Maybe more flexible times to come in.
51. Let us interact more with the children.
52. N/A
53. Students can complete hours as needed, not scheduled over 10 weeks. Too difficult.
54. More helpful when resolving conflict with children.
55. More welcoming to students, especially for the first time.
56. None.
57. Nothing.
58. A chance to make up hours before finals week.
59. None.
60. I don't have any suggestions.
61. None.
62. None.

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

1. I learned so much from doing my field experiences.
2. I felt that it was just another block to check off and I didn't learn very much.
3. I loved it so much that I am going to apply to work in the ECLC.
4. I think that it was a positive experience which helped me to put the theories learned in class into practice.
5. It was fun and a good step away from school!
6. I loved my field experience.
7. I felt it was a waste of time, even as I tried to learn from it.

8. It was a good time, and enjoyed it.
9. Great!
10. I loved being with the children. They have taught me a lot.
11. I had fun 😊
12. It was very fun playing and watching the kids. I kind of became attached to some of them.
13. My time at ECLC was a wonderful experience.
14. I learned a lot!
15. I loved it.
16. The field experience was a great place to learn and play with children.
17. I had a great time, the children were very friendly.
18. It was enjoyable and helpful.
19. I think spending any amount of time at the ECLC will be an enriching experience for any future student.
20. Overall, a good experience.
21. I enjoyed it so much, it really helped learn more hands on.
22. Good, could have gotten the same benefits from half the time spent there. Ten hours was an unnecessary commitment.
23. I absolutely loved the kids, not a fan of the staff interaction with me as a helper.
24. I loved my field experience; I will miss all of the kids dearly.
25. I enjoyed my field experience and it was nice to spend time with kids and take a break.
26. It was an awesome and fun experience.
27. I enjoyed spending time with the children and learning more about their development.
28. It was a really good assessment and I enjoyed interacting with the kids.
29. It was a blast!
30. Generally good.
31. Loved it! Thought it was a great place for kids to learn and engage in a way that was positive and helped them grow.
32. I loved my time at the ECLC! Everyone there was inviting and open, and the kids were so fun!
33. It was good. Ten hours seems like more than enough.
34. Good experience.
35. It was fun! . . . just too many weeks.
36. Overall assessment is excellent!
37. It was fun but seemed like more of a chore or other class to go to since I am not a childhood development major.
38. Excellent—exciting and meaningful to my day.
39. I thought it was fun but I wish we had feedback on what we thought we were observing.

40. I enjoyed my time at the ECLC. I did think that some students (kids) were very disruptive and there was little to no discipline.
41. It was fun and I learned a lot.
42. Playing with the children was a fun experience. I observed some of (the) things we discussed in class also different types of play.
43. Loved it!
44. Loved it! 😊
45. I liked it. Would not take this class again.
46. I had a really good time and I found it really interesting learning about the domain.
47. It was very fun and exciting.
48. I did not like it, nor did I grow in my skills.
49. Helpful and I learned a lot.
50. Very well.
51. It was a fun experience and I learned a lot.
52. I loved it! Caused me to change my major to child development.
53. Great time beneficial for a few chapters.
54. I don't think we should be required to do as many hours as this is a human development NOT child development course.
55. I had a lot of fun, though it seemed tedious and repetitive at times.
56. I really enjoyed it. It was a wonderful experience.
57. Because of this experience, I am now desiring to be a preschool teacher at one point in my life.
58. It was the best part of my week. I thoroughly enjoyed it.
59. Positive and fun.
60. I really enjoyed it.
61. I loved doing it and I really think I learned a lot.
62. Loved the children, it was interesting.
63. Great!
64. Very positive experience.
65. Because of the time and schedule disruption, I did not enjoy field experience. It wasn't the children, it was the time commitment.
66. Good. Kids were my favorite part.
67. It was a good learning experience.
68. Really helpful when it came to understanding what each domain looked like through an actual child.
69. It was good overall and helped apply what we learned in class.
70. It was great!

71. This is a great and unique way to learn and study I really enjoyed.
72. Helpful, positive experience.
73. I really enjoyed my time in the ECLC. All the kids are so adorable and I learned a lot!
74. It was fine, but time consuming.
75. I loved the experience with the children. I'm going to miss them a bunch.
76. Good.

## 5. Other Comments:

1. Enjoyed the ECLC so much! These kids and staff brought joy to my day!
2. Such a fun experience!
3. Love the kids and I am going to miss the kids.
4. N/A
5. Make this class an extra unit. The hours at the ECLC are great, but overly demanding for a 3 unit class, when we already spend 3 hours in lecture a week.
6. Continue the great work! I can't wait to work with them again.
7. Fourteen hours is not necessary.
8. The lady at the front desk was so sweet and helpful. Made my day better each time!
9. Not sure why the kids are not allowed to say "I'm sorry" when they do something to harm another.
10. Thank you!
11. Thanks!
12. Too much time commitment for the small amount of time spent on child development. Make it 5 hours!
13. Thank you SO much for the opportunity. It was a blessing.
14. 😊
15. Why did we have so many hours focusing only on young children. This is LIFESPAN development. Need to use this time to observe different ages. I got so bored and annoyed.
16. You guys are doing wonderful things with those young minds! I love the intentionality.
17. Thanks for letting me swing on the swings!
18. None.