

YAG: Principles of Education (Full-Year Course)

Course Description

Principles of Education provides an overview of the teaching and training profession. This course explores the foundations of education, instructional practices, learning theories, professional responsibilities, career pathways, and the impact of societal and legal issues in education. Students will investigate teaching careers and participate in project-based learning to gain foundational skills in preparation for future coursework and employment in the education and training career cluster.

Unit, Activities, TEKS

Semester 1

- **Course Orientation & Foundations**
 - **§130.277(a)(1)** – Understand the purpose, structure, and requirements of the Child Development course and the CTE framework.
- **Career Exploration & Professionalism**
 - **§130.277(b)(1)(A–J)** – Explore early childhood and school-age career pathways, credentialing/certification options, and demonstrate professional skills (communication, teamwork, leadership).
- **Foundations of Child Development**
 - **§130.277(b)(2)(A–C)** – Explain major theories of human growth and development (e.g., Piaget, Erikson, Vygotsky) and research methods for tracking developmental milestones.
- **Prenatal Development & Birth**
 - **§130.277(b)(3)(A–D)** – Describe stages of prenatal development (germinal, embryonic, fetal), genetic and environmental influences (including teratogens), and best practices for prenatal care and birth.

Unit, Activities, TEKS

Semester 2

- **Infancy (0–2 years)**
 - **§130.277(b)(4)(A–F)** – Analyze physical/motor, cognitive/language, and social/emotional milestones in infancy; assess nutrition, health, safety, and responsive caregiving strategies.
- **Early Childhood (3–5 years)**
 - **§130.277(b)(5)(A–G)** – Evaluate social-emotional development, play-based learning, and early literacy/numeracy; apply positive guidance, health screenings, and injury-prevention techniques.
- **Middle Childhood (6–10 years)**
 - **§130.277(b)(6)(A–F)** – Examine physical growth, motor skills, cognitive advances, peer relationships, self-esteem, resilience, and design age-appropriate activities and safety protocols.
- **Adolescence (11–18 years)**
 - **§130.277(b)(7)(A–E)** – Analyze puberty and biological changes, identity formation, peer influence, risk-taking behaviors, mental health awareness, and strategies for supporting adolescents.
- **Child Guidance & Protection**
 - **§130.277(b)(8)(A–E)** – Implement positive behavior interventions, understand mandated reporting and protective services, uphold ethics/confidentiality, and develop emergency preparedness for childcare settings.