



Overview

Kia ora koutou, nau mai haere mai! Welcome to 65100/75100 Research and Inquiry 1 / Ngā Rangahautanga Mātahi.

In this course you will develop your research skills and methods of data gathering, in the light of current assessment approaches and practices. You will explore cultural understandings that underpin kaupapa Māori and Pacific approaches to research involving children from Māori and Pacific families.

Models of reflective practice based on contemporary New Zealand research in early childhood settings will enhance your ability to be an early childhood educator.

65100 Research and Inquiry is taught in conjunction with 75100 Research and Inquiry. This course is worth 20 credits which equals 200 hundred hours of study time. At the end of this programme you will have gained experience in an early childhood education environment in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Learning outcome

When you successfully complete this course, you will be able to:

- demonstrate library research skills, including how to use electronic databases to access early childhood journals and educational research
- identify a range of data gathering methods to plan and provide for young children's learning and development
- discuss the role of assessment in supporting children's learning development
- develop an understanding of praxis and reflective practice.
- discuss research and literature on Maori and pacific children and their families.

Course structure

Module 1: Introduction to library skills and research

Our first module introduces you to some of the key ways to research an early childhood topic using library resources. We will outline some library research concepts and introduce you to a variety of ways to use the library and databases to search for information.

Module 2: Observing and recording

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In this module we focus on observations. You will explore ways of generating data (observational types of information) that will help you plan for young children's learning.

Module 3: Assessing and supporting young children's learning

Observation, curriculum and assessment are all closely connected in early childhood teaching and learning in Aotearoa New Zealand. This module introduces approaches to assessing and supporting children's experiences in early childhood settings, with a major focus on learning stories.

Module 4: Developing reflective practice

This module explores the concept of praxis and approaches to reflective inquiry. It builds on your knowledge of narrative observation and assessment. You will encounter research on how teachers can reflect on and evaluate their practice for the benefit of children, their families, whānau and communities.

Module 5: Māori and Pacific research perspectives

The final module introduces you to Māori and Pacific research with children and their families. You will also examine the concepts of narrative assessment and reflective practice within Māori and Pacific research contexts.

How you'll learn

Throughout each module there are activities to help you understand the concepts and theories we introduce. Some of these activities are printed in your learner guide, and the rest are on your online course page. We recommend that you complete all the learning activities so that you have every opportunity to master the knowledge and skills needed to successfully complete this course.

Critical thinking and analysis are core elements of this course. The learning materials and activities will support you to develop these skills and will also prepare you for the assessments.

Set text

Set texts are resources you must have in order to successfully complete the course.

There are four set texts for this course:

- *Podmore, V. N. (2006). Observation: Origins and approaches to early childhood research and practice. Wellington, New Zealand: NZCER Press.*
- *Ministry of Education. (2017). Te Whāriki: He Whāriki Mātauranga mō ngā Mokopuna o Aotearoa/Early Childhood Curriculum. Wellington, New Zealand: Learning Media.*

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- *Ministry of Education. (2004). Kei tua o te pae: Assessment for learning: Early childhood exemplars. Wellington, New Zealand: Learning Media.*
- *Ministry of Education. (2009). Te whatu pōkeka: Kaupapa Māori assessment for learning: Early childhood exemplars. Wellington, New Zealand: Author.*

Study guide

Download the study guide for this course

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