

Education 399 Independent Study Proposal at Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance (CECA)

Emily Schroeder

Spring 2019

Faculty Advisor: Professor Jack Dougherty

At the CECA I will be working alongside Executive Director Merrill Gay, as well as Jessica Ciparelli, and Kayla Goldfarb as a policy intern. My main responsibilities will be assisting with early childhood policy research, gathering data and creating local data briefings on early childhood issues, track and analyze relevant early childhood legislation as well as helping with messaging and lobbying materials. I will also be working on planning and preparing for the Alliance's Early Childhood Advocacy Day.

Site Supervisor:

Merrill Gay

merrill@earlychildhoodalliance.com

Education 399 Independent Study

Letter Grade for (1) credit towards Educational Studies Major

- Books and articles

1. Rose, Elizabeth. *The Promise of Preschool : From Head Start to Universal Pre-Kindergarten*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010. <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/405105583>.
2. Bouffard, S. (2017). *The Most Important Year: Pre-Kindergarten and the Future of Our Children*. Avery.
3. Karch, A. (2013). *Early start: Preschool politics in the United States*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.

- Monthly 20-minute meetings with Faculty Advisor

- 2-Page Monthly Reflection

Each month (February, March, April, May) I will write a reflection on what I am learning through my experience at the CECA. This will include my responsibilities and projects that I am currently working on as well as reflection on how this experience is adding to my understanding of early education politics, policies, and problems address by both the center and the wider CT community. This will be shared via GDoc 24 hours before our monthly meetings.

- Policy orientated writing

Two installments of policy orientated writing (total of at least 10 pages) completed for the CECA will be submitted for review for academic credit. The first will be submitted no later than April 7th (**updated from March 25th**) and the second will be submitted no later than May 6th (**Date is the same**). The specific writing criteria and topics will be discussed in a meeting on February 1st with Merrill Gay at which time this contract will be updated. **Changes in the writing schedule was a result of the long term project being developed at a later date than originally anticipated (March 7, 2019).** [Link to the proposed long term plan](#).