



SCRIPT-NC

Supporting Change and Reform in Preservice Teaching in North Carolina

<http://scriptnc.fpg.unc.edu>

Early childhood educators (ECEs) work with young children, ages 0-5, with disabilities and children from diverse backgrounds to support learning and development. They are increasingly responsible for providing important supports ranging from teaching large and small groups, to assisting with classroom management. They play critical roles in supporting the unique needs of each child and ensuring that every child is able to fully participate. However, while they play these important roles, research has shown that community college programs need support to adequately prepare ECEs to serve young children who are culturally, linguistically, and ability diverse.

SCRIPT-NC works intensively with community college early childhood programs in North Carolina to assess, enhance, and redesign courses to better prepare pre-service ECEs to meet the needs of children in their communities. The focus is on incorporating evidence-based practices, the specific educational programs and intervention strategies that have been validated through research, into the courses and syllabi.

Four Key Objectives of SCRIPT-NC

1. Partner with community college faculty to identify, assess, and reconstruct key courses to incorporate research-based inclusion practices;
2. Partner with community college faculty and supervising teachers to coordinate practica placements in high-poverty, inclusive settings so that early childhood educators are more knowledgeable and comfortable with working with diverse young children;
3. Provide ongoing professional development opportunities and supports for faculty to increase their knowledge, skills, and abilities in effectively teaching preservice early childhood educators to work with diverse children and families;
4. Engage in statewide dissemination to support faculty and PD providers by providing resources to promote early childhood educator's use of evidence-based practices.

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