



**NYU**

**Global TIES for Children**

Transforming Intervention Effectiveness and Scale

**Free Massive Open On-Line Course (MOOC) on global Early Childhood Development Programs and Policies launches at end of September, sponsored by NYU, Harvard, and UNICEF**

The co-sponsored MOOC on early childhood development science, programs and policies from leading universities and UNICEF will launch for the second time on September 25 (enrollment can occur anytime between September 25 and December 1). It is titled "The Best Start in Life: Early Childhood Development for Sustainable Development."

The faculty include: Hirokazu Yoshikawa, NYU Global TIES for Children Center; Jack Shonkoff, Harvard Center on the Developing Child; Aisha Yousafzai, Harvard Chan School of Public Health; and Catherine Tamis-LeMonda, NYU Center for Research on Culture, Development and Education. A special appearance by Pia Britto, Senior Chief of Early Childhood Development for UNICEF, is included. Material covers innovations in science-based ECD programs and policies from all over the world.

The MOOC is a part of the SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Academy. The SDG Academy is the flagship educational initiative of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, the research and technical network advising the Secretary-General on the development and implementation of the 2015-2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

The course is entirely free and is made up of 10-12 minute videos, discussion questions, and short readings.

Successful completion of short quizzes results in receipt of a certificate of completion (non-credit) from the SDG Academy.

Enrollment is at the following link, including a trailer narrated by Shakira:

<https://courses.sdgacademy.org/learn/the-best-start-in-life-early-childhood-development-for-sustainable-development-september-2017>

Here are the syllabus topics:

**Week 1. Introduction (Yoshikawa and Shonkoff)**

- 1.1 Early Childhood Development for Sustainable Development
- 1.2 The State of the World's Children
- 1.3 How Brain Architecture Develops
- 1.4 The Impact of Adversity & Toxic Stress
- 1.5 Resilience & How to Foster It

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**Week 2. Child Development: Prenatal to Age 3 (Tamis-LeMonda)**

- 2.1 Development in Culture & Context
- 2.2 Physical Development
- 2.3 Cognitive Development and Perception
- 2.4 Language Development
- 2.5 Social Development
- 2.6 Emotional Development & Temperament

**Week 3. Child Development: Ages 3 to 8 (Yoshikawa)**

- 3.1 Physical Development
- 3.2 Cognitive Development & Executive Function
- 3.3 Language
- 3.4 Socio-emotional Development

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**Week 4. Tour of ECD Sectors & Programs Part I (Yousafzai)**

- 4.1 Introduction to Multi-sector Aspects
- 4.2 Health Programs
- 4.3 Nutrition & Parenting Programs

**Week 5. Tour of ECD Sectors & Programs Part 2 (Yoshikawa)**

- 5.1 Social Protection Programs
- 5.2 Early Care & Education Programs
- 5.3 Child Protection Programs

**Week 6. Communities & Conflict Situations (Yoshikawa)**

- 6.1 Uganda Case Study
- 6.2 Community Based Programs
- 6.3 Conflict & Migration

**Week 7. From Programs to Policies (Yoshikawa)**

- 7.1 How is Policy Created?
- 7.2 Quality, Governance & Sustainability
- 7.3 Financing ECD Policies

**Week 8. The Future: Innovations and Growth (Shonkoff, Yoshikawa and Britto)**

- 8.1 Innovation in ECD
- 8.2 Innovation from Around the World
- 8.3 Conclusion: The Future of ECD