Teaching Beliefs Paper
~3 pages, typewritten, double spaced, 12 pt font, standard 1" margins, cite in APA format

As an early childhood professional working with infants, it is important to identify and articulate your beliefs about working with infants and families. These beliefs will influence your behavior and actions as a teacher. Our beliefs about working with infants and families evolve over time; our prior experiences, culture, education, fieldwork placements, mentors, and work environments impact our beliefs. Reflecting on and documenting your beliefs helps to articulate the rationale for your actions, which infant teachers must do often. We are called to explain the reasoning behind out behavior.   as we advocate for babies, families, and our profession,

Consequently, the paper should contain the following four parts:
- Part 1: Introduction
- Part 2: Your Beliefs about Infant Education
- Part 3: Connections to Class
- Part 4: Conclusion

1. Introduction
   a. In an opening paragraph, introduce yourself.
      i. Describe why you want to work with infants-toddlers and families.
      ii. Explain what qualities & skills you possess that will enable you to develop strong, healthy, positive relationships with babies, families ad colleagues.
2. Your Beliefs about Infant Education and Connections to Class
   a. Explain your beliefs about infant education and how you envision the following concepts will be implemented in the classroom:
      i. Infant Curriculum
         1. Relationship-based practices (the 3 R's):
            a. Respect
            b. Reciprocity
            c. Responsiveness
            d. Attachment
         2. Family-Like Environment
         3. Individualized Routines
         4. Following an Infant's Lead
      ii. Engaging & Partnering with Families
      iii. Incorporating a baby's heritage culture in the classroom
      iv. Supporting each baby's learning in every developmental domain
      v. Provide specific examples that demonstrate each concept in an actual infant classroom
3. Connection
   a. Meaningfully explain how your beliefs about infant education connect to:
      i. 3 specific examples that link your philosophy to what we learned/did in class
      ii. 4 readings
         1. At least 2 assigned course readings from ECE 209-Lecture/Seminar
         2. 2 additional articles from the BMCC library education databases focused on relationship-based practices, infant curriculum, or working with infants and families.
         3. Embed the readings into your paper as you discuss the topics

4. Conclusion
   a. Conclude with a paragraph that explains:
      i. What has struck you as you participated in ECE 209?
      ii. What has been the most meaningful material you have learned in ECE 209?
      iii. What questions about working with babies and families do you still have?
      iv. What are your career plans after you finish your degree at BMCC?

REFLECTIONS ON RESPECT PAPER CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

ELEMENT	DOES YOUR PAPER:	Y/N
INTRODUCTION	Include background info, & why you want to work with infants-toddlers using many rich, vivid details & well-developed specific examples?	
INFANT CURRICULUM	Substantively articulated your beliefs about infant curriculum (relationship-based practices, individualized routines, following a baby's lead, & family-like setting) using many rich, vivid details & well-developed specific examples?	
ENGAGING & PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES	Substantively articulated your beliefs about how to engage & partner with families using many rich, vivid details & well-developed specific examples?	
INCORPORATING A BABY'S HERITAGE CULTURE	Substantively articulated your beliefs about infant curriculum, supporting each incorporating a baby's heritage culture into an infant classroom using many rich, vivid details & well-developed specific examples?	
SUPPORTING LEARNING	Substantively articulated your beliefs about how to support each child's learning using many rich, vivid details & well-developed specific examples?	
USE OF SOURCES	Integrate 4+ (2+ assigned course readings & 2+ researched from the BMCC library database) sources by comparing the sources to your philosophy meaningfully using many rich, vivid, details & well-developed specific examples?	
CONNECTIONS TO CLASS	Substantively described how your beliefs about of infant education connected to class using 3+ specific, meaningful links supported by many rich, vivid, details & well-developed examples?	
CONCLUSIONS	Substantively described what struck you, meaningful material you learned, questions you have, & your career goals using rich vivid details & well-developed specific examples?	
CLARITY	The paper was clear, organized, coherent, was full of examples, & there was evidence of proofreading	