



Western Technical College

10307195 ECE: Family and Community Relationships

Course Outcome Summary

Course Information

Description In this 3-credit course you will examine the role of relationships with family and community in early childhood education. Course competencies include: implement strategies that support diversity, cultural responsiveness, and anti-bias perspectives when working with families and community; analyze contemporary family patterns and trends; identify strategies to strengthen and support families; explore effective communication strategies; discover strategies for developing respectful and reciprocal relationships with families; analyze strategies to promote family engagement in early childhood education programs; explore a variety of formats for meeting with families in their contexts; advocate for children and families; and explore community resources that provide a range of services for children and families.

Career Cluster Education and Training

Instructional Level Associate Degree Courses

Total Credits 3

Total Hours 54

Textbooks

From Parents to Partners: Building a Family-Centered Early Childhood Program. 2nd Edition. Copyright 2017. Keyser, Janis. Publisher: Perseus Distribution. **ISBN-13:** 978-1-60554-514-1. Required.

Learner Supplies

Art Supplies: Adult scissors, small scissors with pointed tip, box of water based colored markers, eraser, box of crayons or colored pencils, permanent black marker, large roll of clear contact paper, plastic grid ruler, storage container for materials.. **Vendor:** To be discussed in class. Required.

Success Abilities

1. Cultivate Passion: Enhance Personal Connections
2. Cultivate Passion: Increase Self-Awareness
3. Refine Professionalism: Participate Collaboratively
4. Refine Professionalism: Practice Effective Communication

High Impact Practices

1. Community Based Learning Project: a key learning outcome of this course is to connect academic learning and civic development while simultaneously addressing a community partner's needs, interests, or problems.
2. Industry Credential or Certificate: by the end of this course, you will develop the skills necessary to obtain an industry-recognized certificate or credential.

Program Outcomes

1. Cultivate relationships with children, family, and the community

Course Competencies

1. **Implement strategies that support diversity, cultural responsiveness, and anti-bias perspectives when working with families and community.**

Assessment Strategies

- 1.1. in an oral or written response
- 1.2. in a classroom or simulated setting
- 1.3. individually or in groups

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 1.1. you describe variations in family structures, beliefs and values
- 1.2. you describe how a family's culture influences their values, perceptions, beliefs, celebrations and child-rearing practices
- 1.3. you show awareness of the influence of your own family experiences on your perceptions and attitudes toward diverse families and on your caregiving practices
- 1.4. you identify why teachers have responsibility to understand family life and how it impacts teaching
- 1.5. you involve families in the development and implementation of celebrations and activities that respect their traditions and values

Learning Objectives

- 1.a. Describe the influence of family and community on a child's behavior.
- 1.b. Identify anti-bias resources that focus on family and community.
- 1.c. Investigate cultural differences in the way that families and communities guide children's behavior.

2. **Analyze contemporary family patterns and trends**

Assessment Strategies

- 2.1. in an oral or written response
- 2.2. in a classroom or simulated setting
- 2.3. individually or in groups

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 2.1. you write a definition of family that is inclusive and diverse
- 2.2. you describe various family structures (i.e. nuclear family, one-parent family, foster family, same sex parents family)

- 2.3. you describe trends affecting families
- 2.4. you identify circumstances in families' lives that influence child and family members' actions
- 2.5. you identify common sources of tension between families and early childhood educators

Learning Objectives

- 2.a. Define family.
- 2.b. Explore family patterns.
- 2.c. Identify trends affecting families.

3. Identify strategies to strengthen and support families

Assessment Strategies

- 3.1. in an oral or written response
- 3.2. in a classroom or simulated setting
- 3.3. individually or in groups

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 3.1. you analyze factors that protect families against stress (i.e. Strengthening Families Protective Framework)
- 3.2. you identify strategies to support families in developing protective factors
- 3.3. you assess program practices in supporting and strengthening families in the protective factors

4. Explore effective communication strategies.

Assessment Strategies

- 4.1. in an oral or written response
- 4.2. in a classroom or simulated setting
- 4.3. individually or in groups

Criteria

Performance will be satisfactory when you:

- 4.1. you apply effective communication techniques
- 4.2. you identify barriers to effective communication
- 4.3. you recognize how personal patterns affect communication style
- 4.4. you identify strategies for conflict resolution
- 4.5. you develop strategies for communicating with families in ways that are culturally sensitive and respect the family's home language and communication styles

Learning Objectives

- 4.a. Explore effective oral and written communication techniques ("I" messages, reflective listening, open-ended questions, etc.)
- 4.b. Examine barriers to communication.
- 4.c. Identify personal behavior patterns and communication styles.

5. Discover strategies for developing respectful and reciprocal relationships with families.

Assessment Strategies

- 5.1. in an oral or written response
- 5.2. in a classroom or simulated setting
- 5.3. individually or in groups

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 5.1. you identify strategies for initial encounters with children and families
- 5.2. you identify techniques for building cooperative partnerships with families
- 5.3. you recognize the progression (as children's development proceeds, and as trust and respect develop) in teacher-family relationships
- 5.4. you analyze barriers to teacher-family relationships

6. Analyze strategies to promote family engagement in early childhood education programs

Assessment Strategies

- 6.1. in an oral or written response
- 6.2. in a classroom or simulated setting
- 6.3. individually or in groups

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 6.1. you identify a range of levels of family engagement (from notes home to parent boards)
- 6.2. you recognize the barriers to effective family engagement
- 6.3. you identify strategies that promote and sustain meaningful family engagement
- 6.4. you assess program practices in promoting and sustaining family engagement

7. Explore a variety of formats for meeting with families in their contexts.

Assessment Strategies

- 7.1. in an oral or written response
- 7.2. in a classroom or simulated setting
- 7.3. individually or in groups

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 7.1. you recognize the variety of purposes and goals of home visits
- 7.2. you identify strategies to conduct a successful home visit
- 7.3. you examine how home visits are used in a variety of community agencies
- 7.4. you recognize the purpose and goals of family-teacher conferences
- 7.5. you identify strategies to conduct a successful family-teacher conference

8. Advocate for children and families.

Assessment Strategies

- 8.1. in an oral or written response
- 8.2. in a classroom or simulated setting
- 8.3. individually or in groups

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 8.1. you describe your role as a child and family advocate
- 8.2. you explore public policy that affects children and families
- 8.3. you examine the role of public policy
- 8.4. you identify a range of advocacy strategies
- 8.5. you apply advocacy strategies to address a specific need or issue

Learning Objectives

- 8.a. Explore public policy that affects children and families.
- 8.b. Examine the role of public policy.
- 8.c. Investigate methods used to affect public policy.
- 8.d. Define advocacy.
- 8.e. Describe the role of the advocate.

9. Explore community resources that provide a range of services for children and families.

Assessment Strategies

- 9.1. in an oral or written response.
- 9.2. in a classroom or simulated setting.
- 9.3. individually or in groups.

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 9.1. you recognize the types of services needed by diverse families
- 9.2. you discover a broad range of services provided by local community organizations (including family resource centers)
- 9.3. you develop a collection of resource agencies

9.4. you match local services to the needs of a family (e.g. in a case study)

Learning Objectives

- 9.a. Organize resource information.
- 9.b. Identify appropriate resource information according to related need(s).
- 9.c. Examine networking opportunities within the local community.
- 9.d. Define collaboration as a professional strategy for caregiving.
- 9.e. Discuss issues of confidentiality and ethics when working with community resources.
- 9.f. Participate as a partner on family and community teams.