

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS & TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Title: METHODS IN PARENT SUPPORT

Code No.: ED 404-2

Program: INFANT/TODDLER CARE AND EDUCATION

Semester: SECOND

Date: FEBRUARY 11 - MARCH 8, 1985 and
MARCH 18 - APRIL 12, 1985

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New: _____ Revision: X

APPROVED: *N. Koch*
Chairperson

1993 05 07
Date

It will examine a variety of methods in offering support to parents of normal and special-needs infants and toddlers including: basic communication and attending skills; small group interaction and communication; effective group skills and group leadership. As well, the student will discuss the implications of the following: individual and cultural differences in infant-rearing; home situations affecting early development, e.g. single-parent families, socio-economic conditions, family stress, sibling relationships, adoption and self-relationships.

This is an introductory course only. If further skills in the areas of counselling and leadership are desired, studies in those specific areas must be pursued.

COURSE GOALS:

Upon completing this course the student will be able to:

1. discuss the importance of a good parent-staff relationship
2. describe ways to build a relationship with parents
3. discuss ways in which parents influence their children
4. discuss advantages and disadvantages of the various means of communicating with busy parents
5. evaluate the parents' position as decision-makers of:
 - (1) a centre's policies
 - (2) their child's care and education
6. identify a variety of situations in which parent support would be needed
7. visit and evaluate family home day care, private home day care and foster home day care settings
8. help parents plan for home care and to optimize environmental conditions for promoting infant/toddler development, and especially to assist with "special needs" children
9. organize and lead small groups

cont'd...

10. recognize problems of a complexity which their skills cannot address and make appropriate referrals
11. devise and implement a Parent Group Plan

METHODOLOGY:

Offered over 8 weeks in two, four-week sessions, this course will comprise some 18 hours of supervised study time and will be implemented as follows:

- in-class lectures and role-playing
- text reference and independent study and worksheets
- one 5-hour workshop using video equipment as a learning tool with emphasis on attending skills and group process.

Project:

- A - experience with actual groups where students will utilize learned skills in facilitating parent groups and in acting in a supportive role with parents
- B - observation of working "parent groups"

REQUIRED READINGS:

Text: "Leadership and Group Development Series", 2nd Edition

- I - Factors in Working with Groups
- II - How to Observe Your Group
- III - How to Analyze and Evaluate Group Growth
- IV - Planning Group Development

by: Dimock, Hedley G.; Guelph: Office for Educational Practice, University of Guelph, Ontario, 1983.

RELATED READINGS:

1. Looking Out/Looking In: Interpersonal Communication, 3rd Edition; Adler, Ronald B. & Towne, Neil; New York: Holt, Rinehart-Winston, 1981.
2. Let's Talk: An Introduction to Interpersonal Communication, 2nd

cont'd...

J. Wood-Arbus

3. Working with Parents and Infants: An International Approach; Bromwich, Rose; Baltimore: University Park Press, Maryland, 1981.
4. Understanding and Working with Parents of Children with Special Needs; Paul, James L. (ed.); New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1981.
5. Basic Attending Skills: Participant Manual; Ivey, Allen E., and Gluckstern, Norma B.; Amherst: Allen E. Ivey & Norma B. Gluckstern Micro-training Associates Inc., Massachusetts, 1974.
6. Parents on the Team; Brown, Sara L. and Moersch, Martha S. (eds.); Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, Michigan, 1978.

Project:

A - Parent Group Plan (see Part G: attached)

Devise and implement a plan for a series of parent group meetings.

B - Each student will observe a "parent group", in operation, twice during the first 4 weeks of this course. The groups will be assigned during class time, and the observation will take place outside of school hours (on student's own time).

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT:

1. Class participation (attendance and preparedness)	15%
2. Quiz	15%
3. Project A	40%
Project B	10%
4. Binder	20%
	100%

SYLLABUS:

All sessions based on readings in Dimock:

- Week 1
- Communication Skills
 - Factors in Working with Groups
 - How to Observe Your Group

cont'd...

- Observing Groups (Practicum) Project B
- Worksheets

- Week 2 - How to Analyze and Evaluate Your Group
- Planning Group Development
- Worksheets
- Project B continued

- Week 3 - Understanding and Working with Parents
- Parent Group Plans
- Worksheets
- Submit Binders

- Week 4 - Planning Video Workshop (planned by students and instructor)
- Workshop date:
 5 hrs.

- Week 5 (after break)

- Implementation of Parent Groups

- Week 6 - Quiz
- Continuation: Group Work Practicum
- Submit Binders

- Week 7 - Group Work Practicum
- Submit Binders (final mark assigned)

- Week 8 - Wrap up, in-class discussions and grades assigned.

JWA:sdd