

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

It is crucial for Early Childhood Educators to develop and demonstrate the ability to understand various aspects of parent-teacher-child relationships. This includes an understanding of parents as people with varied values, goals, backgrounds and needs to be met. Communication processes, group dynamics and leadership styles are part of this picture. The Early Childhood Educator must also be aware of the community, its resources and their participation in various community interactions.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Apply effective information techniques to interactions involving parents, family members, others (Reflective of CSAC Vocational #3)

Potential Learning Outcomes:

- Detail the Developmentally Appropriate Practices associated with family involvement in early years care
- Outline and demonstrate an understanding of facilitating parent education programs.
- Demonstrate an ability to design and facilitate an information booth for parents/ community.

2. Advocate for services to children and families. (Reflective of CSAC Vocational #8)

Potential Learning Outcomes:

- Outline services for children and families in the community.

3. Support the development and learning of individual children, within the context of his/her family, culture, and society (Reflective of CSAC Vocational #9)

Potential Learning Outcomes:

- Outline the definition of "family" and the factors that affect families.
- Recognize the diversity in family compositions
- Identify the issues families face and recognize the role of the teacher to support the child and the family.
- Respond sensitively and appropriately to families
- Demonstrate an awareness of community resources, which may serve the needs of children and families
- Identify parenting styles and stages.
- Outline the benefits and barriers to family involvement in early years care.

4. Develop and maintain effective interpersonal communication (written, oral, and non-verbal) with families, co-workers, employers and individuals/ agencies.

Elements of the Performance

- Describe developmentally appropriate strategies for involving families in the early years program
- Identify strategies for achieving family friendly early years programs
- Outline and demonstrate an understanding of facilitating parent education programs.
- Demonstrate an ability to design and facilitate an information booth for parents/ community.

III. TOPICS:

- The Changing Face of Families
- Why are families important in early childhood care
- Effective Strategies for Family Involvement
- Effective Strategies for dealing with Parent Issues
- Parent Education

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

Guide to Successful Facilitation Canadian Child Care Federation Publications
Partnerships: Families and Communities in Early Childhood Development. Thomson-Nelson

resources have been purchased for previous courses.

- Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum. Best Practices in Early Childhood Education 3rd Ed. Kostelnik, Soderman, Whiren. Prentice-Hall Publishing 2004. ISBN 0-13-049658-8
- Practical Solutions to Practically Every Problem (Revised) Saifer, Monarch Books Canada. 2003 ISBN 1-929610-31-9
- Jamieson, J. Bertrand and Ibrahim E. (Eds). Science of Early Childhood Development. [online resource] Winnipeg, MB: Red River College: retrieved from <http://www.scienceofecd.com>
- **Posted Notes and Articles on LMS – Further reading material will be announced in class as needed.**

V. EVALUATION PROCESS AND GRADING SYSTEM:

Participation in course related activities 20%

Details of the various activities will be discussed in class. In some cases students will be required to submit their work at the end of the class for evaluation.

Participation during course related activities

Students are expected to participate in various course related activities (in / out of class) throughout the course. The focus of the activities will be to provide students with opportunities to engage in experiential learning that reflects the theory being discussed. These activities must be completed during the scheduled time, therefore students who are not prepared, choose not to participate, arrive late or leave early, or are absent for the entire class and consequently miss these participation components will be given a "0" for the identified activity. These activities will not be rescheduled for students.

The following points are given to students who fully participate in the following activities as part of the course requirement:

Field Trips – 10pts.
Large Group Activities / Presentations= 5pts
Video training = 4pts
Small group / individual activities =3 pts
Lecture = 2pts.

Assignments 35%

Program Newsletter 10%
Participation / Certification in "Family Math" facilitator training 10%
Science of ECD reflections 5%
Facilitating Workshop 10%

Family Information Fair

25%

Students will research a topic that addresses particular issues that parents face. The student will design an interactive display booth that will be presented to the public at a mall display. The student will be responsible for setting up their booth, responding to the public during the time period scheduled, and dismantling their booth.

This event will take place on a Saturday (final date to be announced in class). **It is mandatory that all class members be present or a mark of "0" will be given to any student not in attendance for the full period scheduled during this assignment.**

Details will be discussed in class.

Tests

20%

Test #1 – 10%

Test #2 – 10%

College Grading Policy

The following semester grades will be assigned to students in postsecondary courses:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	
A	80 – 89%	4.00
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.	
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.	
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.	

Note: For such reasons as program certification or program articulation, certain courses require minimums of greater than 50% and/or have mandatory components to achieve a passing grade.

It is also important to note, that the minimum overall GPA required in order to graduate from a Sault College program remains 2.0.

Important Notes to Students:

Class Activities:

1. Attendance plays an important role in successful learning and skill development, so students are expected to attend. Failure to attend may have an impact on your In-class activity participation mark.
2. Students are responsible for work assigned during absences.

Students should be aware that the expectations for their conduct in class are outlined in the "STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT" in the Sault College Handbook

Assignments:

1. All assignments must be submitted on the **due date at the beginning of the class** period unless otherwise specified by the professor.
2. All assignments **must be typed and stapled** or they will be returned to the student not marked.
3. To protect students, assignments must be delivered by the student/author to the professor.
4. Late submissions **will be deducted 5% per day** which commences at the end of the class in which the assignment was due, **Assignments will only be accepted after the due date for a period of 5 school days. At that point, the student will receive automatic "0" for the assignment.** Students are encouraged to communicate with their instructor if extenuating circumstances exists and student's require an extension. Granting extensions is up to the discretion of the instructor.
5. Students who do not present on their presentation date will forfeit the mark for that assignment.
6. Students have the responsibility to be **aware of assignment due dates**. If they miss in-class assignments that are due at the end of the class period for evaluation, they forfeit the mark.
7. Students are responsible for **retaining a file of all drafts and returned assignments**. We suggest students keep their computer file of assignments until the end of semester. In the event of a grade dispute, students must produce the graded assignment, so it can be recorded

Learning Environment

In the interest of providing an optimal learning environment, students are to follow these two expectations;

- Computers are permitted in class for course material only.
- Cell phones are turned off or on vibrate during class time.
- Students will refrain from talking while others in the class are speaking or working
- Personal conversations will be held outside of class time
- Ground rules will be established and reinforced by the student/faculty in the class. Discussions will be conducted respectfully and all students are expected to reflect attitudes reflected in the professional code of ethics.
- Information shared within the classroom will not be discussed outside of the classroom.
- Students are expected to maintain information shared within r class as confidential and not discussed outside of the scheduled class time that is facilitated by the teacher.
- Students may eat and drink in class, however eating large "meals" during class will be discouraged and students will be asked to consume their meal elsewhere and may return to class when they are finished. Students are responsible for cleaning up. If the classroom is littered with garbage, the instructor may revoke this privilege
- Students are reminded to be sensitive to those who are sensitive / allergic to scents, foods and act accordingly

Missed Classes

If a student misses a class, it is their responsibility to ask a classmate to take notes and pick up assignments and handouts.

Your instructor reserves the right to modify the course, as he/she deems necessary to meet the needs of students. **Dates for projects or tests may be revised depending upon course content/flow**

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

Disability Services:

If you are a student with a disability (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your professor and/or the Disability Services office. Visit Room E1101 or call Extension 2703 so that support services can be arranged for you.

Retention of Course Outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other post-secondary institutions.

Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of "academic dishonesty" in *Student Code of Conduct*. Students who engage in academic dishonesty will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course/program, as may be decided by the professor/dean. In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced, and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

Course Outline Amendments:

The professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

Communication:

The College considers **WebCT/LMS** as the primary channel of communication for each course. Regularly checking this software platform is critical as it will keep you directly connected with faculty and current course information. Success in this course may be directly related to your willingness to take advantage of the **Learning Management System** communication tool.

VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:

Students who wish to apply for advance credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain an Application for Advance Credit from the program coordinator (or the course coordinator regarding a general education transfer request) or academic assistant. Students will be required to provide an unofficial transcript and course outline related to the course in question.

Credit for prior learning will also be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.