

Montgomery County Community College
EDU 245
Connecting Families, Schools, and Communities
3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Connecting Families, Schools, and Communities (EDU 245) explores the concept of family, beginning with an understanding of their own families. Students will also explore diverse family structures, communication styles, parenting styles, family roles, and community engagement. Students will learn how to create meaningful relationships with families in order to enhance learning opportunities for children. In addition, students will investigate community organizations that support families and schools in order to develop community connections and be able to provide information to families. Finally, students will investigate and simulate family/teacher conferences in order to prepare them for that aspect of family/teacher communication.

PREREQUISITE(S): Completion of, or exemption from, *ENG 011 or ESL 011, ENG 010 or ESL 010, REA 011 or REA 017, REA 010 or REA 014, or ENG 101*

CO-REQUISITE(S):

None

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

*NAEYC Key Assessment

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Understand the role of culture in the classroom and teaching practices.	Student Presentations Class Discussion Lecture Role Playing	Student Presentations- Rubric
2. Identify and explore community organizations that support families and schools in the area.	Class Discussions Lecture Community Agency Poster Family/Teacher Conference assignment	Community Agency Poster Rubric Family/Teacher Conference assignment rubric
3. Recognize variations in families in the areas of culture, ethnicity, customs, etc., and explain how these variations might affect child development.	Class Discussions Multimedia Materials Lecture Case Studies Family/Teacher Conference assignment	Family/Teacher Conference assignment rubric
4. Analyze issues of family diversity and classroom performance by creating	Family/Teacher Conference assignment	Family/Teacher Conference assignment rubric

and participating in a family/teacher conference simulation.		
5. Analyze one's own family structure based on a set of specific criteria, such as language, customs, traditions, etc., in order to create a respectful and understanding classroom community.	Class Discussion Student Culture Presentations Culture paper/assignment	Culture paper/assignment Rubric Student Culture Presentation Rubric
6. Develop an understanding of the effects of family trauma (violence, divorce, stress, etc.) on children's well-being and the functioning of families.	Class Discussions Multimedia Materials Lecture Case Studies Family/Teacher Conference assignment	Family/Teacher Conference assignment rubric

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Exploration of one's own family/ culture paper
2. Theory-based approach to family involvement in education
3. Understanding family diversity
4. Developmental issues in families with young children
5. Community Agency Poster
6. Family strengths, functions, and structure
7. Parenting styles
8. Family stress/trauma
9. Family-based philosophy in early childhood
10. Family-Staff relationships
11. Supporting young children's learning at home
12. Family/Teacher Conference Simulation and Webliography assignment
13. Early childhood educators in the community

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Text: Couchenour, Donna and Chrisman, Kent. *Families, Schools, and Communities: Together for Young Children* (5th ed.).

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Debbie G. Levin	Date: 2/6/2012
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 5/21/2012
Revised by: Debbie Levin	Date: 6/22/2012
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 6/25/2012
Revised by: Meryl Sultanik	Date: 3/2/2017
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 3/7/2017
Revised by: Meryl Sultanik	Date: 5/15/2018
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 5/16/2018

Revised by: Meryl Sultanik
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:

Date: 9/15/2018
Date: 10/15/2018



This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.