

Western Kentucky University Course Syllabus
Applied Human Sciences
Spring 2020

Course Number: FACS 297
Course Title: Family, Community, and Early Childhood Program Partnerships
Course Time and Place: Web
Credit Hours: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Qingfang Song, Ph.D.
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Office Hours: 2-4pm M/W & 1-2pm T/R or By Appointment

REQUIRED TEXT:

Gestwicki, C. (2016). *Home, school, and community relations* (9th ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to provide an introduction to the skills and appropriate techniques of establishing positive relationships with families of young children and involving them in the early childhood program planning, implementation, and evaluation. Skills and techniques for building community partnerships and advocating for young children are addressed. Practical experiences provided in a field setting. Students are responsible for arranging their own field work and providing their own transportation.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Know about diverse family and community characteristics **(2a)**
2. Know and understand the benefits of reciprocal, positive relationships with families **(2b, 4a)**
3. Identify barriers to and solutions for working with diverse families of young children and their communities **(2c. 6c. SS written & verbal skills, resources)**
4. Understand and use the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct to analyze ethical dilemmas in relation to working with families **(6b)**
5. Identify, select, and work with community agencies providing services to benefit young children, their families, and programs serving children **(6c)**

2010 NAEYC STANDARDS FOR INITIAL & ADVANCED EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION PROGRAMS

The following standards are addressed in this course:

Standard 2: Building Family and Community Relationships

- 2a: Knowing about and understanding diverse family and community characteristics
- 2b: Supporting and engaging families and communities through respectful, reciprocal relationships
- 2c: Involving families and communities in their children's development and learning

Standard 4: Using Developmentally Effective Approaches

- 4a: Understanding positive relationships and supportive interactions as the foundation of their work with young children

Standard 6: Becoming a Professional

- 6b: Knowing about and upholding ethical standards and other early childhood professional guidelines.
- 6c: Engaging in continuous, collaborative learning to inform practice; using technology effectively with young children, with peers, and as a professional resource
- 6e: Engaging in informed advocacy for children and the early childhood profession.

Supportive Skills

- Written and verbal communication skills
- Skills in identifying and using professional resources

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Class Participation via Discussion Board & Professional Behavior
2. Academic Notes
3. Family Interview/Report & Teacher Interview/Report
4. Community Project/Report

CLASS POLICY STATEMENTS

Participation: Students are expected to participate in all class discussions and exercises. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor if assignment deadlines are not met due to extenuating circumstances. Students are responsible for initiating arrangements for missed work.

Late Assignments: Late assignments will not be accepted, unless there are extenuating circumstances. Appropriate documentation will be required. Documentation must be provided within two weeks of extenuating circumstances. Routine medical appointments and court appearances (except jury duty) are not considered excusable absences. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the professor to resolve any missing work upon their return to class. In general, late assignments will have points deducted from the grade.

Field Experience: This course requires **6 hours of field experience** which serve the basis to write up family interview report, teacher interview report, and the community project report. Students are expected to identify and select parents, teachers, and programs/community agencies, as well as make arrangements for their visits. Students are responsible for their own transportation. **Failure to complete the fieldwork will result in a failing grade for the class.** An incomplete grade will not be given for failure to complete fieldwork required for final project. Some sites may require students to undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, a TB test, physical, or to provide proof of health insurance, liability insurance, and/or immunizations records prior to participating in any of the required experiences at selected off campus facilities/agencies. This is the student's responsibility. Students should check with their field site for the specific requirements of that site. Failure to complete these requirements for a field placement may result in delaying the field experience and possibly failing the course.

As policy, the College of Health and Human Services and the faculty will not keep this information on file. Students should keep a copy of all documentation for their files. If you are an education major, you should have a TB skin test, a physical and a criminal background check on file in the College of Education. If you are an out of state student doing your field hours outside of Kentucky, you should check to see what your state requires.

Special Instructional Materials: Students must have an active and valid email address for this class. Information may be sent to the entire class via email. Western Kentucky University provides an email address to every student. This is the official email address for all University information, including this class. Students will also need to have a current version (preferably 2013 or later version) of Microsoft Word. Blackboard does not recognize Notepad or Works. Blackboard will not open Word Perfect, Works, or Notepad.

Plagiarism Policy: To represent written work taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense and is considered an act of Academic Dishonesty. The academic work of a student must be his or her own. One must give any author credit for source material borrowed from him or her. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage without reference to the source after having changed a few words is also plagiarism. This policy also applies to any media material used in this class, including but not limited to, photographs, floor plans, lesson plans, learning activities. Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive a failing grade in the course. The faculty member may also present the case to the Office of Judicial Affairs for disciplinary sanctions.

Academic Dishonesty: Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive from the instructor a failing grade in that portion of the coursework in which the act was detected or a failing grade in the course without possibility of withdrawal. The faculty member may also present the case to the Office of Judicial Affairs for disciplinary sanctions.

Drop Policy: Should the student decide to drop the class, it is their responsibility to do so. Failure to drop a class will result in a failing grade for that class.

Disability Accommodations Statement: In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or

instructor without a Faculty Notification Letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

Title IX Misconduct/Assault Statement: Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf.

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159

*This is an abbreviated syllabus. A detailed syllabus will be available to all enrolled students on the first day of class.