William Paterson University  
College of Education Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education  

Course of Study  

Theme - Preparing Inquiring Educators for Diverse Settings: Developing Knowledge, Application, Dispositions

1. **Title and Number of Credits:** CIEC 611 Parenting and Parent Involvement in School and Community (3 graduate credits)

2. **Course Description:** This course will review the literature on parent-child relationships and parent involvement in P-3 classrooms. The course examines parenting from the humanistic, behavioral, social and developmental perspectives. Issues related to preschool and elementary children will be studied along with related topics such as temperament, discipline, stress, self-esteem and school readiness. Techniques for involving families and building two-way communication in the school and communicating through parent-teacher conferences will also be examined through lecture, discussion and video tapes.

3. **Pre-requisites:** None

4. **Course Objectives:**

   1. Examine research on the effect of parent involvement programs in schools and identify strategies for implementing a Year Round Parent Involvement (monthly family activities, created by the graduate-candidate, that encourage active family participation from Sept. - June).
   2. Encourage teachers to become parent educators by studying issues involved in raising preschool and elementary age children, such as: a) building self esteem; and b) reducing stress in children; c) managing children born with varying temperaments.
   3. Examine parenting styles best suited to a child's temperament; and improving one's ability to guide and discipline child behavior.
   4. Examine and research these issues: parent-teacher conferences, two-way communication strategies, emotional intelligence, dealing with anger, gender roles, diverse family structures, and the effects of violence and sex in the media.
   5. Explore parenting issues that surround children with autism and other special needs.
   6. Explore diversity and multiculturalism with regard to parenting.

5. **Student Learning Outcomes:** The graduate-candidate will be able to:

   1. Demonstrate the ability to conduct research on a parenting issue, as measured by a research paper, presented orally.
   2. Demonstrate the ability to create a Year Round Family Involvement Program consisting of a variety of activities that relate to the age/grade of the child and school curriculum.
   3. Demonstrate an understanding of appropriate family involvement techniques, as measured by a research paper and Year Round Family Involvement Program.
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<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>NJ Teaching Standards</th>
<th>NAEYC Advanced Standards</th>
<th>NCATE Standards</th>
<th>COE Advanced Competencies</th>
<th>NJDOE ECE/CCC Standards</th>
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### 6. Course Content:

1. Parent and Family Involvement: Research and Strategies
   a. Communication Techniques
   b. News
      1. Active Listening
      2. I Messages
      3. Problem Solving
      4. The Positive Phone Call
      5. Letters, Newsletters, Web-Sites and E-Mail
   c. Parent-Teacher Conferences
   d. Parent & Family Involvement/Partnership strategies for each month of the year

2. Parenting and the Life Cycle
   a. Parenting is a process (stress, parent burnout and guilt)
   b. Stages of parenthood (Galinsky)
   c. Diversity of parent styles - Diana Baumrind
   d. Self-esteem
   e. Emotional Intelligence

3. Psychological patterns of parenting
   a. Humanistic psychological safety
   b. Social democratic family living
   c. Behavioral: Reinforcement and consequences
   d. Developmental: Age appropriateness
   e. Children with special needs
4. Modifying children's behavior typical and challenging
   a. Research on Temperaments
   b. Limits and Expectations
   c. Mutual problem solving (Humanistic)
   d. Natural logical consequences (Social)
   e. Rewards and Punishments (Behavioral)
   f. Family collaboration
5. The Preschool Years
   a. Four areas of development (Piaget, Erikson, Maslow)
   b. Sibling rivalry
   c. Effects of temperament
   d. School readiness
   e. Fear
   f. Research on diverse cultural groups
6. The Elementary School years
   a. Four areas of development (Zimbardo, Katz, Ziegler)
   b. Homework
   c. Reducing Anger and Stress during the elementary years
   d. Sibling rivalry
   e. Television
   f. Research on diverse cultural groups
   g. Positive Character Traits
7. Men in the Lives of Children
   a. The importance of positive male role models
   b. Biases, male teachers and families
   c. Children's books and positive male role models
8. Research and Strategies for involving/partnering with all families in your program:
   a. Similarities and differences in family structures
   b. Dyads, Single parents, working parents, gay/lesbian
   c. Children with autism, special needs
9. Family Involvement Programs
   a. Research on effectiveness of family involvement programs
   b. Effective two-way parent/teacher communication
10. Educating parents and informing about class organization to parents
    a. The "Open House" or "Back to School" talk
    b. Explaining the curriculum

7. Teaching/Learning Strategies
   1. Lecture/Discussion
   2. Video tapes/Discussion
   3. Small group interaction
   4. Demonstration
   5. Online discussions using blackboard
   5. Assigned readings
8. **Evaluation Methods:**

1. Student Learning Outcome #1: Quality of oral presentation of research paper as judged by a rubric.
2. Student Learning Outcome #2: Quality of parent involvement program as judged by a rubric.
3. Student Learning Outcome #3: Quality of research paper as judged by a rubric
4. Attendance

9. **Recommended Texts and Readings:**


10. **Preparers' Names and Date:** Professor Anthony J. Coletta, Spring, 2005

11. **Department Approval Date:** Spring, 2005

12. **Reviser's Name and Date:** Cindy Gennarelli, Mary DeBlasio, Dr. Strasser, Spring, 2010

13. **Department Revision Approval Date:** Spring, 2010

14. **Bibliography:**


**Websites**

Association for Children of New Jersey: http://acnj.org


Colorin Colorado!: http://www.colorincolorado.org

Family Diversity Projects: http://www.familydiv.org

National Association for Bilingual Education: http://www.nabe.org

National Association for the Education of Young Children: http://www.naeyc.org

National Association of Multicultural Education: http://www.nameorg.org

National Center for Learning Disabilities: http://www.recognitionandresponse.org

National Institute for Early Education Research: http://www.nieer.org

National Parent Teacher Association: http://www.pta.org

National Parent Teacher Organization: http://www.pto.org

New Jersey Parent Teacher Association: http://www.njpta.org

Reading Rockets: http://www.readingrockets.org

Teaching Tolerance: http://www.tolerance.org