William Paterson University  
College of Education  
Department of Special Education and Counseling  

Course of Study  

Preparation Inquiring Educators: Knowledge, Understanding, and Application  

1. Course Name and Number of Credits:  
   CSP 626 Counseling Children and Their Families:  
   Applications for Schools and Community  
   3 Credit Hours  

2. Course Description:  
   This course introduces the theories of counseling families and children. It  
   examines family dynamics and how counselors in schools and community can  
   help children and adolescents cope with family problems and issues  

3. Prerequisites and Restrictions:  
   CSP 601, CSP 602, and CSP 603  

4. Course Objectives:  
   1. To introduce theories of counseling families and  
      children (II.G.3.a., II.G.3.d., II.G.5.d., II.G.5.e, CMH C.8.)  
   2. To examine how these theories may be applied in a school and community  
      setting (II.G.2.d., II.G.5.d)  
   3. To explore the significance of race, gender, ethnicity and special needs on  
      family structure, assessment and intervention (II.G.2.a, II.G.2.d., II.G.3.d.CMH  
      D.5.)  
   4. To explore counseling techniques used with children (II.G.5.c)  
   5. To provide an overview of various assessment techniques used with families  
      and children (II.G.7.b)  
   6. To provide an overview on the ethical and legal issues in counseling families  
      and children (II.G.1.j.)  

5. Student Learning Outcomes: Student will be able to:  
   1. Demonstrate an understanding of theories of counseling families and children  
      as measured by performance on tests  
   2. Demonstrate the ability to do simple assessments of families and children as  
      evidenced by genogram and performance on tests  
   3. Demonstrate an understanding of how race, gender, ethnicity and special  
      needs affects family dynamics as evidenced by genogram, tests and paper  
   4. Demonstrate an understanding of how counselors in the schools and  
      community can assist at risk families and children as evidenced by paper and  
      performance on tests  

6. Course Content:  
   1. Historic overview of family counseling  
   2. Counseling techniques for children
a. Play therapy
b. Use of games
c. Use of puppets

3. Genograms

4. Family Therapies and Interventions
   a. Minuchin
   b. Bowen
   c. Experiential
   d. Behavioral
   e. Strategic and Systemic
   f. Brief Solution Focused and Narrative

5. Ethical and legal issues
   a. Counseling children
   b. Counseling families

6. The role of the School Counselor

7. Community resources for families and children

7. Teaching/Learning Methods:
   1. Lecture
   2. Small group discussion
   3. Class demonstration, role play and case study
   4. Multimedia presentation

8. Evaluation Methods
   1. Midterm and Final Exams
   2. Genogram
   3. Literature Review

9. Required Texts/Readings


10. Preparer’s Name and Date: Paula R. Danzinger, Ph.D., Spring, 2000

11. Department Approval Date: February, 2000

12. Reviser(s) Name(s) and Date: Paula R. Danzinger, Ph.D., Fall, 2000

13. Revision Approval Date:

14. Bibliography:


