

# EDU 131 Child, Family and Community Introduction

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

**Course description.** This course covers the development of partnerships among culturally, linguistically and ability diverse families, children, schools and communities through the use of evidence-based strategies. Emphasis is placed on developing skills and identifying benefits for establishing and supporting respectful relationships between diverse families, programs/schools, and community agencies/resources reflective of the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct and the Code of Ethics for North Carolina Educators. Upon completion, students should be able to identify appropriate relationship building strategies between diverse families, children birth through adolescence, schools, and communities and demonstrate a variety of communication skills including appropriate use of technology to support every child.

Course Hours per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completing requirements for this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify appropriate relationship building strategies between diverse families, children, schools, and communities
2. Demonstrate a variety of communication skills including appropriate use of technology to support every child.
3. Develop awareness of community resources to support and advocate for children that may help diverse families and children.
4. Understand diverse family structures {and compile community resources} that may help diverse families to advocate for themselves and their children.

## OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

- I. Overview and Review of Guiding Principles of Course
  - A. Defining Family and Community
  - B. Bronfenbrenner
  - C. NAEYC Ethical Code of Conduct
  - D. Diversity
- II. Family Engagement
  - A. Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory Review and Application
  - B. Diversity of Family Structures
  - C. Meeting "families"
- III. Building Strong Relationships
  - A. Family Partnerships
  - B. Families who are culturally and linguistically diverse and families with a child with a disability
  - C. Epstein's Model Overview
- IV. Effective Communication

- A. Basic Skills
- B. Communication with families, community partners, and co-workers
- C. Using technology
- V. Communities and Community Resources
  - A. Learning at Home
  - B. Collaborating with Community
  - C. Families with children with disabilities (e.g., could include referral, service coordination)
- VI. Advocacy and Community Engagement
- VII. Supporting Families Experiencing Difficulties
  - A. Challenges to communication
  - B. Families with children with disabilities (e.g., could include referral, service coordination)
- VIII. Family-Professional Partnerships

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIAL:**

The textbook and other instructional material will be determined by the instructor.