

DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2026

CD 2110 (B3): Working with Families – 3 (6.5-0-0) 45 Hours for 6 weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR: Tanya Ray
OFFICE: H215

PHONE: 780-539-2786
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OFFICE HOURS: Monday 11:00 – 12:00 or
after class or email

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course focuses on the role of the early childhood practitioner in providing family-centered care and education for children from birth to age 8. The skills, knowledge, and attributes required to develop and sustain positive, collaborative, and empowering relationships with families are examined.

PREREQUISITE(S):

Successful completion of first year or consent of Department. ***This course must be successfully completed immediately prior to CD2145 Practicum IV.**

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Wilson, L. (2025). Partnerships: Families and communities in early childhood.
Cengage.

There may be a small cost for items required for the creation of some assignments.

DELIVERY MODE(S):

This class will consist of a variety of lectures, small group assignments, and hands-on experiences. Please note that this course requires class attendance.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

On completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Describe the evolution of the family in Canadian society.
2. Articulate the various influences/stressors Canadian parents and children face.
3. Discuss how families are impacted by social, cultural, and economic challenges.
4. Describe ways early childhood educators can provide responsive care and supportive learning environments for children and their families living in various family structures.
5. Describe the role of early childhood practitioners in creating and maintaining family-centered programs and practices.
6. Discuss the benefits of and barriers to effective partnerships with families.
7. Implement a range of strategies that support effective partnerships with families.
8. Identify the sources of family-educator conflict and outline strategies for resolving conflict.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.alberta.ca>.

**** For courses with alpha (letter) grading, a grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.**

EVALUATIONS:

Participation & In-class Learning Activities/Quizzes – 20%

Assignment #1 – 20% Bulletin Board/Documentation

Assignment #2 – 20% Communication App

Assignment #3 – 20% Newsletter

Assignment #4 – 20% Planning event

GRADING CRITERIA – You must receive a grade of C- to pass this course.

Please note that most institutions will not accept your course for transfer credit IF your grade is less than C-.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

DATE	TOPIC/CHAPTER	ASSIGNMENT/TEST
January 6	Introduction – the Changing Face of Canadian Families	Assignment due dates in myClass
January 8	Supports to Children and Families	
January 9	Building Effective Partnerships	
January 13	Building Effective Partnerships / Practical Application	
January 15	Laying the Foundation	
January 16	Laying the Foundation	
January 20	Ways to Involve Families	

January 22	Ways to Involve Families / Practical Application	
January 23	Verbal Communication with Families	
January 27	Verbal Communication with Families / Practical Application	
January 29	Staying Connected – Written Communication	
January 30	Written Communication	
February 3	Written Communication / Practical Application	
February 5	Written Communication	
February 6	Families We May Meet / Practical Application	
February 10	Families We May Meet	
February 12	Families We May Meet	
February 13	Catch up day!	

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Polytechnic expects students' conduct to be in accordance with basic rights and responsibilities. Please refer to the NWP website regarding rights and responsibilities.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page