

DEPARTMENT of Education

COURSE OUTLINE –Winter 2026

CD 2145 (B3): Practicum IV – 6 (0-2-28) 254 Hours 15 Weeks seminar, 8 Weeks practicum

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

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OFFICE: H215

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OFFICE HOURS: Monday 11:00-12:00 or by appointment/email

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This practicum provides students with the opportunity to integrate their knowledge, skills, and values in a professional early learning setting. Students apply developmentally appropriate practices, design engaging environments, and demonstrate leadership in supporting children's play, learning, and well-being. Practicum experiences may take one of several forms, including facilitating outdoor and nature-based play environments, operating a student-led preschool program, or completing a supervised workplace practicum in a licensed early learning and child care setting. Students work collaboratively with peers and mentors, engage in reflective practice, and demonstrate professional conduct aligned with Flight: Alberta's Early Learning and Care Framework and the Code of Ethics for Early Childhood Educators.

PREREQUISITE(S):

All first and second-year courses in the Early Learning and Child Care Diploma program and a standard first aid certificate or consent of the Department.

(Students must successfully complete CD2020 immediately prior to taking CD2145.)

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

No textbook required

DELIVERY MODE(S):

On-campus, in person.

Lecture, discussion, small group work and video taping of the student's interactions with young children.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this practicum, the student will be able to complete all duties and responsibilities of a Level Three Child Care Educator, specifically they will:

- Develop a positive rapport with children and interact with children in a nurturing, supportive manner.
- Demonstrate the ability to effectively guide children's behavior.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the nutritional, health, and safety needs of young children.
- Demonstrate an understanding of emergent curriculum by providing materials and experiences which are based on a variety of factors including their observations and reflections of children's developmental needs, interests, and interactions in a play based environment.
- Demonstrate the ability to participate in children's play to support, facilitate, and/or extend the play using appropriate strategies or interventions.
- Demonstrate professional behavior.
- Establish and maintain collaborative working relationships with other adults in the workplace setting.
- Establish and maintain open, friendly, and informative relationships with each child's family.

TRANSFERABILITY:

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

**** 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: A final evaluation will be completed on each student during this eight week practicum

GRADING CRITERIA

CR	N/A	50-100	Credit
NC	N/A	0-49	No Credit

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE: The seminar schedule is based on the planning and implementation of an eight-week program for young children. It evolves according to the needs of the students who are completing the practicum each year, as well as the tasks required for the preparation leading up to the start of each program.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES: Northwestern Polytechnic expects students' conduct to be in accordance with basic rights and responsibilities. Please refer to the NWP calendar 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.

Additional Information:

Attendance Expectations:

- **Practicum:**
 - Regular attendance is mandatory during practicum to ensure students gain practical, real-world experience and finesse their knowledge and skills.
- **Seminars:**
 - Seminars are designed to complement the practical component by providing a theoretical framework and facilitating discussions.
 - Active participation and engagement during seminars are crucial for a comprehensive understanding of the course material.
- **Absence Notification:**
 - Students are required to notify the instructor in advance if they are unable to attend a practicum day or seminar due to extenuating circumstances. Students who miss more than 2 practicum days or seminars will be placed on probation and may not succeed in receiving credit for this course.

It is expected that you will put forth your maximum effort to complete this practicum:

- **Effort:** It involves giving your best effort, which includes hard work, persistence, and resilience in the face of challenges.
- **Quality:** Doing your best implies producing work of high quality. It's not just about completing the task but doing it well and meeting or exceeding standards.
- **Commitment:** It involves a commitment to the task or goal, staying focused, and not being easily discouraged by setbacks.
- **Continuous improvement:** Doing your best often includes a mindset of continuous improvement. It's about learning from experiences, seeking feedback, and finding ways to enhance your performance over time.
- **Personal accountability:** Taking responsibility for your actions and decisions is a crucial aspect of doing your best. It means owning up to mistakes, learning from them, and making necessary adjustments.

It's important to note that doing your best doesn't necessarily mean achieving perfection, as perfection is often an unattainable standard. It's more about giving your optimal effort and constantly striving to improve. Ultimately, doing your best is a personal commitment to excellence and self-improvement.