

**GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE
CD1045 - PRACTICUM I
COURSE OUTLINE**

DATES: Fall 2009
CLASSES: Wednesdays: 8:30 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.
September 09 - December 09, 2009

PRACTICUM

VISITS: Tuesdays, Sept. 22- December 08, 2009
HOURS: 124
CREDITS: 3
INSTRUCTOR: Cindy Carter/Pat Caulfield-Fontaine
OFFICE: H203/H130
PHONE: 539-2786/539-2043 **E-MAIL:** ccarter@gprc.ab.ca
pcaulfieldfontaine@gprc.ab.ca

LOCATION: Off-campus: Various locations throughout the community
On-campus: A2 H135/B2 B208

CLASS TIMES: Tuesday practicum - 8 hour work days
Practicum start and end times to be established by
practicum site staff.
Seminar: Wednesdays: 8:30-9:50 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00
Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
or by appt.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will provide students with an introduction to the practical field of early learning child care. Students will observe and participate in a variety of children's programs and will contrast the similarities and differences between environments, program practices and services provided for children and their families. Students will participate in all of the routines in each program that they visit. **Students will also be required to plan and implement age appropriate experiences on the second and third visit to each site. i.e. reading a book, telling a story, singing songs, making play dough or doing an art experience with the children.** Students will attend an on-campus weekly seminar.

Note: students with credit in CD 1040 and CD 1060 will not receive credit for CD 1045

REQUIRED TEXT: None

CLASS FORMAT: Classes will be comprised of program visits and observations, information sessions, guest speakers, discussion on topics related to early learning and child care, as well as professional practice.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. The learner will demonstrate an understanding of program options for young children and their families.
2. The learner will identify, compare and contrast a variety of early childhood programs available for young children (includes a comparison of schedules and routines).
3. The student will draw on other course content to make increasingly more complex observations and analysis of the programs that are visited. The learner will gain the ability to thoughtfully examine practices in the early childhood field and relate them to course learning and the principles of developmentally appropriate practice.
4. The learner will begin to gain an understanding of children's growth and development.
5. The learner will begin to understand differences in approaches to child guidance, child development and curriculum planning and implementation.
6. The learner will gain experience in planning and implementing developmentally appropriate art, literature and music experiences for young children

GRADING POLICIES:

The Credit/No Credit grading system is used to determine the final course grade. Attendance is mandatory and students must successfully fulfill all observation and seminar requirements in order to receive credit in this course. This includes completing a variety of in class tasks which must be handed in at the end of some seminar classes.

ATTENDANCE POLICIES:

Students must attend all of the program visits. You will be required to make up visits that are missed.

Students must attend all seminars. You will be responsible for demonstrating knowledge of any seminar material that you miss.

***If students miss more than two program visits or two seminars, the instructor has the right to require students to withdraw from practicum.**

ASSIGNMENT STANDARDS:

1. **Due Dates:** Observation forms from each practicum site are due on the Friday after the third visit.
2. All assignments must be written using paragraphs and full sentences.
3. All assignment must be neatly written in dark pen or typed.
4. Observation forms that are considered incomplete will be handed back for resubmission.

CLASS CONDUCT:

It is the right of the student, the instructor and community partners to a favourable learning/teaching environment. It is the responsibility of all involved to engage in appropriate adult behaviour that positively supports learning. This includes, but is not limited to, treating others with dignity and being punctual. The student must be familiar with the student rights and responsibilities outlined in the College calendar.