

**GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE  
DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT  
CD2010  
HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES & CONTEMPORARY ISSUES**

**HOURS:** 30

**CREDITS 2**

**SEMESTER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TEXT:** Annual Editions 92/93  
Early Childhood Education

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Historical Perspectives and Contemporary Issues examines the philosophies of the early theorists and their contributions and influences on current early childhood programme models. The students will critically examine current issues and define a personal philosophy with regard to the education of young children.

**COURSE OUTLINE REVISED: JUNE, 1992**

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### **HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES & CONTEMPORARY ISSUES**

#### **COMPETENCIES**

##### **COMPETENCY 1**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the historical influences on contemporary early childhood programmes.

##### **COMPETENCY 2**

The student will know the philosophy and characteristics of the major contemporary programme models.

##### **COMPETENCY 3**

The student will be able to identify current issues effecting the field of early childhood and express an opinion based on a personal philosophy.

##### **COMPETENCY 4**

The student will be able to express a personal philosophy for an early childhood programme based on the theories and ideas examined in this course.

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**HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES & CONTEMPORARY ISSUES**

**COMPETENCY 1**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the historical influences on contemporary early childhood programmes.

**Sub-topics**

1. Beliefs and ideas of the major philosophers and theorists of early childhood education. (eg. Dewey, Piaget, Rousseau, Steiner, Montessori)
2. Impact of historical figures/philosophers on current educational thought and practice.

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**COMPETENCY 2**

The student will know the philosophy and characteristics of the major contemporary programme models.

**Sub-topics**

1. Characteristics and philosophy of contemporary programme models. (Montessori, Waldorf, Highscope, Headstart, British Infant Schools)
2. Evaluation of the various programme models.
3. Influence of each model on current educational practices.

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**COMPETENCY 3**

The student will be able to identify current issues effecting the field of early childhood and express an opinion based on a personal philosophy.

**Sub-topics**

1. Identification of current issues, (eg. gun play, working parents, super baby/child syndrome, child stress, multi culturalism).
2. Examination of personal views in relation to the issues.

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**COMPETENCY 4**

The student will be able to express a personal philosophy for an early childhood programme based on the theories and ideas examined in this course.

**Sub-topics**

1. Review of the major theories and their impact upon current programme models, and practices.
2. A critical analysis of student's beliefs in relation to the theories.
3. Formulation of the student's personal philosophy.