



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2013

CD 2020 Environments for Young Children - 2(2-0-0) 30 HOURS

INSTRUCTOR: Cindy Carter

PHONE: 780-539 -2786

OFFICE: H 203

E-MAIL: ccarter@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. or by appointment

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: Successful completion of first year and second year, first semester courses or consent of Department. ***This course must be successfully completed immediately prior to CD2145 Practicum IV.**

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Curtis, D. & Carter, M. (2003). *Designs for living and learning. Transforming early childhood environments*. St. Paul, MN: Redleaf Press

There will be a number of readings assigned from the textbook or handed out during the duration of the course that are related to the topics discussed in class.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course focuses on how the child's physical environments support social, cognitive, physical and emotional development during the early childhood years. Students will analyze specific aspects and components of high quality environments for young children and will learn important principles applied to the design of indoor and outdoor environments for preschool children.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 2 credits (30 hours)

DELIVERY MODE(S): This course offers the students the opportunity to learn independently, as well as through interaction with their peers, their instructor and other resource people. Learning is supported through the use of group and individual tasks as well as class discussion and audiovisual presentations.

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

1. Explain how the physical environments experienced in childhood contribute to the social, cognitive, emotional and physical development of young children.
2. Identify the key components of a well-designed outdoor play space for young children through the compilation of resources related to outdoor play spaces for children from infancy through to 12 years of age.
3. Identify the key components of a well-designed indoor play space for young children from infancy through 12 years of age.
4. Discuss and apply specific design principles and guidelines that work together to create a high quality indoor play space for young children.
5. Design a pre-school environment that gives young children and their families a sense of belonging.
6. Design, establish, maintain and evaluate developmentally appropriate environments that respond to the developmental needs and interests of young children.

TRANSFERABILITY:

**** 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**

Grande Prairie Regional College uses the **ALPHA** grading system. This system is described in the table below.

GRADING CRITERIA:

A final grade of C- must be obtained to pass this course. Final grades are based on the following 4-point system:

| Alpha Grade | 4-point Equivalence | Percentage |
|-------------|---------------------|------------|
| A+ | 4.0 | 90-100 |
| A | 4.0 | 85-89 |
| A- | 3.7 | 80-84 |
| B+ | 3.3 | 76-79 |
| B | 3.0 | 73-75 |
| B- | 2.7 | 70-72 |
| C+ | 2.3 | 67-69 |
| C | 2.0 | 64-66 |
| C- | 1.7 | 60-63 |
| D+ | 1.3 | 55-59 |
| D | 1.0 | 50-54 |
| F | 0.0 | 0-49 |

Please check Distance Student Handbook for course withdrawal dates.

EVALUATION:

Attendance and Participation 10%

Unit 1 Assignment 20%

Unit 2 Assignment 25%

Unit 3 Assignment 45%

Late Policy: Assignments are to be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on the due date. Unless arrangements have been made by the instructor prior to the assignment due date, late assignments will be docked an initial 5%, then 5% a week. If the assignment is not received within two weeks of the initial due date, a grade of zero will be given. Assignments that are placed in the instructor's mailbox must have the date recorded by the administrative staff. There is an assignment drop box outside H 206.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES: The College expects students' conduct to be in accordance with basic rights and responsibilities. Please refer to page 47 of the College calendar regarding rights and responsibilities

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/**

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

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE

| Date | Topic | Reading | Assignments |
|----------------|--|---------|-------------|
| Jan. 9 | Distribution of course outlines, assignment package and assigned reading. Mind mapping: What do you already know about setting up a physical environment for young children? | | |
| Jan. 14 | Effects of physical environments on humans. Environmental messages. Essential elements of physical environments. Curtis and Carter: Elements to consider when planning your space for children | | |
| Jan. 16 | Power of physical environments – research. Children’s play ranges | | |
| Jan. 21 | Play Ranges | | |
| Jan. 23 | How do indoor environments contribute to children’s overall development? | | |
| Jan. 28 | Outdoor environments | | |
| Jan. 30 | Outdoor environment: Components of a well-designed outdoor play space. | | |

| | | | |
|----------------|--|--|---|
| Feb. 04 | Designing indoor environments | | |
| Feb. 06 | Designing indoor environments | | |
| Feb. 08 | Indoor environments: The psychology of arrival, creating a sense of belonging, aesthetics invitations for learning. | | |
| Feb. 11 | Indoor environments: The psychology of arrival, creating a sense of belonging, aesthetics invitations for learning. | | . |
| Feb. 13 | Review: Designing, developing, and maintaining the physical environment in a pre-school, day care/ school age care environments. | | |
| Feb. 25 | Down to Business: Begin to design the physical environment for S.N. | | |
| Mar. 01 | Down to Business: Begin to design the physical environment for S.N. | | |

“To be recognized for educational excellence in the fields of early learning & child care and educational assistant training.”