

**GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

**CD2091
CHILD, FAMILY & COMMUNITY**

SEMESTER: Full Year 2004-2005

HOURS: 60

CREDITS: 6

DATES: Sept. 7 - Dec. 17
Jan. 4 - Feb. 18

DAYS: Mon. & Wed.

TIMES: **Fall** M. 1:00 - 3:20

INSTRUCTOR: Karen Kennedy

OFFICE: H133

PHONE: 539-2040

E-MAIL: kkennedy@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: posted or by
appointment

M. 8:30 - 10:20
W. 9:00 - 11:20 } Winter

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides an interesting look at the diverse forms, functions, and needs of Canadian families. Students will learn about societal influences on families and children, and the role of the early childhood practitioner in supporting children and their families.

PREREQUISITE: Completion of first year or consent of the department

Note: Credit will be granted for CD2090 or the combination of CD2090 and CD2110

TEXT: *Partnerships: families and communities in Canadian early childhood education* by Lynn Wilson **and** a Course Package (available at bookstore).

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED MATERIALS AND EXPENSES: You will incur expenses for photocopying.

OBJECTIVES: On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Describe the diversity of family forms and the needs of families
- Describe social, economic, and political influences on contemporary Canadian families
- Describe the impact of various challenges on children and their families
- Identify family-centered caregiver strategies
- Identify community resources available for children and their families

TEACHING METHODS: Lectures will incorporate A.V. materials, handout and text readings, in-and out-of-class activities and assignments, and guest speakers.

GRADING POLICY: A final grade of D must be obtained to pass this course. Final grades will be based on: Assignments - 95% Attendance/Participation - 5%

ASSIGNMENTS:

An assignment package will be provided in the first full week of classes.

Assignment and final grades will be based on the following 4-point system:

A+	4.0
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
F	0.0

CLASS POLICIES:

It is the right of the student and of the instructor to a favorable learning/teaching environment. It is the responsibility of the student and the instructor to engage in appropriate adult behaviors that positively support learning. This includes, but is not limited to, treating others with dignity and respect.

The student must be familiar with the E.C.D. student handbook and student rights and responsibilities found in the College calendar.

- Regular attendance and active class participation help you understand the content and be a successful student. Absence from 20% and over of the class hours will result in a grade of 0 for attendance/participation.
- Assignments are due in-class or before 4:30 on the assignment due date. Late assignments will be deducted an initial 5% and 1% per day, including weekends. Assignments will receive a grade of 0% after 10 days late.
- All work should be typewritten (or neatly handwritten in dark ink) and double-spaced. Points will be deducted or the work may be required to be rewritten when there are significant spelling or grammatical errors. Refer to the College calendar and the E.C.D. Student Handbook for assignment submission guidelines.
- Projects with other students require your active involvement and contribution. Group work will include peer and self-evaluations as well as an assigned grade for the project.
- Graded assignments will normally be returned within two weeks.
- The last day to withdraw from this course with full refund of tuition is _____. The last day to withdraw from this course with permission (W is assigned by the Registrar's office) is _____.
- Changes to this course outline will be discussed with you in class.

TOPICS:

The following topics will be covered in the course, although not necessarily in the following order.

- I. The Changing Canadian Family
 - A. Diversity of family forms
 - B. Social, political, economic influences on today's families
 - C. Stressors facing today's families
 - D. Child rearing

- II. Influences on Children
 - A. Views of children and childhood
 - B. The child's social environment
 - Poverty, homelessness
 - Media
 - Family structure (separation, divorce, remarriage, death of a parent, grandparents as parents, gay and lesbian families)
 - Culture
 - C. Child Abuse and Neglect
 - D. Family Violence

- III. Family-centered practice
 - A. The needs of families
 - B. Forming partnerships with families
 - C. The families' role in early childhood programs
 - D. The role of the early childhood practitioner

- IV. Supporting children and their families
 - A. Helping children cope with stress
 - B. Community resources

CLASS SCHEDULE:

A schedule outlining assignment due dates, course readings and AV materials, and lecture topics will be provided with the assignment package.