

**GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

**CD2140
ON-CAMPUS
PRACTICUM IV DESCRIPTION AND GUIDE**

**CD2160
ON-CAMPUS
SEMINAR IV DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES**

Revised May 1993

CD2140 ON-CAMPUS PRACTICUM IV

DESCRIPTION

Practicum IV consists of a seven week block placement, the format of which will be determined by the number of participating second year students. The focus of this placement will be on establishing, implementing and evaluating a preschool programme.

The student will participate in seminars on an on-going weekly basis from the beginning of January until the termination of the spring nursery programme. Students must fulfill requirements for Practicum and Seminar in order to receive credit for both.

CD2140/2160 PRACTICUM IV

GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS

The student preschool programme will enroll an optimal number of preschool children in each session and may accommodate exceptional children.

1. Students are expected to draft a programme philosophy, as well as policies and a parent guide.
2. The student is expected to demonstrate a professional attitude with regard to attendance, punctuality, confidentiality and dress.
3. The student must contact the practicum instructor and/or supervisor, when applicable, in cases of lateness or absence.
4. The student will demonstrate effective administrative skills in establishing and implementing a child-centred programme.
5. The student will demonstrate skills in effective planning for young children and will record daily plans which will be discussed with the practicum instructor.
6. The student will demonstrate a professional attitude with regard to interpersonal relationships, team planning, and programme responsibilities.
7. The student will establish and maintain a child-centred environment which will meet the developmental needs of the children in the programme.
8. The student will demonstrate a positive approach to setting and maintaining limits, and effective skills in helping children develop autonomy and initiative.
9. The student will be able to realistically assess personal strengths and weaknesses, and maintain a professional attitude toward feedback. The student will provide support and feedback for all team members.
10. The student will demonstrate skills in communicating effectively with parents, and will establish rapport through home visits, parent meetings and parental involvement in the programme.
11. The student will participate in designated committee work in preparation for the practicum.

CD2140 ON-CAMPUS PRACTICUM IV

GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICUM INSTRUCTORS

1. Practicum instructors will observe each students in the programme for a minimum of five hours and will provide on-going feedback and guidance.
2. Discuss the student's written plans prior to, or on the first morning of each practicum week. The student is responsible for coordinating practicum and course assignments with the centre's schedule. Assignments will require observations of children and child/adult interactions. The student is also expected to provide a variety of experiences for the children. Written plans should be initialled and dated by the supervisor upon presentation.

CD2160 Seminar Description

The purpose of this seminar which accompanies the final practicum experience is to provide second year students with opportunities to fulfil their responsibilities while setting up and operating a program for preschool aged children. During CD2140/2160 students meet weekly as an entire group to accomplish tasks related to establishing a program and, when the program is operating, to discuss in smaller groups, relevant issues and immediate concerns.

Seminar serves two different functions: 1) setting and meeting goals related to the operation of a preschool program and 2) identifying and resolving issues that arise when working with children. The areas dealt with during CD2160 include, but are not limited to:

1. In formal meetings with rotating chairpersons and recording secretaries, the establishment of committees and committee responsibilities, operational policies, procedures, fees and guidelines.
2. The planning of advertising, registration and liaison with college and community personnel as parts of the initial operation of the program.
3. The maintenance of accurate financial records and purchase of materials and supplies necessary for the program's operation.
4. The setting of personal and group goals, development of effective team work strategies and evaluation of the performance of individuals as members of a team.
5. The establishment and maintenance of positive relationships with families and community personnel.
6. The organization and provision of appropriate environments and experiences for children.
7. Professionalism and ethical issues.