



ECED-106 – Introduction to Working with Families

Health and Human Services

Effective Term & Year: Winter 2026
Course Outline Review Date: 2031-09-01

Program Area: Child Youth and Family Studies

Description:

This course provides students with an understanding of the diverse nature of families. This includes the different stages, roles, rules, relationships, cultural influences, as well as the issues and challenges that can be barriers to family health and well-being. Students will employ a strength-based perspective that works to encourage collaborative partnerships between children, families, community partners, and early childhood educators.

Program Information:

ECED 106 is a required course for the Child, Youth and Family Studies Program: Early Childhood Education Specialty.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face), Online

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	45
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	

Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	45

Course Requisites:

- Earned a minimum grade of C+ (65%) in at least 1 of the following:
 - ENFP 12 – English First Peoples 12
 - ENST 12 – English Studies 12
 - ENGL090 – English – Provincial Level

Prior Learning and Recognition: Yes

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, or work-based assessment are used to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy 2.5.5 [Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition \(PLAR\)](#) or contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Wilson, L. (2019). *Partnerships: Families and communities in early childhood* (6th ed). Toronto, Ontario: Nelson Education Ltd.

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- explain how the diverse nature of families (i.e. family systems, structure, and rules) influence family dynamics;
- analyze how various challenges impact families in order to improve professional practice when supporting families;
- identify the importance of professional boundaries, professional conduct, confidentiality, and ethics when supporting families;
- analyze the role of families in society through historical, developmental, and theoretical lenses;
- reflect on personal family beliefs, values, experiences, and attitudes to assess their potential influence on professional practice;
- engage with Indigenous Peoples'* perspectives, voices, and stories regarding families; and
- describe an effective team member when working with families.

Course Topics:

- Ethics, boundaries, confidentiality, and professional practice
- Building on family strengths and promoting resilience
- Developmental stages of a family, the history, and theoretical perspectives
- Family roles, diversity and gender issues – immigrant and refugee families, Indigenous families, and LGBTQ families
- Challenges for families – violence, addiction, and grief
- Positive strategies and common pitfalls
- Building effective partnerships with families

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face) and Online, or Hybrid

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Weekly Activities	30%
Assignment #1	25%
Assignment #2	20%
Assignment #3	25%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60			<60

Pass requirements: None

Evaluation Notes Comments:

A minimum passing grade of 60% is required to pass the course.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a "0" on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
- Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
- Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
- Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
- Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
- Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Equivalent Course(s) and Course Code Changes

Prior Course Code: CYFS 108

Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.

