Course: Family Resources 445: Family Life Education Methodology

Prerequisites: FamR 341 or 442 or Instructor’s consent. (FamR340 is also a prerequisite to these two courses).

Purpose: In this course, students learn methods of Family Life Education through readings, lectures, presentations by community professionals and hands-on activities. CFLE requirements: Students taking this course will fulfill the course work requirements for two substance areas needed for the Provisional Certification in Family Life Education (CFLE), as awarded by the National Council on Family Relations. They will complete the coursework needed for substance areas #10: Family Life Education Methodology and #4: Human Sexuality. [Full certification requires completed coursework in 8 additional areas as well as 2 years of FLE related work experience.] This course may accommodate Service Learning Students, who gain additional credits in relation to the formula for adding credits for number of hours of classroom and lab time (experiential learning time) added. One credit is added for every additional 50 minutes of classroom instruction per week and for every 150 minutes of laboratory or experiential learning time per week.

Required Readings:


FamR 445: Human Sexuality Course Materials, to be purchased from Professional Image, King Street. Please call ahead to make sure packet is available.

Course objectives:

In this course students prepare for careers as family life educators. Students receive preparation in the following domains: 1) knowledge of self; 2) emotional intelligence; 3) skills in interpersonal relating; 4) how to conduct workshops with parents; 5) how to organize large parent meetings; and 6) how to develop career objectives and plans.

Topic outline:
The following topics are covered in the course:

- The Framework for Life Span Family Life Education
- Family Life Educators and the Development of Cultural Competency
- Family Science and Family citizenship
- Merging Program Development and Program Evaluation
- Challenges in Family Life Education
- Boundaries between parent and family education and family therapy
- Competencies of Family Life Educators
- Alternative paradigms for helping families change themselves
- Cultural characteristics of target populations for service
- How to implement knowledge gained in this and other Family Resources courses in the ten “knowledge domains” in human services activities. In other words, how to convey relevant information in the following areas to parents and children via educational social services:
  - Families in Society
  - Internal Dynamics of Families
  - Human Growth and Development
  - Human Sexuality
  - Interpersonal Relationships
  - Family Resource management
  - Parent Education and Guidance
  - Family, Law and Public Policy
  - Ethics
  - FLE methodology

Assignments:

Each student will work with three other service-learning students to produce and pilot test “service ready” lessons, lectures, activities and materials in four of the above areas (one project per month). Products will be pilot-tested and a 3-5-page manual and evaluation will be written for each set of materials. Team projects will be evaluated in terms of effectiveness and professionalism.

Expectations about Procedures

So that we can spend time on the content of the course and on the learning process rather than on course procedures, I have specified several procedural expectations below. These enable me to grade products efficiently and carefully, and limit students from getting behind in assignments. So that procedures are taken seriously, consequences for not following these are specified, below.

Grading:

The final grade is based on a total of 200 points earned on eight components of course work (worth 25 points each):

1. Project 1
The final grade (maximum=200 points) is assigned on the following schedule. I round up to the next grade if the student is within 1 point of that grade, e.g., from a 179 to a 180.

- A= 180 or more points
- B= 160 to 179
- C= 140 to 159
- D= 120 to 139
- F= less than 120

The “A” grade is reserved for excellent work, which goes beyond competent fulfillment of the assignment. Fully competent work, which carefully covers all aspects of the assignment, but which does not exhibit excellence constitutes a B. Work that is completed, but inadequately, receives a C. Incomplete, and/or inadequate work receives either a D or F.

**Points deducted for lateness:** Your group projects rely on timely completion of your parts of them. Therefore, 10 points will be deducted from your project grade if your components arrive to the group late. All members are penalized if the entire project is handed in late.

**Points deducted for errors in mechanics of writing:** Correct mechanics of writing are crucially important. In the Study Guide I provide materials and exercises for independent study concerning grammar, sentence structure, paragraphing, spelling, punctuation, and word use. Sections cover: run-on sentences, fragments, agreement of noun and verb, agreement of tense, contractions, lead sentences, paragraphing, commonly misspelled words, and awkward word usage. I deduct a point for every 5 errors in any of these 17 reviewed areas.

**Points deducted for late and/or untyped work:** Projects will be marked down one letter grade if reports are not typed, and one letter grade for each day of lateness. (Lateness begins at class time on the due date). Make-up tests will not be given except in the case of an excused medical absence (a doctor’s note specifying your illness for that date), or a parent's signed note indicating a death in the family. Test dates cannot be changed for students taking courses with exams on the same days. Please review the provided calendar to make sure you will be able to take each test.

**Attendance:** Attendance is required and recorded.
**What to do if you miss a session:** If you miss a class session, obtain missed information, notes and handouts from another student in the course. You should view missed commercial videotapes at the Wong Audiovisual Center, Sinclair Library.

**Student Conduct Code:** Cheating, plagiarism, fabrication of data or other dishonesties or professional violations in confidentiality or ethics will result in an automatic F in this course.