



EARLY LEARNING & CARE AND EDUCATION PROGRAM
WINTER 2012

ELC 141 - PRACTICUM 2

INSTRUCTORS: Colleen O'Dowd Peg Hasted Jeanne Puritch
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OFFICE HOURS: As posted or by appointment.
CLASS TIME: Practicum Setting - Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:45 - 11:45
Practicum Class - - P111

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This practicum provides students with practical experiences working with children, families and educators. Students apply the attitudes, knowledge and skills of a beginning early childhood educator. Students demonstrate developing skills in establishing caring relationships, planning, implementing and evaluating appropriate learning experiences. Students begin to demonstrate guidance strategies and initiate leading as a beginning early childhood educator.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Assist in planning and evaluating components of early learning, caring and inclusive programs that support children's well-being and holistic learning in the context of family and community.
2. Assist in establishing and maintaining inclusive, nurturing, safe and healthy environments which meet or exceed the requirements of current legislation, regulatory bodies and program policies.
3. Continue to begin to use interpersonal communication that contributes to caring and responsive relationships with children, families, colleagues and other professionals in the community.
4. Demonstrate professional responsibility and accountability as a beginning early childhood educator.

ATTENDANCE:

Students are required to attend all practicum sessions in the field and all classroom seminars unless they have a legitimate medical reason.

Practicum: Students must notify *both* the Mentor and Instructor prior to any absences (ie. If you are suddenly too sick to attend practicum, *both* the centre and your instructor must be contacted that morning). As all missed hours will need to be made up, students must connect with your College instructor within one week of your absence to make a plan for make-up hours.

Seminar Class: Students are requested to notify their Seminar Instructor of any absences. If a seminar is missed students are required to complete a “missed seminar” assignment and hand it in within 4 days -by Friday of the same week. (see Practicum 2 Workbook)

ASSIGNMENTS & EVALUATIONS:

Students will be evaluated primarily on the basis of their performance in the practicum setting. Evaluation will be based on performance, not potential, the mentor in the field will be aware that this is a process with competency as the final goal. Students will receive help and suggestions and be encouraged to consider their own performance, both in discussions with the field placement mentor and in weekly Practicum seminars. The Camosun College instructors will schedule visits to the facility and be available for discussions. Working well in your placement setting is the most important indicator of suitability for this field.

Practicum experience will also be the basis for written observations, course assignments and weekly reflections. Completed assignments are to be handed in to your supervising practicum instructor. In addition to the following assignments, you will be working towards reaching competency in the areas outlined in your evaluation tool.

ASSIGNMENT POLICY FOR PRACTICUM 2:

1. Assignments are expected on the due date. Extensions must be negotiated with your instructor prior to due dates.
2. Opportunity to rewrite assignments supports articulation of ELC knowledge, skills and attitudes. Late assignments submitted in the last week of term will not have the opportunity for rewrites.
3. All assignments (including “Missed Seminar Assignments) **must be** completed before a grade will be assigned.
4. Grading is either a "COM" for Completed or "NC" for Not Completed. To be graded as satisfactory all assignments must have the equivalent of a 'C+' grade level or better.

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You will be attending practicum for three hours each Monday, Wednesdays & Friday commencing **Monday, January 23rd, 2012**. (e.g. 8:30 to 11:30 am; 8:45 to 11:45 am)

For Students in **Day Care** Placements:

Regular attendance at your practicum centre will be expected during Spring Break (Mar 12st -23rd). Your last day in practicum will be **Friday, April 13thst**.

For Students in **Preschool** Placements:

On Practicum days during Spring Break (March 12th - 23rd), settings are closed. Your last day of Practicum will be **Friday, April 20th**.

****Students at preschool centres closing for two weeks must inform their instructors and meet to arrange individual plans for making up missed hours.***

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DUE DATES FOR PRACTICUM ASSIGNMENTS

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Assignment:	Orientation Visit: Physician's letter, First Aid & CRC requirements, Introductory Poster	January 23
Assignment:	Weekly Reflections handed in WEEKLY AT SEMINAR	
Assignment:	General Observation of the Practicum Centre	February 6
Assignment:	Goals and Action Plan	1) February 20th 2) March 26th (daycare) April 2th (preschool)
Assignment:	Learning Experience Plans:	2 by February 13th 2 by February 27th 2 by March 19th 2 by April 2nd (daycare) April 10th (preschool) (Format to be handed out in seminar)
Assignment:	Mid-term Evaluation Summary	March 5th or 12th
Assignment:	Observations of Routines and Transitions	March 12th
Assignment:	Parent Partnerships	April 2nd
Assignment:	Resume	April 10th
Assignment:	Self-Evaluation Tool and End of Practicum Summary	(Daycare) April 16th (Preschool) April 23rd

ELC PRACTICUM
Missed Practicum Seminar Class

Practicum class times have important content to assist and support you to be successful in Practicum. Part of this class also provides you with the opportunity to offer supportive feedback to your peer group, share ideas and receive peer support. Both class time and seminar discussions are important to help you meet the course learning outcomes and evaluation objectives.

To ensure that you are able to recover any missed content, students who miss a Practicum Seminar class, regardless of the reason, will be required to complete the following assignment:

Complete a 500 - 600 word essay incorporating information from the following sources:

1. A minimum five minute discussion (in person or on the phone) with three student members of your supervision group to hear each student's perspective on the important aspects of the missed class content and seminar discussion. (This will give you the opportunity to offer peer/team support which is one of the intended outcomes for seminars.)
2. Comment on information from all handouts distributed at the missed Practicum class.

Ensure that you identify which student's input you have referenced by using her/his name in your essay. (e.g. "Cindy said that she appreciated hearing about other students' responses to her challenges as it demonstrated how different viewpoints and perspectives can help one see many more aspects and solutions to the challenges.")

Students are to hand this essay in to the Practicum Instructor (in person or by email) **within four calendar days of the missed Practicum class.**

