

**CAMOSUN COLLEGE
EARLY LEARNING AND CARE PROGRAM**

**WINTER 2012
ELC 242 (SNE): Practicum 4
Special Needs Educator**

- Instructors:** Joan Astren and Enid Elliott
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- Office and Phone:** Joan Astren (Wilna Thomas-office 222), Enid Elliott (Wilna Thomas-office 220)
- Office Hours:** By appointment
- Class time and Location:** Tuesdays, 3:30 -5:20 Room WT 205
- Texts:** Practicum Handbook: ELC 241/ or 242 (Camosun Bookstore)
Continued: *Emergent Curriculum* (2009) Susan Stacey
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Course Description

This practicum consolidates theory and practice. Students are involved in all aspects of providing care and learning experiences that supports children with diverse abilities and their families. Students take the initiative to demonstrate practice as an early childhood educator. This practicum satisfies credentials for a special needs educator.

Prerequisites: ELC 240

Pre/Co requisites: ELC 220, ELC 230, CFCS 211, CFCS 220, ENG 160 or 164 or 165

Learning Outcomes

1. **Plan and evaluate components of early learning, caring and inclusive programs that support children's well-being and holistic learning in the context of family and community.**
 - Observe and document children's play and learning experiences.
 - Use a variety of observation and documentation techniques to plan early learning experiences and begin to plan for early learning programs in context of diverse family traditions within communities.
 - Apply holistic developmental perspective and inclusive approaches for program planning.
 - Provide responsive active learning environments that are rich in language and literacy.

2. **Establish and maintain inclusive, nurturing, safe and healthy environments which meet or exceed the requirements of current legislation, regulatory bodies and program policies.**
 - Ensure healthy and safe environments that meet or exceed Licensing Regulatory requirements.

- Ensure the well-being and the specific health and nutritional needs of children.
 - Organize natural environments for play and exploration both indoors and outdoors.
 - Develop program policies that are strength -based and appreciate the diversity of children, families and communities.
3. **Demonstrate interpersonal communication that contributes to caring and responsive relationships with children, families, colleagues and other professionals in the community.**
- Facilitate and maintain secure, professional and trusting relationships.
 - Establish an environment of mutual respect.
 - Use a variety of respectful, responsive positive guidance strategies.
 - Use effective oral, written and non-verbal communication.
4. **Demonstrate professional responsibility and accountability as an early childhood educator.**
- Assume leadership roles within the context of early childhood education.
 - Cooperate and collaborate with colleagues, families and community professionals.
 - Evaluate personal practice and take responsibility for ongoing professional development.
 - Apply a personal philosophy of early childhood education using a framework of ethical and professional standards.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance at the practicum setting and seminars is mandatory unless there is a valid medical reason. Absences must be made up at the practicum site in consultation with the mentor and practicum instructor. A Record of Attendance sheet must be regularly completed by the student, verified by the mentor and available to the practicum instructor upon request.

There are 198 field hours, (18 hours per week for 11 weeks) and 22 seminar hours (2 hours per week) for a total of 220 practicum hours.

EVALUATION:

Evaluation is based upon:

1. demonstration of practicum competencies as observed by the practicum instructor and the mentor and documented by the student in the Competency Evaluation Books;
2. attendance and participation in weekly seminar;
3. regular reflection submissions;
4. and practice-based assignments related to: roles and responsibilities of an early childhood SPECIAL NEEDS educator;
5. practice based assessments by faculty, students and community mentors

Assignments are to be handed in on the due date, unless advance arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Grading is either a DST, exceeded expectations, COM, has met established competencies, or NC, has not met established competencies.

