

**GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE
CD1045 - PRACTICUM I
COURSE DESCRIPTION**

- DATES:** Fall 2006
- CLASSES:** Wednesdays: 8:30 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.
September 13 – November 29
- PRACTICUM VISITS:** Tuesdays, Sept. 26 – November 28
- HOURS:** 85
- CREDITS:** 3
- INSTRUCTOR:** Cindy Carter
- OFFICE:** H203
- PHONE:** 539-2786 **E-MAIL:** ccarter@gprc.ab.ca
- LOCATION:** Off-campus: Various locations throughout the community
On-campus: H135
- CLASS TIMES:** Tuesday practicum – 7 hour work days
Practicum start and end times to be established by practicum site staff.
Seminar: Wednesdays: 8:30-9:50 a.m.
- OFFICE HOURS:** Monday: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will provide students with an introduction to the practical field of early childhood care and education. Students will observe and participate in a variety of children's programs and will contrast the similarities and differences between environments, program practices and services provided for children and their families. Students will participate in all routines of each program that they visit and may be encouraged to bring in simple activities to implement with the children, i.e. reading a book, or a simple art experience. Students will attend an on-campus weekly seminar.

Note: students with credit in CD 1040 and CD 1060 will not receive credit for CD 1045

REQUIRED TEXT: None

CLASS FORMAT: Classes will be comprised of program visits and observations, information sessions, guest speakers, discussion on topics related to early learning and child care, as well as professional practice.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. The learner will demonstrate an understanding of program options for young children and their families.
2. The learner will identify, compare and contrast a variety of early childhood programs available for young children (includes a comparison of schedules and routines).
3. The student will draw on other course content to make increasingly more complex observations and analysis of the programs that are visited. The learner will gain the ability to thoughtfully examine practices in the early childhood field and relate them to course learning and the principles of developmentally appropriate practice.
4. The learner will begin to gain an understanding of children's growth and development.
5. The learner will begin to understand differences in approaches to child guidance, child development and curriculum planning and implementation.

GRADING POLICIES:

The Credit/No Credit grading system is used to determine the final course grade. Attendance **is mandatory** and students must successfully fulfill all observation and seminar requirements in order to receive credit in this course.

ATTENDANCE POLICIES:

Students **must** attend all of the program visits. You will be required to make up visits that are missed.

Students **must** attend all seminars. You will be responsible for demonstrating knowledge of any seminar material that you miss.

****If students miss more than two program visits or two seminars, the instructor has the right to require students to withdraw from practicum***

ASSIGNMENT STANDARDS:

1. Due Dates: Observation forms from each practicum site are due on the Friday after the second visit.

CLASS CONDUCT:

It is the right of the student, the instructor and community partners to a favourable learning/teaching environment. It is the responsibility of all involved to engage in appropriate adult behaviour that positively supports learning. This includes, but is not limited to, treating others with dignity and being punctual. The student must be familiar with the ECD Department student manual, and student rights and responsibilities found in the college calendar.

Revised August06