

**George Mason University**  
**College of Education and Human Development**  
**Early Childhood Education for Diverse Learners**

ECED 504.600 Engaging Families of Diverse Young Learners  
3 Credits, Spring 2020  
01/21/2020 – 03//08/2020, Thursday 5:00pm – 7:40pm  
Face to Face Meetings on: 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27 & 3/5  
Fairfax High School Room E113

**Faculty**

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**Prerequisites/Corequisites**

None

**University Catalog Course Description**

Focuses on strategies for developing culturally appropriate family professional partnerships to benefit children, including children from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds and children with special needs. Explores theories and research supporting a family-centered approach, including family and professional rights and responsibilities, especially in the special education process.

**Course Delivery Method**

This course will be delivered using a lecture and discussion format.

**Learner Outcomes or Objectives**

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

1. Discuss theories and research supporting family engagement and a family-centered approach to the education of diverse young children.
2. Discuss the role of cultural and familial contexts in attitudes, beliefs, values, and child rearing practices.
3. Analyze personal values, beliefs, and cultural biases that influence their work with families.
4. Identify underlying standards of professionalism and ethical standards, principles, and ways to work with families, including examining methods of improving communication between schools and families, especially regarding social and instructional needs of children.
5. Describe strategies that support and assist families to identify their priorities, resources, and concerns for their children, including children with special needs.
6. Create tailored opportunities for collaborating with families in the ongoing education of children, especially in terms of increasing family engagement in student learning at home and in school, particularly among families from diverse racial, ethnic, cultural, religious,

linguistic, and socioeconomic backgrounds and with children with special needs, including children who are gifted.

7. Identify how families experience substance abuse, trauma—including child abuse and neglect—and other adverse childhood experiences, and family disruptions.
8. Utilize family systems theory to describe and understand family dynamics.
9. Identify specific components of IDEA that support family voices in the special education process.
10. Adopt a strengths-based, problem-solving perspective when analyzing dilemmas related to family engagement.
11. Discuss the theories and techniques of family-centered intervention, including issues related to families from diverse racial, ethnic cultural, religious, linguistic, and socioeconomic backgrounds and multicultural education.
12. Reflect critically about what is being discussed and learned in class, form and state an opinion, and provide coherent points to support or illustrate their perspective.
13. Complete study in child abuse and neglect recognition and intervention in accordance with curriculum guidelines developed by the Virginia Board of Education in consultation with the Virginia Department of Social Services.
14. Exhibit standards of professionalism, ethical standards, and personal integrity with children, families, and professionals in the field and in interactions with classmates, the instructor, and others.
15. Use writing as an instructional and assessment tool to generate, gather, plan, organize, and to communicate for a variety of purposes; integrate correct written conventions (i.e., grammar, usage, mechanics, and spelling); and format using current APA style.

**Professional Standards** – Virginia Professional Studies Competencies, Virginia Early Childhood Special Education Endorsement Competencies, Virginia Early/Primary Education PreK-3 EPK3 Endorsement Competencies, Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (InTASC) Standards, Council of Exceptional Children (CEC) and Division of Early Childhood (DEC) Standards, and National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Standards

Upon completion of this course, students will have met the following professional standards:

**Virginia Professional Studies Competencies**

Human Growth and Development (Birth Through Adolescence)  
Curriculum and Instruction

**Virginia Early Childhood Special Education Endorsement Competencies**

Family-Centered Intervention

**Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (InTASC) Standard Elements**

*InTASC 1k* The teacher values the input and contributions of families, colleagues, and other professionals in understanding and supporting each learner's development.

*InTASC 2m* The teacher respects learners as individuals with differing personal and family backgrounds and various skills, abilities, perspectives, talents, and interests.

**National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Standard Elements**  
*NAEYC 2a Knowing about and understanding diverse family and community characteristics*  
*NAEYC 2b Supporting and engaging families and community through respectful, reciprocal relationships*

**Required Texts**

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN: 9781433832178  
 Grant, K. B., & Ray, J. A. (2019). *Home, school, and community collaboration: Culturally responsive family engagement* (4th ed.). Washington, DC: Sage. ISBN: 9781506365732  
 Koralek, D. (2007). *Spotlight on young children and families*. Washington D.C.: National Association for the Education of Young Children. ISBN: 9781928896425

Additional course readings listed on the class schedule are posted in Blackboard.

**Course Performance Evaluation**

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard (Bb), Tk20, hard copy).

<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>	<b>Points</b>
Attendance & Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendance &amp; Participation Self-Evaluation</li> <li>• Professional Dispositions Self-Evaluation</li> </ul>	Ongoing Mar 8	<b>25</b>
<i>Spotlight</i> Discussion	Ongoing	<b>10</b>
Critical Reflections (5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Reflection 1</li> <li>• Critical Reflection 2</li> <li>• Critical Reflection 3</li> <li>• Critical Reflection 4</li> <li>• Critical Reflection 5</li> </ul>	Feb 1 Feb 8 Feb 15 Feb 15 Feb 22	<b>10</b>
Child Abuse and Neglect Recognition and Intervention Training Module	Jan 25	<b>5</b>
Engaging Families Home Visit Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part 1 Diverse Family and Community Characteristics (Memo 1)</li> <li>• Part 2 Understanding, Supporting and Engaging Families (Memo 2)</li> <li>• Full Home Visit Project with any necessary corrections uploaded to Tk20</li> </ul>	Feb 8 Feb 22 Mar 8	<b>30</b> 10 20
Family Story Presentation (in class)	Feb 27/Mar 5	<b>5</b>
Statement of Philosophy (Draft to Peer)	Feb 27	
Statement of Philosophy (Final)	Mar 8	<b>15</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>

- **Assignments and/or Examinations**

***Spotlight on Young Children and Families Discussion (10 points)***

Small groups of students will be responsible for leading a discussion about an assigned chapter from the *Spotlight on Young Children and Families* text. Students are expected to lead a discussion (students may NOT use PowerPoint and should not just summarize the reading) and include one hands-on activity as part of the discussion. This hands-on activity should demonstrate at least three of the following: ways to improve communication between schools and families; instructional practices that are sensitive to culturally and linguistically diverse learners and informed by families; ways of communicating with families regarding the social and instructional needs of children; ways of increasing family engagement in student learning in home and school. *A sign-up sheet will be provided on the first night of class.*

**Critical Reflections (5 @ 2 points each = 10 points)**

Students will critically reflect on the course material. Posts are due by 11:59PM on the due date. Students will ensure that they create a thread (**thread should be named with the student's name**) and provide at least **one** comment for one of the other student threads in order to receive full points. Comments on peers' posts are due two days after due date of original post by 11:59PM, so on Mondays. If students prefer to keep their reflection private, they may email the instructor their critical reflection.

**\*Expectations for critical reflections: Reflections must be a minimum of 300 words in length, be thoughtful and relevant, and include original and/or critical thought. The point of these reflections is NOT for students to simply provide a summary of the issues at hand; *rather, students are to think critically about what is being discussed/ learned in class, form and state an opinion, and provide coherent points to support or illustrate their perspective.*** Graduate students might consider the following in their responses:

- How is your perspective regarding families and working with families is shifting and changing?
- What assumptions or biases (that you hold) are emerging?
- How are you thinking in new ways regarding working with families from diverse backgrounds? How will you use the knowledge and experiences you are gaining in this course as you work in a classroom with young diverse learners and their families?
- How do the readings relate to your own family experiences and/or the experiences of the families you work with each day?

Keep these same expectations in mind for commenting on other students' posts. **Comments on other students' posts should be at least 100 words. Comments on others' posts must be posted within 2 days of the due date of the original post.**

**Engaging Families Home Visit Project (30 points)**

Students will focus on developing culturally appropriate family professional engagement to benefit children, including children from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds and children with special needs, including children who are gifted and talented and children with disabilities.

Students will support and engage families through respectful, reciprocal relationships by conducting a home visit, including an interview with at least one of the primary caregivers, and a family observation during a family event with a family of a child (birth – third grade) whose family is marginalized by U.S. society based on the following: race, ethnicity, immigrant status, family structure, socioeconomic status, sexuality, child or parent’s ability status or religion and whose perspective on early childhood education and parenting is likely to be different from their own. Students will apply their knowledge and understanding of diverse family characteristics through their observations and interaction with the family during the home visit. Throughout the assignment, students will critically consider for their home visit families: methods of improving communication with their home visit families’ schools; ways of increasing family engagement in student learning in home and school; how schools might improve communication with families regarding social and instructional needs of children; and how they consider their developing instructional practices to be sensitive culturally and linguistically diverse learners, particularly as a result of this project.

**Part 1: Diverse Family & Community Characteristics Memo 1 (10 points):** Memo 1 should include the following four sections.

1. **Rationale for Selecting Family:** Students will describe the family they selected and will include responses to the following: (a) a rationale for why they chose this family, (b) an explanation of the ways they think the families’ experiences are different from their own, (c) what they have observed about how society views the child and family (either based on race, ethnicity, family structure, sexual orientation, religion, etc.), and (d) an honest attempt to identify and describe any assumptions they have about this family.
  2. **Introducing themselves:** Students will find a way to determine and communicate the common ground between themselves and the family they selected (e.g., gender, work, education, experiences, etc.) as these help with initial introductions. They will describe the introduction and the process they will use to introduce themselves to the family.
  3. **Questions to assist in learning about the child:** Students will develop a set of questions that they will use to help them learn more about the child in terms of the child’s likes, dislikes, interests, and experiences.
  4. **Questions to assist in learning about the parents and family:** Students will develop a set of questions to ask during the home visit to begin to understand the parents’ goals for themselves as well as their children, including goals that reflect the linguistic and ability diversity of the child. They will use the following questions to guide them: How did this family come to be in this place where you have met them? What do you need to understand about their experiences in order to understand them? What is their perspective about their child or children, including the child’s or children’s linguistic and/or ability diversity? These questions should also help students begin to learn more about the family’s everyday experiences as well as prior experiences that might be insightful as they begin to work with them.
- **Memo 1: Students will write a 3- to 4-page memo that addresses the above four points.**

**Part 2: Understanding, Supporting and Engaging Families Memo 2 (20 points):** Memo 2 should include critical reflections on the following events (\*see below for key components of this memo).

1. **Meeting with the Family:** Students will informally interview the parents or guardians. In this interview, students should attempt to learn as much as possible through *meaningful* exchanges. Students should challenge themselves to understand the family's views of struggles they may have, how they make sense of the world, and how the parents' and families' realities of the world are different from their own. They should also challenge themselves to learn more about the family's perspectives on the child's diversity, including linguistic and ability diversity.

Students will consider the amount of time they have and the ease with which they will be able to engage persons of another culture. First, students will arrange to spend time with the family member(s). The focus should be to engage respectfully with the family member on his or her own terms and turf (if possible), rather than conducting a formal interview. Students will meet with the parent in a relaxed framework.

Students will challenge themselves to hear the voices/values of others on their own terms. This will be difficult and may be uncomfortable. Students must consider how they can get to know other people and their culture on their own terms. It is recommended that students "ask, ask, ask." They should ask the family for clarification or meaning when something is confusing or feels very different to them. Students should reflect on their own culture, experiences, and stories as they learn about their family's stories. At the end of this informal meeting, students will ask the family if they might be able to join them at a family event (e.g., birthday party, family gathering).

2. **Observation at a Family Event:** Students will conduct an observation of the child at a family event (e.g., birthday party, family gathering, family dinner, etc.). It can be a routine event or a special event. They must spend at least an hour with the family. During this event, students will engage the family in an informal conversation to find out about the meanings of their actions, describing and making meaning of their learning experience with the family.

- **Memo 2: Students will write a 4- to 5-page memo describing what they learned during the informal interview with the family and at the family event.**

In relation to the informal interview, students will contrast the family's experiences with their own family experiences and critically examine their previous assumptions given new information and experiences. Students should consider and note the questions that elicited important information. In relation to the child observation at a formal event, students will describe what they saw/heard, the key activities that took place, and what these taught them about the family. **Students should be sure to spend more time critically reflecting and thinking about these experiences rather than simply summarizing everything that happened. In relation to both the informal interview and observation, students should be sure to include the following: (a) what they learned about the family in these interactions (i.e., use a strengths-based perspective), (b) what they learned about themselves through coming to know this**

**family (i.e., revisit previous assumptions), (c) what this experience might mean for the student as an educator particularly in terms of engaging diverse families through communication and instructional practices that are sensitive to culturally and linguistically diverse children and their families.**

### **Family Story Presentation (5 points)**

Students will present what they have learned from their family visits as a story. Each student presentation will be a total of 5-8 minutes, with 4 to 6 minutes for the presentation of the family story and two to three minutes for peer/instructor questions and discussion. The presentation should not sound like a clinical case presentation. Students should be creative with their story presentation and consider how they would like their own story to be told from a strengths-based, problem-solving perspective. Students should include the following in their presentation: (a) their home visit family's story; (b) suggestions for improving communication and increasing this family's engagement with their child's school; and, (c) one way they would incorporate the family's culture and/or language into their instructional practices.

### **Statement of Philosophy for Working with Families and Communities (15 points)**

Students will use their experiences with the children and families in their setting, any community connections they have made, as well as course content including readings and discussion to create a two- to four-page, double-spaced statement of their philosophy for working with families and communities. This will include not only why they believe it is important to engage with families and communities as a teacher/ practitioner but also the ways they believe are most effective for doing this. Specifically, students will include the following: developing family engagement in student learning in home and school; strategies for communicating with families, particularly regarding their children's social and instructional needs; and one way they would incorporate the family's culture and/or language into their instructional practices. Students will include academic, both research- and theory-based, literature as well as concrete examples from the readings. It is expected that experiential, empirical, and theoretical (research- and theory-based from course readings) knowledge will be used in this paper. All course readings should be cited appropriately according to APA format.

### **Child Abuse and Neglect Recognition and Training Module (5 points)**

Students will complete an online module focused on child abuse recognition and intervention in accordance with curriculum guidelines developed by the Virginia Board of Education in consultation with the Virginia Department of Social Services.

- **Other Requirements**

### **Attendance and Participation (25 points)**

Because active participation and engagement are imperative for optimal learning, preparation for and participation in in-class and online activities will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Students attend class, arrive on time, and stay for the entire class period.
- Students use laptops and personal devices for instructional purposes only.

- Students complete readings and prepare for class activities prior to class as evidenced by their ability to discuss and write about the concepts presented and examined in the texts as well as participate fully in related activities.
- Students are actively involved in in-class and online learning experiences as evidenced by (a) participating in all activities, (b) engaging in small- and large-group discussions, (c) completing written work related to the activities, and (d) supporting the participation and learning of classmates.
- Students show evidence of critical reflective thinking through in-class and online discussions, activities, and written reflections.
- Students display professional dispositions at all times while interacting with the instructor and other students.
- Students complete participation activities across the semester that complement the scheduled course topic. Instructors will periodically collect artifacts from the activities. Students in attendance and who actively engage in the learning experience will receive credit for their efforts. Graded participation activities are not announced and are implemented at the discretion of the instructor.
- Students submit attendance and participation self-evaluation.

### **Written Assignments**

All formal written assignments will be evaluated for content and presentation. The American Psychological Association, Seventh Edition (APA) style will be followed for all written work. All written work unless otherwise noted must be completed on a word processor and should be proofread carefully. (Use spell check!) If students are not confident of their own ability to catch errors, they should have another person proofread their work. When in doubt, they should check the APA manual. Students may consult the Writing Center for additional writing support.

Students will do the following:

1. Present ideas in a clear, concise, and organized manner. (Avoid wordiness and redundancy.)
2. Develop points coherently, definitively, and thoroughly.
3. Refer to appropriate authorities, studies, and examples to document where appropriate. (Avoid meaningless generalizations, unwarranted assumptions, and unsupported opinions.)
4. Use correct capitalization, punctuation, spelling, and grammar.
5. Type the paper with double spacing, indented paragraphs, 1-inch margins all around, and 12-point Times New Roman font.

- **Grading**

A = 95-100   A- = 90-94   B+ = 87-89   B = 80-86   C = 70-79   F = < 70

Incomplete (IN): This grade may be given to students who are passing a course but who may be unable to complete scheduled coursework for a cause beyond reasonable control.

All CEHD students are held to the university grading policies as described in the Academic Policies section of the current catalog, which can be accessed at <http://catalog.gmu.edu>. Those students seeking Virginia initial teaching licensure must earn a B- or better in all graduate licensure coursework.



## Professional Dispositions

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/policies-procedures/>.

## Class Schedule

Date	Topics	Assignments & Readings Due
<b>UNIT 1</b> <b>Research, Theories, and Tools for Understanding Diverse Families and Communities</b>		
<p><b>Week 1</b> <b>Jan 21-26</b></p> <p><b>F2F Jan 23</b></p>	<p>Intro to Families &amp; Family Engagement</p> <p>Standards of Professionalism and Ethical Standards in Working with Families Defining Family</p> <p>Intro to Theories and Research for Understanding the Role of Families in Children’s Development</p> <p>Using a Strengths-Based, Problem-Solving Approach</p>	<p>Grant &amp; Ray, Chapter 2</p> <p>Stewart (2007) <i>Who is Kin</i></p> <p>Dreby &amp; Adkins (2012) <i>The Strength of Family Ties: How US Migration Shapes Children’s Ideas of Family</i></p> <p>Wheatley <i>Willing to be Disturbed</i> View: <i>The Danger of a Single Story</i> (posted in Bb)</p> <p><b>Due to Bb (1/25) – Child Abuse and Neglect Recognition and Intervention Training Module Completion Certificate</b></p>
<p><b>Week 2</b> <b>Jan 27-Feb 2</b></p> <p><b>F2F Jan 30</b></p>	<p>Contemporary Families: Diversity (racial, ethnic, cultural, religious, linguistic, and socioeconomic)</p> <p>Demographics, Structures, and Functions Developmental Process of Parenting</p>	<p><u>Required</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grant &amp; Ray, Chapter 3, 4</li> <li>▪ Turnbull, Chapter 3 (Family Functions)</li> <li>▪ Listen: “School Success: Inspire Motivation” (from <a href="#">Peace at Home Parenting</a>, see Bb)</li> </ul> <p><u>Spotlight on YC and Families</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Applying Family Systems Theory to Early Childhood Practice</i> (pp. 4-11)</li> <li>▪ <i>Sharing the Care of Infants and Toddlers</i> (pp. 16-19)</li> </ul> <p><b>Choose one:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Casper &amp; Bianchi (2002) <i>Changing Families in a Changing Society</i></li> <li>▪ Walsh (2003) <i>Changing Families in a Changing World</i></li> </ul> <p><u>Recommended</u></p>

Date	Topics	Assignments & Readings Due
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lareau (2008) <i>Excerpts from 'Unequal Childhoods'</i></li> <li>▪ Bianchi, Robinson, &amp; Milkie (2006) <i>Parenting: How Has It Changed?</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Due to Bb (2/1) – Critical Reflection 1</b></p>

<p><b>Week 3</b> <b>Feb 3-9</b></p> <p><b>F2F Feb 6</b></p>	<p>Family Diversity: Implicit Bias &amp; Sociocultural Perspective</p> <p>Analyzing Personal Values, Beliefs, and Cultural Biases</p> <p>Family Diversity: Immigration, English Language Learners, Ethnically, Racially, and Culturally-Diverse Families, Low-Income Families, Single-Parent Families</p> <p>Cultural and Familial Contexts in Attitudes, Beliefs, Values, and Child Rearing Practices</p>	<p><u>Required</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grant &amp; Ray, Chapter 5</li> <li>▪ Vesely et al. (2013) <i>Capitalizing on ECE: Low-Income Immigrant Mothers' Use of ECE to Build Human, Social, and Navigational Capital</i></li> <li>▪ State of Science (2013) Implicit Bias Review (Kirwan Institute) [pp. 30-34]: <a href="http://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/docs/SOTS-Implicit_Bias.pdf">http://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/docs/SOTS-Implicit_Bias.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ State of the Science (2014) Implicit Bias Review (Kirwan Institute) [pp. 12-21]: <a href="http://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/2014-implicit-bias.pdf">http://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/2014-implicit-bias.pdf</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Spotlight on YC and Families</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Culture and the Promotion of Inclusion in Child Care</i> (pp. 38-43)</li> <li>▪ <i>Working with Diverse Families to Enhance Children's Early Literacy Development</i> (pp. 44-49)</li> </ul> <p><b>View: <i>Tricia Rose Keynote on Structural Racism (on Bb)</i></b></p> <p>Choose <b>one</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Graue &amp; Hawkins (2010) <i>"I Always Feel They Don't Know Anything About Us": Diverse Families Talk About Their Relations With School.</i></li> <li>▪ Wlazlinski &amp; Cummins (2011) <i>Using Family Stories to Foster Parent and Preservice Teacher Relationships.</i></li> </ul> <p>Choose <b>one</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sacks (2018) <a href="#">5 ways neighborhoods of concentrated disadvantage harm children</a></li> <li>▪ Stitt &amp; Brooks (2014) <i>Reconceptualizing Parent Involvement: Parent as Accomplice or Parent as Partner?</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Due to Bb (2/8) – Critical Reflection 2</b></p> <p><b>Due to Bb (2/8) – Part 1 Diverse Family and Community Characteristics (Memo 1)</b></p>
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Date	Topics	Assignments & Readings Due
<p><b>Week 4</b> <b>Feb 10-16</b></p> <p><b>F2F Feb 13</b> <b>(online)</b></p>	<p>Family Diversity: Families with Children with Disabilities and Families with Children Who Are Gifted, Inclusion</p> <p>Priorities, Resources, and Concerns of Families</p> <p>How IDEA Supports Family Voices in Special Education</p> <p>Family Diversity: LGBTQ+ Families, Families in Transition, Families Facing Adversity (substance abuse, trauma, abuse, neglect), Family Disruptions</p>	<p><u>Required</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grant &amp; Ray, Chapter 6 or 7, 8, 11</li> <li>▪ McGee &amp; Hughes (2011) <i>Identifying and Supporting Young Gifted Learners</i></li> </ul> <p>Spotlight on YC and Families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>A Team Approach: Supporting Families of Children with Disabilities in Inclusive Programs</i> (pp. 28-37)</li> <li>▪ <i>Creating Safe, Just Places to Learn for Children of Lesbian and Gay Parents</i> (pp. 24-27)</li> </ul> <p>Choose <b>one</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prezant &amp; Marshak (2006) <i>Helpful Actions Seen Through the Eyes of Parents of Children with Disabilities</i></li> <li>▪ Riojas-Cortez (2011) <i>Culture, Play, and Family: Supporting Children on the Autism Spectrum</i></li> </ul> <p>Choose <b>one</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gates (2008) <i>Diversity among Same-sex Couples and their Children</i></li> <li>▪ Bartholomaeus &amp; Riggs (2017) <i>Whole-of-School Approaches to Supporting Transgender Students, Staff, and Parents</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Due to Bb (Feb 15) – Critical Reflections 3, 4</b></p>
<p><b>Week 5</b> <b>Feb 17-23</b></p> <p><b>F2F Feb 20</b></p>	<p>Additional Family Theories &amp; Tools for Understanding Diverse Families and their Role in Children’s Development: Family Stress Theory, Family Resiliency Framework</p> <p>Using Family Systems Theory to Understand Family Dynamics and Family-Centered Intervention</p>	<p><u>Required</u></p> <p>Spotlight on YC and Families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Mapping Family Resources and Support</i> (pp. 20-23)</li> </ul> <p>Choose <b>one</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ingoldsby, Smith, &amp; Miller (2004) <i>Exploring Family Theories (Chapter 6)</i></li> <li>▪ Walsh (2003) <i>Family Resilience: Strengths Forged through Adversity</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Due to Bb (2/22) – Critical Reflections 5</b></p>

Date	Topics	Assignments & Readings Due
		<b>Due to Bb (2/22) – Part 2 Understanding, Supporting, and Engaging Families Analysis and Reflection (Memo 2)</b>
<b>Unit 2 Partnering with and Engaging Diverse Families</b>		
<p><b>Week 6 Feb 24-Mar 1</b></p> <p><b>F2F Feb 27</b></p>	<p>Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on Family Engagement</p> <p>Family Engagement: Cultural and Linguistic Competence &amp; Home-School Learning</p> <p>A Family-Centered Approach to Education</p> <p>Creating Tailored Opportunities for Collaborating with Families</p> <p><b>Student Presentations</b></p>	<p><u>Required</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grant &amp; Ray, Chapter 1, 9, 13</li> <li>▪ Case Study: <i>What’s going on with Tomasito?</i></li> <li>▪ Vesely &amp; Ginsberg (2011) <i>Strategies and Practices for Working with Immigrant families in Early Education Programs</i></li> </ul> <p>Spotlight on YC and Families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Leave No Parent Behind</i> (pp. 50-54)</li> </ul> <p>Choose <b>one</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ US Department of Health and Human Services &amp; US Department of Education (2016) <i>Policy Statement on Family Engagement</i></li> <li>▪ Halgunseth et al. (2009) <i>Family Engagement, Diverse Families, and Early Childhood Education Programs: An Integrated Review of the Literature</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Due in Class (2/27) – SoP draft to critical writing partner</b></p>
<p><b>Week 7 Mar 2-8</b></p> <p><b>F2F Mar 5</b></p>	<p>Family Engagement: Communication &amp; Home-School Learning</p> <p>Standards of Professionalism and Ethical Standards in Working with Families</p> <p><b>Student Presentations</b></p>	<p><u>Required</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grant &amp; Ray, Chapter 10</li> </ul> <p>Spotlight on YC and Families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Partnerships for Learning: Conferencing with Families</i> (No presentation) pp. 12-15)</li> </ul> <p><u>Optional</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Berrera &amp; Corso (2003) <i>Skilled Dialogue-Foundational Concepts</i></li> <li>▪ Bromer &amp; Henly (2009) <i>The Work-Family Support Roles of Child Care Providers Across Settings</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Due to Tk20 on Bb (3/8) – Home Visit Project (Parts 1 and 2 compiled)</b></p>

Date	Topics	Assignments & Readings Due
		<p><b>Due to Bb (3/8) – Statement of Philosophy (final draft)</b></p> <p><b>Due to Bb (3/8) – Attendance and Participation Self-Evaluation</b></p> <p><b>Due to Tk20 on Bb – Professionals Dispositions Self-Evaluation</b></p>

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

### Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>.

### GMU Policies and Resources for Students

#### *Policies*

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <https://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students **solely** through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <http://ds.gmu.edu/>).
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be silenced during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

#### *Campus Resources*

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to [tk20help@gmu.edu](mailto:tk20help@gmu.edu) or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>.

**Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:** As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing [titleix@gmu.edu](mailto:titleix@gmu.edu).

**For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website: <http://cehd.gmu.edu>.**

## Evaluation Guide

<b>Engaging Families: Home Visit Project</b>				
	<b>Exceeds</b>	<b>Meets</b>	<b>Approaches</b>	<b>Does Not Meet</b>
<b>Part 1: Diverse Family and Community Characteristics</b>				
<p><b>InTASC 2m</b> The teacher respects learners as individuals with differing personal and family backgrounds and various skills, abilities, perspectives, talents, and interests.</p> <p><b>NAEYC 2a</b> Knowing about and understanding diverse family and community characteristics</p>	<p>Student provided a description that met criteria and reflected an extensive knowledge and understanding of the child's family, community, life experiences, values and culture.</p>	<p>Student provided a description of a diverse family's characteristics and background that demonstrated an understanding of the child's family, community, life experiences, values, and culture.</p>	<p>Student attempted to provide a description of a diverse family's characteristics and background that demonstrated an understanding of the child's family, community, life experiences, values, and culture. However, student provided limited information about the family.</p>	<p>Student did not provide a description of a diverse family's characteristics and background that demonstrated an understanding of the child's family, community, life experiences, values, and culture.</p>

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<b>Part 2: Understanding, Supporting, and Engaging Families</b>				
<p><b>InTASC 1k</b> The teacher values the input and contributions of families, colleagues, and other professionals in understanding and supporting each learner's development.</p> <p><b>NAEYC 2b</b> Supporting and engaging families and community through respectful, reciprocal relationships</p>	<p>Student provided an analysis that met expectations and demonstrated an in-depth understanding of how this interaction with a family informs his/her ideas on developing relationships as an early childhood/ elementary educator.</p>	<p>Student provided an analysis of his/her interaction with the family, including what the student learned about him/herself and how this understanding informs the student's ideas on developing relationships as an early childhood/ elementary educator.</p>	<p>Student attempted to provide an analysis of his/her interaction with the family, including some understanding of what he/she learned. However, student did not explain how this understanding informed his/her ideas on developing relationships as an early childhood/ elementary educator.</p>	<p>Student did not provide an analysis of his/her interaction with the family and did not show understanding of how to develop relationships as an early childhood/ elementary educator.</p>