

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

CHILD DEVELOPMENT 210 – WORKING WITH YOUNG CHILDREN WITH CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS

3 hours lecture, 3 units

Catalog Description

This course provides a practical foundation for working with children with challenging behaviors in early childhood programs. Key components are developmentally appropriate guidance and proactive management techniques, preventative and intervention strategies, and adaptations of environment and settings. The importance of a child's developmental age, family involvement, and community resources will be included.

Prerequisite

None

Course Content

- 1) Overview of child developmental stages, principles and milestones
- 2) Discussion of philosophical approaches to behavioral issues and behavior management including best practice guidelines
- 3) Methods for identifying and meeting individual children's social-emotional needs
- 4) Practical ways of designing, organizing and modifying the early childhood environment to encourage appropriate behaviors
- 5) Comprehensive and specific strategies for supporting young children with challenging behaviors
- 6) Examination of values and techniques for working with families
- 7) Exploration of community resources for children, families and early childhood educators

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Identify the key precipitating causes for challenging behaviors in young children.
- 2) Compare essential elements of positive behavior management plans and apply them to specific behavioral issues.
- 3) List and discuss the best practices of behavior intervention for young children.
- 4) Evaluate early childhood classroom environments for behavioral impact and demonstrate ability to modify for specific behavioral challenges.
- 5) Design and implement strategies and activities for facilitating appropriate behavior in young children.
- 6) Analyze and describe child's behavior within the context of child's developmental age.
- 7) Describe and discuss values and techniques for working with families based on lecture and text material.

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Written exams that measure students' ability to identify precipitating causes for challenging behaviors, discuss best practices for behavior intervention, appropriately modify classroom environments to facilitate appropriate behavior, describe techniques for working with families, and analyze behavior within the context of a child's developmental age.

- 2) Written assignments that require students to demonstrate the ability to compare and apply essential elements of positive behavior management plans to specific behavioral issues, identify precipitating causes for specific behaviors, and design strategies and activities for facilitating appropriate behaviors.
- 3) Classroom presentations with a written component that require students to demonstrate the ability to modify classroom environments for specific behavioral challenges, design and implement activities for facilitating appropriate behavior, and apply positive behavior management plans to specific behavioral issues.

Special Materials Required of Student

None

Minimum Instructional Facilities

Smart classroom

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lecture and demonstration
- 2) Group discussion, projects
- 3) Directed observations of children
- 4) Individual activities
- 5) Student presentations
- 6) Guest speakers

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) Assigned readings and written assignments
- 2) Research and development of course related materials
- 3) Group activities and projects

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative example): Kaiser & Rasminsky. *Challenging Behavior in Young Children*. 4th edition. Pearson, 2017.
- 2) Supplemental: Brault, *Children with Challenging Behaviors: Strategies for Reflective Thinking*. CPG Publishing Company, 2005.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Apply specific behavior management strategies to evaluating the behavior of individual children and developing behavior plans for modifying environment and guidance techniques.
- 2) Access community resources supportive of young children with behavior challenges and their families.