

HES: 4-19-04  
CHHS: 5-5-04

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY  
COURSE SYLLABUS**

Department of: Human Environmental Studies Course No.: CF 300

Title of Course: Parent Education Revision: Fall 2004  
New:

**I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:**

Involving parents from diverse backgrounds in educating young children; responsive communication and organizational skills appropriate for use with parents. (2)

**II. Prerequisite(s):**

Co requisite: CF301

**III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course: Students will**

- A. Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of the diversity of families.
- B. Develop a knowledge of various effective, sensitive communication techniques and alternative communication strategies appropriate for parents.
- C. Demonstrate skills in the development and presentation of visual and graphic education strategies for parents.
- D. Develop skills in organizing, conducting and evaluating parent conferences and meetings.
- E. Develop effective skills in conducting appropriate resource referrals with parents.
- F. Develop a knowledge of alternative methods and strategies for involving parents in the learning process.

**IV. Expectations of Students:**

Students are expected to attend class, participate in discussions, complete all assignments, and to cooperatively participate in student work groups. Students will effectively interact with all parents in a respectful and professional manner.

<b>V. Course Content or Outline:</b>	<b>Hours</b>
A. Overview of families and parenting	3
1. Demographics on U.S. families	
2. Myths regarding families	
3. Changing family units and expectations	
4. Parenthood	
B. Diversity and sensitivity	3
1. Value systems	
2. Categories and terminology of diversity	
3. Professional limitations and strategies	
4. ISM's and discrimination (legal and interactive)	
5. Inclusion/exclusion policies	
6. Sensitivity in visual/graphic presentations	
C. Role of parents in the education process	3
1. Parent involvement research (Missouri and national)	
2. Selection and orientation used in parent involvement	
3. Designing and evaluating learning environments for parents	
4. Legal issues and liability	
D. Communication techniques and innovative strategies	4
1. Verbal and nonverbal techniques	
2. Listening techniques and skill improvement	
3. Common barriers to effective listening/communication	
4. Threatening and non threatening environments	
E. Parent contacts, programs, and involvement strategies	3
1. Human service and community parent groups	
2. Preschool programs (formal and informal)	
3. Public and private elementary classroom and formal education settings	
4. Evaluation strategies and formats	
F. Parent Meetings	4
1. Needs Assessment	
2. Types of meeting formats	
3. Leadership qualifications	
4. Stages of group meetings	
5. Sensitivity & hot topics	
G. Visual Teaching Strategies	2
1. Appropriate topics	
2. Graphics and text	
3. Sensitivity issues	
4. Aesthetics	
H. Parent Conferences	5
1. Psychology of conferencing	
2. Room arrangements	
3. Policies, procedures and management	
4. Three basic types of conferences	
5. Evaluation strategies	

I.	Referral Techniques and Procedures	3
1.	Liability of referrals	
2.	Evaluating and selecting appropriate resources	
3.	Resource file development	
4.	Follow up techniques	
	Total	30

**VI. Textbook(s) and/or Other Required Materials or Equipment:**

Berger, Eugenia. (2000). *Parents as Partners in Education*. St. Louis: Mosby.

**VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:**

Participation in class role-play/group participation	10%
Written examinations and quizzes	70%
Participation in mock parent conferences	20%