

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College  
Course Content Summary**

**Course Prefix and Number:** CHD 216

**Credits:** 3

**Course Title:** Early Childhood Programs, Schools, and Social Change

**Course Description:** Explores methods of developing positive, effective relations with families to enhance their developmental goals for children. Considers culture and other diverse needs, perspectives, and abilities of families and educators. Emphasizes advocacy and public policy awareness as an important role of early childhood educators. Describes risk factors and identifies community resources. Lecture 3 hours per week.

**General Course Purpose:** Students will gain knowledge related to current trends in education as well as issues related to culture, non-traditional families, relationships between families and staff, and community resources. This course is a fourth semester requirement for the associate degree.

**Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:** none

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse types of families, including characteristics and influences;
- b. Demonstrate understanding of the way in which families function as systems within and across communities;
- c. Demonstrate knowledge of family stressors, typical reactions to stress, and risk factors for family dysfunction;
- d. Demonstrate knowledge of family diversity in a community and the importance of culture in the growth of development in children and families;
- e. Demonstrate knowledge of models for parent involvement within early childhood education classrooms;
- f. Demonstrate strategies for effective communication between home and school;
- g. Demonstrate knowledge of community resources, both public and private, that support families; and
- h. Demonstrate knowledge of the advocacy role for teachers of young children.

**Major Topics to Be Included:**

- a. The history of education for exceptional children
- b. The characteristics associated with exceptional children
- c. Positive techniques for managing behavior and adapting materials for classrooms use

**Effective Date of Course Content Summary:** June 2, 2016