Administrative Unit: Department of Education

Course Prefix and Number: EDUC 548

Course Title: Communications, Counseling, Conferencing and Confronting

Number of Credit Hours: 3  Lecture Hours: 3  Laboratory Hours: 0

Catalog Description: A study of communications within the context of interpersonal transactions within educational settings. Counseling, counseling theories, mediating, conferring and advocating are studied. Special attention is given to community resource agencies, multidisciplinary teams and their work with families of children with disabilities.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Graduate standing.

Text(s): D. R. Gallagher and D. Bagin School and community relations. Allyn & Bacon.


Course Objectives:

- To identify elements that impact communication, particularly perceptions, language, nonverbals and listening skills.
- To explore the processes of collaborating and defining goals and missions of a group.
- To analyze programs, strategies and systems designed to promote the inclusion of all individuals.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

- Describe characteristics and elements of effective communication.
- Identify and discuss the dynamic features of formal and interpersonal communication
- Examine the roles of affect and how it impacts and influences communication.
- Summarize strategies of conferencing and determine the utility in various settings.
- Discuss and apply interviewing processes.
- Design responses to issues related to children and parents of diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds.
- Develop an individualized family support plan, with measurable objectives and transitional plan.
- Identify resources for assistance for children and family at the local, state, and national levels.
Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

- Communication processes and models
- Elements of positive conferencing
- Public versus private communication
- Environments that support or discourage collaboration
- Nature and goals of conflict
- Power as a component of conflict
- Negotiation, mediation, and facilitated interventions
- Advocacy and persuasion
- Empowering the family
- Individual counseling and group therapy
- Ethics and moral principles of counseling
- Sources and agencies of support

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 15

Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

Prepared by: Donna M. Begley, Ph.D.

Name: ___________________________ Signature: ___________________________

Date: October 20, 2005

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

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