

ELCC 330

Ecology of the Family

3 credits, 45 hours lecture

This course provides an overview of the family in today's society and increases the students' understanding of family dynamics and diversity. The focus is on the ecology of the family with particular reference: poverty, affluence, violence, the women's movement and the child's rights. A collaborative approach to family- staff communication and involvement will be applied. A practice of relationships from the Alberta Curriculum Framework will also be explored.

Prerequisite: ELCC Certificate or permission of the Program Chair

Instructor

Karla Green
CC 202-C
karla.green@keyano.ca

Virtual Office Hours:

If you require confidential assistance outside of weekly office hours, please email to schedule a time. Your email will be returned within 24 hours. Emails sent on weekends will be answered on the next business day. Any casual course-related questions are encouraged to be posted on the course forum within Moodle.

Delivery Method and/or Hours of Instruction:

Online.

Required Resources:

Wilson, L. (2019). *Partnerships: Families and communities in Canadian early childhood education, 6th Ed.* Toronto: Nelson Educational Ltd.

Makovichuk, L., Hewes, J., Lirette, P., & Thomas, N. (2014). *Play, participation, and possibilities: An early learning and child care curriculum framework for Alberta.* Retrieved from www.childcareframework.com

Flight: Alberta's Early Learning and Child Care Framework. (2014). Retrieved from <https://flightframework.ca/>

Course Outcomes:

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

1. Describe the range of perspectives for understanding the family, including the family systems and ecological approaches.
2. Define the nature, dynamics, and development of the modern family.
3. Explain how to support the socialization role of the family.
4. Discuss how to establish and support collaborative relationships between families and the early childhood program.
5. Apply specific ways of enhancing family-staff communication to one's unique work situation.
6. Summarize the influences on the family including government policies (local, provincial and national) and societal trends such as the women's movement.

- 7. Develop sensitivity to support families facing challenges of families such as: separation and divorce, blending families, single and teenage parenting, special needs parenting, LGBTQ, poverty, death, violence and abuse.
- 8. Utilize a practice of relationships from the Alberta Curriculum framework to describe values for meaningful family relationships.

The class will proceed throughout the semester according to the needs, skills and interests of the group. Each group of people presents a unique blend of personalities and abilities. Accordingly, the course content will reflect the needs and nature of the group and the individuals within the group.

EVALUATION: *detailed assignment instructions and rubrics are available on Moodle*

| Assignment | Value |
|--|--------------|
| <p>Parent Involvement Project:</p> <p>Using the texts, and online resources, design a questionnaire that will give you important information about the needs and interests of the families with whom you work. Distribute the questionnaire to a members of at least five families.</p> <p>Tabulate the results and develop two goals that would help meet the needs of families, and provide detailed strategies in which those objectives would be met.</p> <p>Prepare an information sheet for the family members outlining different ways they can be involved in the program.</p> <p>Develop a set of guidelines that could be used by family members when they are directly involved in the program.</p> | 25% |
| <p>Planning a Meeting:</p> <p>Using the texts, and online resources, students will plan and prepare for a parent meeting. Students will be able to choose the scenario from a list posted on iLearn. Students will address the problem identified, while including all the components and qualities of a successful meeting.</p> | 25% |
| <p>Parent Conference:</p> <p>In class, students will role play both the family members and the teacher in different common practice scenarios. Students will be graded on three aspects: their participation as a family member, their role as a ‘teacher’ and their reflection on the process.</p> | 25% |
| <p>Family Challenges:</p> <p><i>The purpose:</i> This ongoing project has two purposes: to extend your learning and the evaluation of your learning.</p> <p>Your goal should be to use the assignment to really understand the key aspects of the current challenges which face families in care, and to demonstrate your understanding to your instructor.</p> <p><i>What you will do:</i> Focus on challenges which one or more families in your program are presently facing.</p> <p>Access and review a range of current sources.</p> <p>Prepare an organized informative handout for the class summarizing your findings. DO NOT forget to document your sources.</p> | 25% |

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| You will be required to lead a class discussion on your project which will be part of your grade. | |
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Grading System

| Descriptor | Alpha Grade | 4.0 Scale | Percent | Rubric for Letter Grades |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|--|
| Excellent | A+ | 4.0 | > 92.9 | Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format. |
| | A | 4.0 | 85 – 92.9 | |
| | A- | 3.7 | 80 – 84.9 | |
| Good | B+ | 3.3 | 77 – 79.9 | Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format. |
| | B | 3.0 | 74 – 76.9 | |
| | B- | 2.7 | 70 – 73.9 | |
| Satisfactory Progression | C+ | 2.3 | 67 – 69.9 | Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting. |
| | C | 2.0 | 64 – 66.9 | |
| | C- | 1.7 | 60 – 63.9 | |
| Poor | D+ | 1.3 | 55 – 59.9 | Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format. |
| Minimum Pass | D | 1.0 | 50 – 54.9 | |
| Failure | F | 0.0 | < 50 | Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete. |

In accordance with Keyano College policy, the minimum progression grade for this course is a C-.

Proposed Topics:

1. Perspectives for understanding the family
2. Family systems
3. Ecological Model
4. Influences on the family including government policy and societal trends
5. Nature and dynamics of the family
6. The socialization process and supporting families through the process
7. Establishing supporting, collaborative relationships with families
8. Supporting families through challenges
9. Using practice of relationships from Play, Participation, and Possibilities.

Performance Requirements:

Student Responsibilities

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the [Keyano College credit calendar](#). The Keyano College credit calendar also has information about Student Rights and Code of Conduct. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies.

Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a student's learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and notes that may be due.

Academic Misconduct

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own;
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating);
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work;
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications;
- The willful distortion of results or data;
- Substitution in an examination by another person;
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment; and
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on ilearn.keyano.ca. Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work may not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

Specialized Supports

The Student Services department is committed to Keyano students and their academic success. There are a variety of student supports available at Keyano College. Due to the continuing situation with the Covid-19 pandemic, the offered support services will be implemented differently this semester by being provided mostly virtually. In-person service can be requested as needed. All Alberta Health Services guidelines will be followed for in-person appointments—wear a mask, maintain two meters of physical distance, use hand sanitizer, and stay home if you are unwell.

All student services are available during Keyano business hours: Monday to Friday, 8h30-16h30. The Library has evening and weekend hours. Please check keyano.ca/library for current hours.

Accessibility Services: provides accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with documented disabilities, or who suspect a disability, can meet with a Learning Strategist to discuss their current learning barriers and possible accommodations. Students who have accessed accommodations in the past are encouraged to contact us to request them for the semester. Please note that requesting accommodations is a process and requires time to arrange. Contact us as soon as you know you may require accommodations. For accessibility services supports and to book a virtual appointment, please contact accessibility.services@keyano.ca.

Accessibility Services also provides individual and group learning strategy instruction for all students, as well as technology training and supports to enhance learning. Meet with a Learning Strategist to learn studying and test-taking strategies for online classes. Schedule an appointment with the Assistive

Technology Specialist to explore technology tools for learning. Book an appointment today by emailing accessibility.services@keyano.ca

Academic Success Coaching: offers you support and access to resources for your academic success to help you to find the Keys to your Success. The Academic Success Coach will work with you to develop an academic success plan, develop your study and time management skills, and connect you with the right resources here at Keyano. Academic.success@keyano.ca is the best way to access resources during virtual service delivery.

Wellness Services: offers a caring, inclusive, and respectful environment where students can access free group and individual support to meet academic and life challenges. Mental Health Coordinators offer a safe and confidential environment to seek help with personal concerns. All individual appointments will continue virtually.

Wellness Services welcomes students to participate in any of the virtual group sessions offered throughout the academic year addressing topics including mindfulness and test anxiety.

Individual virtual appointments can be made by emailing wellness.services@keyano.ca.

Library Services: provides students with research and information supports as they engage in their studies. Library staff are available to support you both virtually and in person during the fall semester. For library service supports and inquiries, please email askthelibrary@keyano.ca.

Individual support with the Information Librarian will be provided virtually. Appointments can be requested by email or by placing a [Book a Librarian](#) request using the online form found [here](#).

Research and Subject Guides are helpful resources when conducting research or addressing your information needs. To view a subject or course specific guide, use the following [Subject Guides link](#)

To access additional research resources, including Citation Guides (APA, MLA, Chicago, or IEEE), go to the [Research Help Library page](#).

Skill Centre: provides academic support services to students registered in credit programs at Keyano College in the form of tutoring, writing support groups, facilitated study groups, workshops and study space. Tutoring services are **free** to Keyano students. Tutoring is available for Math, Writing, English, and Science subject areas.

While most courses are being offered online, the Skill Center will be offering mostly virtual tutoring services and in-person sessions as requested. Please email Skill.centre@keyano.ca to get in contact with our tutoring staff.

For the most up to date information on how to book a tutoring session, please view the [Keyano Skill Centre homepage](#).

E-Learning

Technology and internet will impact your online learning experience. It's important that you are able to watch an online video and other course materials, take online quizzes, and participant in a live class with your instructor and other students.

Keyano College operates in a Windows based environment and having the correct tools for online learning is important. Here's a list of recommended system requirements for Fall 2020.

Internet Speed

Minimum Internet speeds of 5 Mbps.

Recommended Internet speeds of 25 Mbps (especially if you are sharing your internet at home). Check your internet speed with Fast.com.

Recording of lectures and Intellectual Property

Students may only record a lecture if explicit permission is provided by the instructor or by Accessibility Services. Even if students have permission to record a lecture or lecture materials, students may not publish any of the lectures or lecture materials, this includes any recordings, slides, instructor notes, etc. on any platform. Thus no student is allowed to publish or sell instructor notes without formal written permission. It is important to recognize that the Canadian Copyright Act contains provisions for intellectual property.

System requirements:

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| <p>Microsoft Windows</p> <p>Minimum Requirements: A Windows 10 computer/laptop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimum 4GB of RAM. - 10GB+ available hard drive storage. - Enough available hard drive space to install the Microsoft Office suite (approximately 3GB). <u>Microsoft Office</u> software is free to all Keyano students and employees. - Microphone, webcam and speakers. A headset with a microphone is recommended. - System updates must be regularly installed. - Anti-Virus / Anti-Malware software | <p>Apple</p> <p>Minimum Requirements: A Macintosh (V10.14 and above) computer/laptop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimum 4GB of RAM. - 10GB+ available hard drive storage. - Enough available hard drive space to install the Microsoft Office suite (approximately 3GB). <u>Microsoft Office</u> software is free to all Keyano students and employees. - Microphone, webcam and speakers. A headset with a microphone is recommended. - System updates must be regularly installed. - Anti-Virus / Anti-Malware software. |
| <p>Recommended Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8GB of RAM - A method of backing up/synchronizing to local or cloud-based storage such as OneDrive is highly recommended. This is included if you complete the setup of KeyanoMail and download MS Office using your Keyano email | <p>Recommended Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8GB of RAM - A method of backing up/synchronizing to local or cloud-based storage such as OneDrive is highly recommended. This is included if you complete the setup of KeyanoMail and download MS Office using your Keyano email |
| <p>Chromebooks are not recommended as they are not compatible with testing lockdown browsers. A Microsoft Surface or iPad or iPad Pro may be possible alternatives in some program areas.</p> | |

Specific department requirements:

Business and OA programs require Windows 10. Other programs may utilize Windows based tools as well.

Computer Software

Students will be able to get access to Microsoft Office 365 for Free using Keyano Credentials by [clicking here](#).

ITS Helpdesk

If you are having issues with your student account, you can contact the ITS Helpdesk by emailing its.helpdesk@keyano.ca or calling 780-791-4965.