

FCS 3180

Home, School, & Community Relationships

Taught by *Dr. Paula Smith*

Are you thinking about teaching children?

*Want to learn how to successfully work with parents and families
to make your teaching more rewarding?*

Just a SAMPLING of the things you'll learn.....

- ★ What are differing family types and how can they all be involved?
- ★ What is the role of parents in education?
- ★ How can parent-teacher communication be facilitated?
- ★ What are current family involvement models?
- ★ How do parents of children with disabilities get left out?
- ★ How does poverty impact on the family-school relationship?
- ★ How do fathers get left out?
- ★ How can you as a teacher or administrator help bridge the gap to these families?

Required Text: Olsen, G., & Fuller, M. L. (2003). Home-school relations: Working successfully with parents and families (2nd Edition). Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Course Description: This class is designed to help you understand the interrelationship between families and schools. While the obvious goal of this collaboration is to positively impact the academic and/or social success of each child, we will discuss ways in which this goal is facilitated or inhibited. The class is divided into two sections. The first section will focus on families and the ways in which they facilitate or inhibit effective school-family relationships as a function of individual, cultural or social class differences. The second section will focus on various family involvement models, policies and special topics that are relevant for understanding how the family-school partnership might vary due to disability, poverty and other such factors.