

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
CONTINUING EDUCATION
COURSE OUTLINE

SECTION I

SUBJECT AREA AND COURSE NUMBER

HMDV 678

COURSE TITLE

ADOPTIVE PARENTING

TYPE COURSE

NON-FEE

VOCATIONAL

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course addresses developmental issues surrounding adoption, the role of birth parents in the adoption process and guidelines for adoptive parents to help children understand their adoption story. Prospective adoptive parents are introduced to the various adoption opportunities; public agency, private agency, independent adoption, international adoption, closed adoption and open adoption. (FT)

LECTURE HOURS

21

LABORATORY HOURS

ADVISORIES

NONE

RECOMMENDED SKILL LEVEL

Ability to effectively communicate orally in the English language.

INSTITUTIONAL STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Social Responsibility
SDCE students demonstrate interpersonal skills by learning and working cooperatively in a diverse environment.
2. Effective Communication
SDCE students demonstrate effective communication skills.

INSTITUTIONAL STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (CONTINUED)

3. Critical Thinking

SDCE students critically process information, make decisions, and solve problems independently or cooperatively.

4. Personal and Professional Development

SDCE students pursue short term and life-long learning goals, mastering necessary skills and using resource management and self advocacy skills to cope with changing situations in their lives.

COURSE GOALS

Achievement of the course objectives will help the student develop:

1. Knowledge of the adoption opportunities available to families.
2. Knowledge of potential legal, medical, genetic and background risks of children available for adoption.
3. Knowledge of the relationship of the adoption triad.
4. Knowledge of the effects of infertility on adoptive parenting.
5. Knowledge of developmental issues surrounding adoption.
6. Knowledge of the guidelines to use when helping children understand their adoption story.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and discuss the various adoption options: public agency, private agency, independent adoption, international adoption, closed adoption and open adoption.
2. Define the function of the adoption agency including policy and procedures regarding the adoption process.
3. Identify and discuss the relationship and impact of each member of the adoption triad.
4. Identify and discuss effects of infertility on adoptive parenting.
5. Identify and discuss the legal, medical, nutrition and childhood obesity and background risk of children available for adoption.
6. Define three potential special need areas of adoptive children.
7. Identify and discuss the developmental issues surrounding adoption; bonding and attachment; separation; and grief and loss.
8. List the tools available for helping children understand their adoption story.
9. Describe the importance of a lifebook to record a child's adoption story.
10. Identify information and items to be included in an adopted child's lifebook.

SECTION II

COURSE CONTENT AND SCOPE

1. Overview of the Adoption Process
 - 1.1. Agency philosophy
 - 1.2. Legal risks to adoption
 - 1.3. Preparation for adoption
 - 1.4. Characteristics of successful adoptive families
 - 1.5. Agency policies and procedures
2. Historical Perspective of Adoption
 - 2.1. History of adoption
 - 2.2. Types of adoption
 - 2.3. Options available for adoption families
 - 2.4. Options available for birth families
 - 2.5. Current trends in adoption
3. Issues With Children of Adoption
 - 3.1. Special needs of adoptable children
 - 3.2. Effects of prenatal drug exposure
 - 3.3. HIV testing and procedures
 - 3.4. Genetic and family background risks in adoption
 - 3.5. Nutrition and obesity
4. The Adoption Triad Issues
 - 4.1. The adoption triad
 - 4.2. Stages of grief
 - 4.3. Guidelines for dealing with loss experiences
 - 4.4. Effects of infertility on adoptive parenting
 - 4.5. Factors involved with grief process
5. Bonding and Attachment Issues: Developmental Issues of Adoption
 - 5.1. Define bonding and attachment
 - 5.2. Impact of adoption on child development
 - 5.3. Relationship of bonding and attachment to successful adoption
 - 5.4. Transitioning children to a new family
 - 5.5. Resources available to assist with attachment issues
6. Helping Children Understand the Adoption Process
 - 6.1. Tools available to help children understand adoption
 - 6.2. Review of literature discussing adoption
 - 6.3. Books and workbooks available regarding adoption
 - 6.4. Life book

APPROPRIATE READINGS

Materials prepared by Department of Social Services, Adoption Unit:

Orientation to Adoption Packet
Basic Adoption Preparation Materials
Special Topics Information and Materials

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Handouts and Case Studies.

Challenging Behavior in Young Children, Kaiser, Barbara and Rasminsky, Judy Skylar,
Pearson Education Inc., Boston, MA., 2003

Beyond Behavior Management, Bilmes, Jenna, Redleaf Press, St. Paul, MN., 2004

Instructor selected materials and articles related to the adoption process.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

Completion of written homework assignments relating to adoption topics and a written description of the type of child acceptable for adoption by the student's family.

Students will complete a journal of reflections written at the completion of relevant adoptive parenting discussion.

Student will complete an informal evaluation upon the completion of each class-required field trip and/or guest speaker.

Students will complete an end-of the semester written assignment: "What I know about adoptive parenting, what I still want to learn, what I learned".

Students will prepare a life book for their adoptive child.

OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS

Completion of materials prepared by the Department of Social Services, Adoption Unit:

The Points to Think About

The Type of Child Acceptable to the Family

Group Home Study and the Information Form

Students will prepare activities and role plays to be used in the classroom setting.

Students will visit community resources and agencies and prepare an oral report on these resources for class.

Students will gather the necessary information to complete a life book for their adoptive child.

APPROPRIATE ASSIGNMENTS THAT DEMONSTRATE CRITICAL THINKING

Course activities include group discussions and self-examination opportunities to clarify the risks and benefits of adoption for self, family and the child. Completion of "The Points to Think About" and "The Type of Child Acceptable to the Family" assignments supports classroom activities.

EVALUATION

Evaluation consists of monitoring student's progress toward the attainment of the course objectives by monitoring attendance; observing student participation in classroom activities, and discussions; completion of the writing assignments and a pre-post test. Each student will

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be provided with a course syllabus listing the competencies to be demonstrated and the methods and criteria by which they will be evaluated.

Upon successful completion of each individual course a Certificate of Course Completion will be issued. Upon successful completion of all courses included in the program a Certificate of Program Completion will be issued.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

Lecture, guest speakers, small group activities, group discussions, audio/visual presentations, problem solving and critical thinking activities that prepare students for challenges that arise in adoption. Field trips may be utilized.

TEXTS AND SUPPLIES

Materials prepared by Department of Social Services, Adoption Unit:

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Special Topics Information and Materials
Handouts and Case Studies

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Pearson Education Inc., Boston, MA., 2003

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Sue Goodwin, Adoption Unit Children's Service Bureau

PREPARED BY: Consumer and Home Economics Department DATE July 10, 1996

DATA REVISED BY: Marina Monta and Roma Weaver DATE February 19, 2007

DATA REVISED BY: Instructional Services/SLOs Added DATE February 2, 2017

Instructors must meet all requirements stated in Policy 3100 (Student Rights, Responsibilities and Administrative Due Process), and the Attendance Policy set forth in the Continuing Education Catalog.

REFERENCES:

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San Diego Community College District Policy 3100
California Community Colleges, Title 5, Section 55002
Continuing Education Catalog