



## BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE PARENTING/EARLY LEARNING EDUCATION

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**DEPT/COURSE #:** CHFM 131, 132, 133, 135, 138 (non-graded courses)  
ECED 135, 136, 137, 140, 141, 142, 155, 156, 157 (graded courses)

**COURSE TITLES:** FAMILY CONNECTIONS-ADULT/CHILD COURSES

CHFM 131 Exploring with Toddlers: Ones  
CHFM 132 Exploring with Toddlers: Twos  
CHFM 135 More Than One

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Family Connections Adult/child activity classes allow parents or caregivers to become directly involved in their education as a parent or caregiver and the education of their child(ren). Adults and children attend these classes together in an instructional program that focuses on parenting concepts and children's development. Developmentally appropriate activities are planned for adults and the children to do together in class. A facilitated discussion time is built into each class so parents or caregivers have an opportunity to learn from parenting educators as well as share ideas, questions, problems, and joys with other adults. These courses are primarily designed for one adult, one child except for the specifically designed sibling classes. Very young infants are welcome to attend with an older brother or sister.

**COURSE OUTCOME:**

Increased confidence and competence in your role as a parent or caregiver

**COURSE OUTCOME ASSESSMENT:**

Course outcomes will be achieved by the successful completion of at least two projects listed under assignments/requirements.

Course outcomes will be achieved by successful mastery of all objectives listed below.

**STUDENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES (Course competencies):**

Upon completion of the course the parent or caregiver will be able to:

- Describe what to expect of different age levels and developmental stages.
- Adopt their own positive parenting style based on realistic expectations for their child(ren) at their stage(s) of growth and development.
- Observe and assess various children's social, emotional, cognitive, psycho-motor, and language development.
- Describe the importance and role of play for children and incorporate some of the classroom play and learning activities into the home environment.
- Assist their child(ren) in learning ways to positively interact with children and adults who are not family members.
- Implement a home environment that ensures the health and safety of their child(ren).
- Practice skills which facilitate positive interactions among various family members.
- Access various resources available to them about families, parenting, and children.
- Establish an atmosphere that promotes positive interaction between themselves and their child(ren).

Revised: 6/2015

## **COURSE OUTLINE:**

Adult/child classes are designed for parents or caregivers to gather to learn more about children and the things they can do to be effective as parents or caregivers. Parenting and caregiving skills are taught during the facilitated discussion time and incorporated into the free exploration time in a relaxed and informal way.

Parents or caregivers have opportunities during class time to observe their own child(ren) as well as other children, to observe techniques used by the instructor and other adults, and to examine and share resources about families and children. Each class includes:

- Free Exploration Time – The classroom is set up in a structured way and time is allotted for adults and children to explore the classroom together. New and familiar learning activities are available each week in the various activity centers set up around the classroom (creative art area, home center, gym/climbing area, table toys/puzzles area, reading area, etc.).
- Circle Time – Each class has time built in for the adults and children to participate in circle time. Music, short stories, and parent sharing occur during circle time.
- Discussion Topics – Approximately 30 minutes each class is set aside for half of the adults to attend a facilitated discussion and then another 30 minutes is set aside for the other half to attend discussion. Topics vary depending on the interest of each group and the ages of the children. These topics generally address issues related to children's emotional, social, and intellectual development; discipline techniques; family relationships; home management; and health and safety issues.

Flexible schedule for class:

Open play, circle time, snack, 1<sup>st</sup> discussion, 2<sup>nd</sup> discussion, clean up, closing circle.

## **METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

1. Group activities, interaction, and discussion
2. Handouts/parenting books reading and review
3. Lecture and discussion
4. Audio-visual presentations
5. Activity time with adults and toddlers and preschoolers.

## **STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS/REQUIREMENTS:**

- Participate in the designated adult/child classroom activities each week.
- Attend the discussion session each week and contribute to the discussion.
- Monitor specified activity areas and assist with other people's children during the time you are not in discussion group.
- Read one current book or review multimedia material on a parenting topic of your choice and prepare a handout in bulleted form.
- Plan an activity with your classroom instructor.

## **EVALUATION AND GRADING STANDARDS:**

These are normally non graded courses. To get the most out of your course, we suggest you

- Read class handouts and portions of related parenting books that relate to each weeks topic.
- Practice parenting/caregiving skills learned in class with your toddler or preschooler outside of class.
- Review the BTC SharePoint site for Parents of Toddlers and Preschoolers.

If you choose to complete work for credits and a grade, the following are required:

- Inform the instructor by class two that you want to register for a graded course and credit.  
ECED 135-137 Adult/Child: One Year Old Development  
ECED 140-142 Adult/Child: Two Year Old Development  
ECED 155-157 Adult/Child: Toddler & Preschooler Development
- Attend class at least 80% of the time.
- Make up assignments for missed class time.
- Complete the assignments written above.
- Keep a student file of all complete assignments.

**REQUIRED STUDENT SUPPLIES & MATERIALS:**

No specific text is required for this course, but a recommended reading list is available from the instructor and a library of books and audio visuals are available for check out.

**ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES:**

Handouts

Books, Audiobooks, and DVDs

Program Share Point: <http://www.btc.edu/ptp>

**Accommodations:** If you think you could benefit from classroom accommodations for a disability (physical, mental, emotional, or learning), please contact our Accessibility Resources office. Call (360) 752-8345, email [ar@btc.ctc.edu](mailto:ar@btc.ctc.edu), or stop by the AR Office in the Admissions and Student Resource Center (ASRC), Room 106, College Services Building.

**Campus Emergencies:** If an emergency arises, your instructor may inform you of actions to follow. You are responsible for knowing emergency evacuation routes from your classroom. If police or university officials order you to evacuate, do so calmly and assist those needing help. You may receive emergency information alerts via the building enunciation system, text message, email, or BTC's webpage, Facebook and Twitter. Refer to the emergency flipchart in your room for more information on specific types of emergencies.