CHDV C241 Curriculum and Strategies for Children with Special Needs
Cerro Coso Community College
Professor Fuller

Learning Contract

This is a 50-point assignment due in Module 1.

Goals

Students will have:

- looked ahead at the expectations and requirements for the course
- reflected on other time commitments that may interfere with completing this course
- developed a plan to earn a specific grade in the course

Introduction

This is a 3-unit online short-term class so you can expect to spend about 12 hours a week in the class site reading and participating in the discussions and 18 hours a week on homework, research, and readings.

To demonstrate your understanding of the course requirements, complete the Learning Contract tables. There are three tables: Table 1 is the Summative Assignments, these are signature assignments that help us assess your overall learning and the efficacy of the course; Table 2 is the Formative Assignments, these are assignments that help you to build skills, learn concepts, and demonstrate your developing understanding; and Table 3 is the Planned Grade for CHDV C241 where you can play with your point totals and assignments to see what assignments you need to complete in order to earn the grade you want in the course.

Just as a reminder, Cs get degrees. To be successful in this course, you have to have at least a C grade. While most of you will strive for an A grade, which I do encourage since that means you are getting the most out of the assignments and content I have presented in the course, I want you to be realistic about your time, your commitments, and your ability to handle stress. This Learning Contract is not set in stone, you can adjust it, make changes, add and subtract assignments throughout the semester. It is just a guide for you and a way for me to see that you have at least reviewed the requirements and expectations for this course. I don't want there to be any surprises - and if you see an issue here at the beginning, let me know. The due dates are flexible

for everything except for discussions. We are in this together and I am here to help you be successful in the course and in the field of early education.

Summative Assignments

The following assignments are required for every student to complete - they are signature assignments that help us to assess your overall learning, the efficacy of our program, and to make sure you are learning the basic information required by the field. Please look at the requirements for each assignment - they are available to you on the classite as soon as you have access, usually the Friday before class starts. Completing only the Summative Assignments will not earn you enough points to pass the course successfully. **You will also have to include Formative Assignments to successfully pass the course.**

Table 1

Total Points You Plan to Earn	**Summative Assignments**
	Learning Contract (50 points): Due in Module 1, this assignment helps walk you through the expectations and requirements for the course so you can plan for success this semester.
	Special Education Policies (100 points): Due in Module 2, this assignment asks you to interview an early education professional who currently works with children with special needs and to observe the program's policies and educational practices to analyze how current laws are put into practice.
	Effective Partnerships (100 points): Due in Module 5, this assignment asks you to interview one resource specialist about how they provide support services to young children.
	Exceptional Development Curriculum and Strategies Presentation (200 points): Due in Module 8, this is a semester-long project that brings together everything we have been learning about developing curriculum and strategies for working with young children with special needs.
	Required Participation (10 points per week for 8 weeks for a total of 80 points): The weekly discussions requires at least 1 post on each of 2 days of the week: one original post that demonstrates an understanding of the learning resources and one response to another student that extends the discussion. APA is a requirement of your original response to the discussion prompt. If you complete the Required Participation, the highest grade you can earn is a B in the course.

Total Points You Plan to Earn	Summative Assignments
	Total Required Points: 530 total points are available for the Required Assignments. Add up the points you have identified in this table and put the number here and in Table 3, below.

Formative Assignments

These assignments will help you to process and learn the information presented in the course. Some of these assignments will help you on the Summative Assignments by breaking those assignments down into more manageable steps. You are not required to complete all of these assignments, but if you do not complete an assignment you will receive 0 points and your final grade will be lowered. **Notice that completing only the Summative Assignments will earn you only 62% of the total points, which is a failing grade.** I want to show you there is some flexibility in the assignments and the course so you can focus on finding balance while still successfully passing the course. Organization and communication are important and I want you to know, right from the beginning, what the expectations are for this course.

Table 2

Total Points You Plan to Earn	Formative Assignments
	Practical Applications (5 offered, 30 points each for a total of 150 points): Due in Modules 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, these assignments ask you to practically apply the theories presented in the class to vignettes, observations, and interviews. I suggest looking ahead at the practical applications so you are aware of the requirements and can plan accordingly.
	Learning Logs (8 logs at 10 points each for a total of 80 points): These weekly assignments encourage students to reflect on and explore how the course content relates to personal understandings and experiences of living in this diverse world. These are informal assignments due in every module and should be about 2-4 paragraphs long.

Total Points You Plan to Earn	Formative Assignments
	Additional Participation (an additional 5 points per week, 40 points for the course): The additional participation adds 4 responses to students and an additional day of posts for a total of 6 posts spread over at least 3 days of the week. In order to earn an A grade in the course, you will need to complete the Additional Participation requirements.
	Participation Reflections (3 assignments for a total of 50 points): There are 3 Participation Analysis Papers available throughout the course. Participation Analysis Paper - Installation One is where you declare your level of participation (either Required or Additional) and is due by the end of Module 1. Participation Analysis Paper - Installation Two is a midterm check-in, due in Module 5, where you reflect on your participation so far and make plans for your participation in the rest of the discussions. Participation Analysis Paper - Installation Three is due by the end of Module 8 and is a final reflection on your participation in the discussions and how participation influenced your learning throughout the course.
	Total Additional Points: 320 total points are available for the Additional Assignments. Add up the points you have identified in this table and put the number here and in Table 3, below.

Planned Grade for CHDV C241

After completing your estimates in Table 1 and Table 2 above, use this table to show the final grade you plan on earning in the course.

Table 3

Planned Total Points	Assignment Category	Available Points
	Total Summative Points (from Table 1)	530
	Total Formative Points (from Table 2)	320
	Total points for the Course (Table 1 points + Table 2 points)	850

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Planned Total Points	Assignment Category	Available Points
	Planned Grade for the Course (use the Grading Scale below to identify your final grade based on the total points you plan on earning)	

Grading Scale

The total possible points available for this course is 850 points: 530 Summative Points and 320 Formative Points. Your final grade in the course will be determined by the following Grading Scale:

- 765 and above is an A grade
- 680 - 764 is a B grade
- 595 - 679 is a C grade
- 510 - 594 is a D grade
- 509 and below is an F grade

Discussion

Remember your final grade is based on the total points you earn, not a percentage of total points like Canvas may assign. Using the class grading scale, how many points do you plan on earning and what grade do you plan on earning in the course? Why have you selected the assignments? What do you think your choices indicate about your learning preferences? Why do you think a professor would give students a choice about assignments? How do you think this strategy will affect your performance in the class?

Submission

Please complete the 3 tables above and the Discussion questions and submit to the Learning Contract assignment by the end of Module 1. If you need this contract in a different format, let me know and I will send one to you. You can submit this as an attached document, copy and paste into the submission box, take a picture and upload, talk through the contract in a video or voice recording, summarize each table in the submission box, and complete the Discussion in the comments box. However you can upload this Learning Contract to the class site so I can read it works for me. If you need assistance, please contact me through Canvas Inbox, Pronto, or Cerro Coso Email (LFULLER@cerrocoso.edu).

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Grading

This assignment is graded using a Grading Rubric, available below the assignment directions. I suggest reviewing the Grading Rubric before submitting your assignment. If you have questions about your grade or the grading rubric, please contact me via Pronto, Canvas Inbox, or email (LFULLER@cerrocoso.edu) so I can clarify and provide more specific feedback.