

**Texas A&M University- San Antonio**

**Department of Educator and Leadership Preparation**

**EDEC 4301 Working with Diverse Families  
& Young Children**

**A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT**

Students will acquire information regarding developmentally appropriate strategies for assessing children in the cognitive, social, emotional, and physical domains. Student will identify formal and informal evaluative instruments and their subsequent advantages and disadvantages. Information will be provided regarding assessment, including assessment of special populations, interpretation of results and potential bias of the interpretation of results.

**B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

At the end of this course, the student will:

1. Understand perspectives of diverse families and articulate inequities families face as well as strengths they possess by developing a cultural autobiography.
2. Analyze experiences with families to identify reciprocal relationships and unique characteristics of families by sharing and discussing case study scenarios.
3. Explain the importance of culturally responsive techniques for diverse families including how to involve families; and,
4. Identify activities that connect to the home culture, are responsive to diversity and encourage positive relationships between families and child development professionals by sharing and discussing culturally ~~but~~ strategies with classmates.
5. Understand their personal culture (background experiences, biases, and values) to create respectful relationships between families and early childhood professionals by facilitating an activity for an early childhood setting or community-based setting.
6. Explore and understand similarities, differences, and inequities of diverse groups for the purpose of empowering families through case study scenario analysis.
7. Identify strategies to promote the positive development of identity and pride in heritage of diverse children by facilitating an activity for early childhood or community-based settings.
8. Understand the layers of diversity: Race, Ethnicity, Language, Nationality, Socioeconomics, Religion, Families and Abilities through the synthesis paper.

### **C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS**

- Social systems
- Culture
- Cognitive Structures
- Culturally Responsive Pedagogy
- Families
- Cultural Capital
- Language
- Transformed Systems

### **D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS**

Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain: Promoting Authentic Engagement and Rigor Among Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Students

Partnering with Families for Student Success, Paperback