ECHE3260

Working with Families, Communities and Other Professionals in Education Settings

Session 1, Special circumstances, North Ryde 2021

Macquarie School of Education

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Disclaimer

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

Notice

As part of Phase 3 of our return to campus plan, most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face activities for your unit, please go to timetable viewer. To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit’s iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.
### General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

**Convenor**
- Fay Hadley  
  fay.hadley@mq.edu.au  
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  29WW384  
  book via my email

**Co-convenor**
- Catherine Jones  
  catherine.jones@mq.edu.au  
  book via iLearn dialogue

**Tutor**
- Signe Duff  
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  book via iLearn dialogue

- Viviana Botero-Lopez  
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  book via iLearn dialogue

**Credit points**
- 10

**Prerequisites**
- 130cp at 1000 level or above

**Corequisites**

**Co-badged status**
Unit guide ECHE3260 Working with Families, Communities and Other Professionals in Education Settings

Unit description
This unit examines the contexts of childhood, family conditions, neighbourhood, environmental contexts and social policies, and identifies the implications for early childhood professionals and school practitioners. Theoretical approaches to the study of families are explored, along with issues for children related to the structural and cultural diversity of families in Australia. Interconnections between children, families and communities are examined along with implications for practice. Teacher Education Students will develop skills in constructing inclusive educational experiences for diverse children and their families by understanding how to work with other professional colleagues.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Develop an understanding of the broad theoretical approaches to the study of children and families, including ecological theory, family systems theory, life cycle approaches, and theories of risk and resilience.

ULO2: Identify the importance of understanding children and families within particular social, linguistic and cultural contexts, and demonstrate sensitivity to diverse perspectives, abilities and cultural ways of knowing.

ULO3: Have a detailed knowledge of contemporary issues concerning children and families, including such things as divorce, the role of the extended family, poverty, child abuse and neglect, substitute care and community violence.

ULO4: Develop an understanding of the unique learning requirements of children from a range of backgrounds and consider how best to accommodate this within different learning environments.

ULO5: Identify and evaluate the range of formal and informal supports available to families with young children as well as factors that enhance connections between families and schools/childcare centres/preschools.

General Assessment Information
Assessment Presentation and Submission Guidelines
Please follow these guidelines when you submit each assignment:

- Allow a left and right-hand margin of at least 2cm in all assignments.
• Please type all assignments using 12-point font and 1.5 spacing.

• All assessments must be submitted through Turnitin in .doc or .pdf format

• It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all assessments are successfully submitted through Turnitin.

• Faculty assignment cover sheets are NOT required.

**Draft Submissions & Turnitin Originality Reports**

• Students may use Turnitin’s Originality Report as a learning tool to improve their academic writing if this option is made available in the unit.

• Students are strongly encouraged to upload a draft copy of each assessment to Turnitin at least one week prior to the due date to obtain an Originality Report.

• The Originality Report provides students with a similarity index that may indicate if plagiarism has occurred. Students will be able to make amendments to their drafts prior to their final submission on the due date.

• Generally, one Originality Report is generated every 24 hours up to the due date.

**Please note:**

• Students should regularly save a copy of all assignments before submission,

• Students are responsible for checking that their submission has been successful and has been submitted by the due date and time.

**Assignment extensions and late penalties**

• In general, there should be no need for extensions except through illness or misadventure that would be categorised as serious and unavoidable disruption according to the University definition of same, see: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration

• Applications for extensions must be made via AskMQ according to the Special Consideration policy. Extensions can only be granted if they meet the Special Considerations policy and are submitted via https://ask.mq.edu.au. This will ensure consistency in the consideration of such requests is maintained.

• Late submissions: Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment
will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests. Late penalties are applied by unit convenors or their delegates after tasks are assessed.

- If a student is still permitted to submit on the basis of unavoidable disruption, an alternative topic may be set.

- Students should keep an electronic file of all assessments. Claims regarding "lost" assessments cannot be made if the file cannot be produced. It is also advisable to keep an electronic file of all drafts and the final submission on a USB untouched/unopened after submission. This can be used to demonstrate easily that the assessment has not been amended after the submission date.

**Requesting a re-assessment of an assignment**

If you have evidence that your task has been incorrectly assessed against the grade descriptors you can request a re-mark. To request a re-mark you need to contact the unit convenor within 7 days of the date of return of the assignment and provide a detailed assessment of your script against the task criteria. Evidence from your assignment must be provided to support your judgements.

Note:

- Please do not request a re-mark for a Failed assessment as they are all double-marked as a part of the moderation process.

- The outcome of a re-mark may be a higher/lower or unchanged grade.

- Grades are standards referenced and effort is NOT a criterion.

**University policy on grading**

**Criteria for awarding grades for assessment tasks**

Assignments will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the University's Grading Policy. The following descriptive criteria are included for your information.

**Descriptive Criteria for awarding grades in the unit**

In order to meet the unit outcomes and successfully pass this unit, students must make a genuine attempt at all assessment tasks. Where any submitted assessment task is considered to be unsatisfactory in this regard, the highest possible final grade that can be awarded for the unit will be 45.

The following generic grade descriptors provide university-wide standards for awarding final grades.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HD (High Distinction)</td>
<td>Provides consistent evidence of deep and critical understanding in relation to the learning outcomes. There is substantial originality and insight in identifying, generating and communicating competing arguments, perspectives or problem solving approaches; critical evaluation of problems, their solutions and their implications; creativity in application as appropriate to the discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D (Distinction)</td>
<td>Provides evidence of integration and evaluation of critical ideas, principles and theories, distinctive insight and ability in applying relevant skills and concepts in relation to learning outcomes. There is demonstration of frequent originality in defining and analysing issues or problems and providing solutions; and the use of means of communication appropriate to the discipline and the audience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr (Credit)</td>
<td>Provides evidence of learning that goes beyond replication of content knowledge or skills relevant to the learning outcomes. There is demonstration of substantial understanding of fundamental concepts in the field of study and the ability to apply these concepts in a variety of contexts; convincing argumentation with appropriate coherent justification; communication of ideas fluently and clearly in terms of the conventions of the discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P (Pass)</td>
<td>Provides sufficient evidence of the achievement of learning outcomes. There is demonstration of understanding and application of fundamental concepts of the field of study; routine argumentation with acceptable justification; communication of information and ideas adequately in terms of the conventions of the discipline. The learning attainment is considered satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in relation to the specified outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F (Fail)</td>
<td>Does not provide evidence of attainment of learning outcomes. There is missing or partial or superficial or faulty understanding and application of the fundamental concepts in the field of study; missing, undeveloped, inappropriate or confusing argumentation; incomplete, confusing or lacking communication of ideas in ways that give little attention to the conventions of the discipline.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Withdrawing from this UG Unit

If you are considering withdrawing from this unit, please seek academic advice via https://ask.mq.edu.au before doing so as this unit may be a co-requisite or prerequisite for units in the following sessions and may impact on your progression through the degree.

Results

Results shown in iLearn, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.
Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service Folder for Families</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>24th March 11.59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case study report</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Part A - 5th May 11.59pm, Part B - 4th June 11.59pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Service Folder for Families

Assessment Type 1: Field work task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 40 hours
Due: 24th March 11.59pm
Weighting: 40%

Selection of services and questions for family interview (8 pages)

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop an understanding of the broad theoretical approaches to the study of children and families, including ecological theory, family systems theory, life cycle approaches, and theories of risk and resilience.
- Identify the importance of understanding children and families within particular social, linguistic and cultural contexts, and demonstrate sensitivity to diverse perspectives, abilities and cultural ways of knowing.
- Have a detailed knowledge of contemporary issues concerning children and families, including such things as divorce, the role of the extended family, poverty, child abuse and neglect, substitute care and community violence.
- Identify and evaluate the range of formal and informal supports available to families with young children as well as factors that enhance connections between families and schools/childcare centres/preschools.

Case study report

Assessment Type 1: Report
Indicative Time on Task 2: 60 hours
Due: Part A - 5th May 11.59pm, Part B - 4th June 11.59pm
Weighting: 60%

Family case study (2500 - 3000 words)
On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify the importance of understanding children and families within particular social, linguistic and cultural contexts, and demonstrate sensitivity to diverse perspectives, abilities and cultural ways of knowing.
- Have a detailed knowledge of contemporary issues concerning children and families, including such things as divorce, the role of the extended family, poverty, child abuse and neglect, substitute care and community violence.
- Develop an understanding of the unique learning requirements of children from a range of backgrounds and consider how best to accommodate this within different learning environments.
- Identify and evaluate the range of formal and informal supports available to families with young children as well as factors that enhance connections between families and schools/childcare centres/preschools.

1 If you need help with your assignment, please contact:
   - the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
   - the Learning Skills Unit for academic skills support.

2 Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Required and recommended texts and/or materials

There is an expectation that you complete the scholarly reading in this unit. It is an integral part of your study of UNIT ECH326.

Prescribed Texts:


Recommended Reading, References and Resources.

Further Professional reading and references:

Australian Family and Society Abstracts

This is a collection of articles and conference papers collected by the Australian Institute of Family Studies in Melbourne. It is available on OZLINE, accessible via the Internet, and on AUSTROM, a CD-ROM available in Macquarie University Library.
Other databases of references relevant to this unit are:

- **ERIC** A collection of education references
- **Sociology of Education** A collection of sociology references
- **PsycINFO** A collection of psychology references.
- **AUSTHealth** A collection of references on health issues in Australia, including child and family wellbeing
- **ATSIhealth** A collection of references on indigenous issues including information about Aboriginal children and families
- **Expanded Academic ASAP** Multi-subject indexing (social science, humanities, arts economics), abstract and full-text database
- **Family** Produced by Australian Institute of Family Studies

**Additional suggestions:**


- Klocker, N. (2014). Ethnic diversity within Australian homes: Has television caught up to social


**Key Australian website references:**

Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement [http://www.grief.org.au](http://www.grief.org.au)


The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies [http://www.aiatsis.gov.au](http://www.aiatsis.gov.au)


**Information about the unit iLearn site**

This unit has a full web presence through iLearn.

Students will need regular access to a computer and the Internet to complete this unit.

Weekly access to iLearn is compulsory for all students. Important assessment information will be posted here, as will other relevant unit notices and materials, including a reading template and guide to lecture note taking to assist your studies.

Various activities and materials for discussion and critical reflection are included and external students especially are encouraged to use this web component.

Please check the iLearn unit regularly.

**Lectures**

Weekly lectures are available on the web through the ECHO360 lecture component or zoom. There are no ‘live’ lectures. PowerPoint slides are available in the Active Learning Tool. You need to listen to all lectures.

**Access and technical assistance**

Information for students about access to the online component of this unit is available at [ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/MQ/](https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/MQ/). You will need to enter your student username and password.

Please do NOT contact the Unit Convenor regarding iLearn technical help.

No extensions will be given for any technical issues. Allow enough time for your submissions.

Assistance is available from IT Helpdesk ph: 1800 67 4357, or log a request at [help.mq.edu.au](https://help.mq.edu.au). OneHelp is the online IT support service for both students and staff.

**This unit requires students to use several ICT and software skills:**

- **Internet access:** The iLearn site contains materials for this unit; it is also required for the online submission of all Assessment Tasks, and for the use of Turnitin submission for ALL tasks.

- **Word processing, visual representations, and document formatting:** You are
Unit Schedule

OVERVIEW OF THE WEEKLY CONTENT AND PROGRAM FOR UNIT ECHE3260

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/ Date</th>
<th>Module Topic</th>
<th>Lecturer</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Part 1: Approaches to the Study of Families and Communities**

1. Feb 22

**Children, Families and Communities: Interconnections, Risk, Resilience in Children and Families**

Assoc Prof Fay Hadley


**Part 2: Family Diversity and Educational Implications**

2. March 1

**Research and study of families: Multi-disciplinary perspectives and Family Systems theory**

Assoc Prof Fay Hadley


3. March 8

**Indigenous Families and Community Connections**

Online Module – see iLearn


### Cultural Diversity Amongst Australian Families

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Authors/References</th>
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### Families of Children with Special Needs: Issues of Family and Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Authors/References</th>
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</thead>
</table>

### Family Isolation: Rural, Remote and Other Isolated Families

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Authors/References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Mid semester April 5-April 16

- **On campus Tues 13th April for external students not doing weekly evening tutorial**
- **Complete interview with family in 2nd week of semester break**

### EDST3020 PE Placement NO CLASSES or LECTURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Authors/References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Out-of-Home Care of Children – state care, grandparent, kinship care

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Authors/References</th>
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</thead>
</table>

### Assessment 2 Part A Interview Annotation due Wed 5th May 11.59pm

### Part 4: Resource Systems: Connecting children, families and communities

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https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/138589/unit_guide/print
Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Grade Appeal Policy
- Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy (Note: The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct

Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA
Attendance

All tutorials begin in Week 1 of Session.

Activities completed during weekly tutorials are essential for building the core knowledge and/or skills required to demonstrate the learning outcomes of this unit [and to meet the AITSL Graduate Teacher Standards and ACECQA requirements]. Attendance is expected and the roll will be taken.

Students are required to attend the tutorial in which they are enrolled. Any changes to tutorial enrolments must be completed officially through e-student. Please do not contact the unit convenor requesting a change.

Unit Expectations

• Students are expected to read weekly readings before completing tasks and attending tutorials

• Students are expected to listen/attend weekly lectures before completing tasks and attending tutorials

Note: It is not the responsibility of unit staff to contact students who have failed to submit assignments. If you have any missing items of assessment, it is your responsibility to make contact with the unit convenor.

Electronic Communication

It is the student’s responsibility to check all electronic communication on a regular weekly basis. Communication may occur via:

• Official MQ Student Email Address

• The Dialogue function on iLearn

• Other iLearn communication functions

External Students (infrequent mode)

1. The on-campus session is 13th April. Students who don’t do the weekly evening 1 hr tutorial must participate in this on campus day. Failure to attend or to have an approved Special Consideration, may result in a Fail grade for the unit. Please see attendance requirements in this unit guide.

2. Prior to the on-campus sessions, you should have read the prescribed readings and listened to the lectures. Summarise the main points and make a note of the key terms and definitions. Prepare any discussion questions of your own that you wish to share.

3. Please make effective use of the online component of the unit and
access iLearn regularly. Keep up to date with listening to the lectures on a weekly basis, as well as the weekly online task.

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Getting help with your assignment
- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

**Student Enquiry Service**

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

If you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

**Equity Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

**IT Help**

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/).

When using the University’s IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.