



LILIE, LLC Course Information

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**More detailed course curriculum, including graduate level, alignment with standards, culturally responsive practices, assessments and resources, can be provided upon request*

Title of Course: Engaging Family: Strengthening Ties through an Equity Based Approach

Course Description: "Engaging Family: Strengthen Ties through an Equity Based Approach" is a course designed to help educators improve their skills in building strong, supportive relationships with families from diverse cultural backgrounds. This course will focus on using an equity-based approach to family engagement, which involves actively working to eliminate barriers and create opportunities for all families to participate in and benefit from their children's education and development.

Throughout the course, participants will learn about the importance of cultural responsiveness in family engagement, including how to recognize and respect the unique values, beliefs, and practices of different cultural groups. They will also learn how to use a variety of strategies and techniques to effectively communicate with and support families, including through the use of interpreters, home visits, and other forms of outreach to work towards developing a deeper understanding of the complexities of family engagement and gain practical skills for building strong, supportive relationships with families from diverse backgrounds.

Instructor Consultation and Interaction

The course is an asynchronous online course that is available for instructor and student participation 24/7. The four-week duration of the class is broken down into four weekly sections each comprised of lecture in the form of instructor created articles and content, web links to academic and professionally reviewed articles in the discipline of general education, and instructor created discussion questions which are, in and of themselves, formative assessments to determine the extent to which the enrollees have comprehended and mastered the skills and information and begun to apply it to their personal teaching practices. The answers to these questions are the basis for the class interaction, as enrollees are required to respond to each other within the classroom.

Proof of Course Completion

LILIE, LLC is committed to assuring that enrollees fully participate in and receive the educational benefits provided by the course. Enrollees must demonstrate participation by making detailed postings designed to foster dialogue among colleagues and instructor that reflect the content, skills/ strategies learned and assessments covered in course. These enrollee postings must be made six times each week, in separate sessions, and including a minimum of 4 academic posts and at least 2 peer-peer comments of others' postings and possible shared assignments. Enrollees are required to submit a detailed reflective feedback n in combination with the archived work. Attempts to falsify record or discussion board entries will result in denial of credit and a report to the enrollee's employer.



Scope & Sequence/Weekly Topics and Objectives

Session I

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the importance of cultural responsiveness in education and the role it plays in promoting equity and positive relationships with families. • Understand the role of family engagement in promoting equity and student success, and recognize the importance of building positive relationships with families from diverse backgrounds. • Develop strategies for building positive relationships with families from diverse backgrounds and engaging them in their child's education.
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Introductions • Culturally responsive practices • Equity and equity-based family engagement and why it matters in education • The role of family engagement in promoting equity • Urgency for building positive relationships with families from diverse backgrounds
Application to Instruction & Student Learning	<p>Improved academic outcomes for students with research showing that students who have supportive, engaged families tend to have better academic outcomes, including higher grades, attendance rates, and graduation rates. By learning how to effectively engage families from diverse backgrounds and create more equitable relationships, educators can help create more supportive learning environments for their students.</p> <p>In addition, a better overall school climate is created when families feel welcomed, valued, and supported by the school community, they are more likely to be involved in their children's education and to advocate for their children's needs. This can contribute to a more positive school climate and culture, which can in turn lead to better academic and social outcomes for students. Also, a greater cultural competency and awareness as by learning about culturally responsive practices and building positive relationships with families from diverse backgrounds, educators can become more culturally competent and aware, helping them better understand and meet the needs of their students and families, and create more inclusive and welcoming learning environments for all students.</p> <p>Learning about equity and equity-based family engagement is a powerful opportunity for educator that allows them to reflect on their own biases and power dynamics, and develop strategies for building more equitable and inclusive relationships with students and families.</p>

Session II

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and recognize the diverse cultural backgrounds of students and their families, and understand the importance of acknowledging and valuing these differences.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice using inclusive language and culturally responsive communication techniques when introducing oneself and interacting with others • Reflect on personal biases and practices, and identify areas for growth in promoting culturally responsive practices and equity in education. • Understand the major assignments for course; midterm and final • Examine Brave Learning Environments • Personally assess their own growth and understanding of engaging and valuing families through an equity-based perspective and initiative
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midterm and Final Review • Culturally Responsive Practices and Cultural Competence in Family Engagement • Understanding Identifying and Addressing Cultural Biases in Communication with Families • Brave Learning Environments • Strategies for Using Culturally Responsive Practices in Family Engagement • Personal Reflection
Application to Instruction & Student Learning	<p>Culturally responsive practices and cultural competence in family engagement involve recognizing, valuing, and honoring the diverse cultural backgrounds and experiences of students and their families. This can involve using inclusive language and communication techniques, as well as understanding and addressing cultural biases that may affect how teachers interact with families.</p> <p>Creating brave learning environments involves creating a safe and supportive environment where students feel comfortable expressing their thoughts and ideas, and where they are able to take risks and make mistakes without fear of judgment or punishment. This can be achieved through the use of culturally responsive practices, which involve acknowledging and valuing the diverse cultural experiences of students and their families.</p> <p>Using culturally responsive practices in family engagement instruction can help teachers create a positive, inclusive learning environment for all students, and can also help to build strong relationships with families from diverse backgrounds. This can involve using inclusive language and communication techniques, as well as understanding and addressing cultural biases that may affect how teachers interact with families.</p> <p>Overall, incorporating culturally responsive practices and cultural competence in family engagement can help to promote equity and student success, and can also contribute to a positive and inclusive learning environment for all students.</p>

Session III

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine exemplar models of equity-based family engagement at the educator/classroom level and more broadly through the district/community. • Evaluate common traits amongst these exemplar models, such as inclusive communication practices, responsive decision-making processes, and meaningful collaboration with families and community members. • Learn from the successes and challenges of these models and apply this knowledge to their own practice with families from diverse backgrounds and engaging them in their child's education. • Apply the knowledge and strategies learned to their instruction and student learning, with the goal of promoting equity and student success.
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examining Equity Based Family Engagement: A Deep Dive into Process and Practice • Examine exemplar models of equity-based family engagement at the educator/ classroom level and more broadly through the district/ community • Evaluate common traits amongst these exemplars • Develop strategies, unitor outreach plan that meet the needs of your community and students

Application to Instruction & Student Learning	<p>Examining Equity Based Family Engagement: A Deep Dive into Process and Practice helps educators understand the importance of equity-based family engagement and how it can support student learning and success. By examining exemplar models of equity-based family engagement, educators can Overall, this professional development opportunity can help educators understand the importance of equity-based family engagement and how it can support student learning and success, and provide them with the tools and strategies to effectively engage families in the education of their children.</p>
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Session IV

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create and present self- chosen culminating project that Implementing equity-based family engagement strategies/unit/outreach plan while simultaneously employing tenets of CRP • Explore projects and reflect on strengths and areas participants may wish to employ in their own instruction • Examine and formulate ways in which connections to family and community can strengthen students • Assess one’s growth with regard to their shift in perspective regarding equity-based family engagement. • Understand the opportunity to extend course learning and application of skills and perspectives beyond course • Consider how you will be a disruptor of the status quo and enact change on behalf of your students and their families to provide them with the knowledge, opportunities and resources to participate in their child’s education
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Presentations • Implementing equity-based family engagement strategies/unit/outreach plan • Evaluation and reflection on equity-based family engagement efforts • Resources and support for continuing professional development in equity-based family engagement • Extension of Course
Application to Instruction & Student Learning	<p>Project presentations are a powerful tool for implementing equity-based family engagement strategies, unit plans, and outreach plans, as they provide an opportunity for educators to share their work with others and get feedback on their efforts. Reflecting on their work and the impact it has had on their community, learning about the resources and support available for equity-based family engagement, and a deeper understanding of the importance of equity-based family engagement and the role it plays in promoting equity and student success strengthens an educator’s responsibility and ownership for their own learning and the learning of others, and inspire them to take an active role in promoting equity in their own communities.</p> <p>Studying, developing, implementing and revising equity-based family engagement strategies will help students build positive relationships, promote student success, supports cultural responsiveness, encourages student voice and help students develop leadership skills and a sense of agency in their own learning.</p> <p>Promoting critical thinking and evaluation by involving families in the evaluation process, students can reflect on their own work and the impact it has had on their community. This can help students develop critical thinking and evaluation skills, as well as a sense of responsibility and ownership for their own learning and the learning of others.</p>