

EDUCATION 375-4
Learning Communities

Intersession 1998
Tuesday, Thursday 4:30 - 9:00 p.m.
Room 119-120, NLC

Instructor: Lucy Gibson
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Big Idea:

The purposeful structuring of learning communities can enhance experiences for all members through care, communication and collaboration.

Seminar Outline:

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| Week 1: | Defining a learning community | May 5 and 7 |
| Week 2: | The ethic of care in a learning community | May 12 and 14 |
| Week 3: | Interpersonal skills to enhance the learning community | May 19 and 21 |
| Week 4: | Conflict in the community | May 26 and 28 |
| Week 5: | Teaching strategies to enhance learning communities | June 2 and 4 |
| Week 6: | Celebration and sharing our learning | June 9 |

Assignments:

The assignments are designed to reflect your own learning needs within this course. To facilitate that learning you will be asked to participate in the following activities:

- a **journal** to be used to record your own thoughts and reflections and to respond to assigned readings or reflections
- a **field experience** to participate in a learning community that meets at least once a week. During your experience with this community you will be asked to record your thoughts and reflections in a format that is comfortable to you and the community
- a **culminating project** to show your learning and growth during this course and your projections for the future in your classroom

Evaluation:

Evaluation will be based on self-assessment in conjunction with a conference with the instructor. The basis for the self-assessment will be a performance scale based on the learning outcomes and criteria developed in class.

Conferences with the instructor will be a half hour long and will be held between May 19 and 26, and again between June 4 and 9. Evidence to support your self-assessment will be required at each conference.

Required Text:

Life in a Crowded Place Making a Learning Community by Ralph Peterson
cost \$24 - available from the instructor