

COURSE 1: CHILDHOOD AND GROWING UP

Course objectives:

At the end of the course, the student- teachers will be able to:

1. understand the growth, stages and dimensions of child development.
2. compare various theories and its contributions to child development.
3. analyse the gender stereotyping and issues, concerns of marginalized Children.
4. understand the adolescent behaviours.
5. identify the various socializing agencies and their role on child development.
6. comprehend the role of play and media on child development.
7. examine the impact of urbanization and economic change on child development.

Unit I Growth and development of childhood

Meaning and concepts of growth and development- Principles of growth and development- Difference between growth and development- Impact of nature and nurture on child development.

Suggested instructional approaches and methods:

Talk by teachers/ experts on the principles of growth and development.

A debate on the influence of nature and nurture on individual development.

Unit II Stages and dimensions of development

Stages: infancy, early childhood and adolescence and their dimensions of development: physical, cognitive, moral, emotional and social.

Suggested instructional approaches and methods:

Talk by the teacher/ psychologist on the various stages of development.

Unit III Theories of child development

Psycho-social stages (Erikson), Cognitive development (Piaget), Moral development (Kohlberg), Socio-cultural approach to cognitive development (Vygotsky), Ecological systems theory (Bronfen brunner).

Suggested instructional approaches and methods:

Teacher seminar on child development theories.

Student seminar on various theories of child development.

Unit IV Socializing agencies of child development

Agencies of socialization: Family, school, peer and community

Suggested instructional approaches and methods:

Presentation of report based on field study/ case study on child rearing practices.

Seminar on family, school and peer influence on socializing process.

Unit V Gender stereotypes and gender roles

Gender stereotypes in early child, middle childhood and adolescence-Influences of gender stereotyping: biological, cultural and environmental- Gender identity in middle childhood and in adolescence- Gender scheme theory- strategies for development non- gender- stereotyped children.

Suggested instructional approaches and methods:

Invited lecture by a Feminist on gender stereotypes.

seminar on strategies for development of non- gender-stereotyped children.

Unit VI Marginalized children: issues and concerns

Meaning and concept of marginalized children- children living in urban slum; deprived; socially deprived girls (Dalit and Tribal girls); abused child; children growing up in poverty, street children, HIV affected children and children working in unorganized sectors- child labour- Measures to promote the status of marginalized children.

Suggested instructional approaches and methods:

Presentation of report of the problems of marginalized children based on field study.

Seminar on the problems of marginalized children and the measures to be taken.

Unit VII Understanding adolescence

Meaning of adolescence- study of adolescent behavior in their natural settings- at play or in school settings- using observation, interview schedules, case study method and interacting with them- understanding of the physical, social and moral behaviours of children and adolescents

Suggested instructional approaches and methods:

Teacher talk/ Group discussion on the influences of play on the child and adolescent development.

Presentation of report of the adolescent behavior using observation and other techniques.

Unit VIII Play and child development

Meaning and characteristics of play- kinds of play and their role in child development- play activities of childhood- factors influencing children's play- contribution of play to children's physical, social, emotional and cognitive development

Suggested instructional approaches and methods:

Teacher talk/ Group discussion on kinds of play and child development.

Invited lecture by an expert or psychologist on various aspects of children's development.

Unit IX Media and child development

Impact of media on early childhood experiences and development- impact of mass media and social media on adolescent development- Influence of media violence on children's and adolescent's behavior- effects of media on racial and gender stereotyping- regulating healthy media use

Suggested instructional approaches and methods:

Make a short film on the impact of mass media on children/adolescents.

Group discussion on media violence on children.

Unit X Urbanization and economic change on child development

Impact of urban culture, population density, migration of family, and environmental effects (air, eater, noise) on child development- effects of liberalization, privatization, and globalization (LPG) on child development with special reference to India.

Suggested instructional approaches and methods:

Invited talk/ teacher talk on urbanization and child development.

Report presentation based on the group discussion about the impact of liberalization, privatization, and globalization on child development.

Tasks and Assignments:

1. Submission of a case study report on an adolescent student in the practice teaching school.
2. Contact various socializing agencies and submit a detailed report on their role on child development

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