

space availability for study groups as of 11/03/2014 12:45PM

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Online Study Groups

Early Childhood Curriculum 4 cr with Mary Thompson

spaces avail **15** Adv./Non-Liberal

** Online Study Group **

This study is designed to prepare reflective and critical educators who are well prepared, academically strong, pedagogically skilled, and responsive to the needs of a diverse society. It will prepare our future teachers to create developmentally age appropriate classroom communities where all students learn in meaningful ways. It will focus on the study of young children prenatal through two. The study offers the opportunity to investigate child development principals to promote physical, intellectual, social/emotional development and competence in the young child, and establish strategies to maintain safe, healthy learning environments, purposeful and responsive programs for very young children and their families.

Hartsdale Study Groups

Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published

Functioning Families: Variations & Deviations 4 cr with Marianne Arieux

spaces avail 14

Adv./Liberal

*** Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined ***

In Barbara Kingslover's novel, *Pigs in Heaven*, a social worker says, "all families are crazy, just some are better for children" (my paraphrase). In this study we will examine the concept of dysfunctional families. We will wonder about the spectrum of functionality in families, from those considered sufficiently functional thus able to promote healthy relationships, through those that are not, deemed dysfunctional. Students will study the various theoretical approaches to understanding families, then explore autobiographic stories of so-called "dysfunctional families" with an eye to understanding the distinction between variation (normal differences) and deviation (deficits) in functioning. The ultimate goal is for students to develop and articulate their own well-reasoned/grounded conception of what constitutes a dysfunctional family among the many attributions of such they may encounter in their lives and careers. Students are expected to demonstrate their learning through discussions, a presentation, and a final project or paper.