In this course, students will examine the principles and practices of effective parenting for children from birth through adolescence. Historical perspectives of parenting styles and methods will be discussed. Topics will include appropriate techniques for guiding behavior, the influences of school, community, and media in family life, child abuse and prevention, the diverse nature of the family, cultural influences, high risk families, alternative families, and children with special needs. This course is designed for both parents and teachers.

Course Objectives:

1. Outline parenting styles and methods from a historical perspective.
2. Identify major theories related to various parenting approaches.
3. Compare and contrast the cultural diversity of American families.
4. Identify and describe school and community factors that influence parenting.
5. Analyze the social factors that promote the healthy growth and development of children from birth through adolescence.
6. Analyze the types and structures of diverse families including nuclear, extended, same-sex, and single parent.
7. Apply guidance techniques appropriate to the stage and needs of the child.
8. Identify and access various support systems available to parents and families.
9. Evaluate the effectiveness of family and community support systems.
10. Examine the various roles of family members who have parenting responsibilities.
11. Identify and examine how characteristics of high risk families affect the healthy development of children.
12. Recognize the signs and symptoms of child abuse and articulate the procedures for reporting suspected abuse.

Student Learning Outcomes: Identify and describe school and community factors that influence parenting.

ADA Statement: El Camino College is committed to providing educational accommodations for students with disabilities upon the timely request by the student to the instructor. A student with a disability, who would like to request an academic accommodation, is responsible for identifying herself/himself to the instructor and to the Special Resources Center. To make arrangements for academic accommodations, contact the Special Resources Center.