

8th Grade Exploratory Family and Consumer Sciences Course
DIAL Virtual School
SD Assignment Code – 19000
Wessington Springs School District, PO Box 449, Wessington Springs, SD 57382
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Course Description

Middle school students are exploring many areas of life. This course covers the family and consumer content areas of human development, healthy lifestyles, relationships, and careers. In the area of human development, students will explore physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development and relate the areas of development to the role of a nurturing caregiver. In the area of healthy lifestyles, students will explore the knowledge and skills needed to make good food decisions. In the area of relationships, students will explore the skills needed to build and maintain positive relationships. And in the area of careers, students will investigate careers in the family and consumer sciences career clusters – Education and Training; Hospitality and Tourism; Human Services; and Arts, A/V Technology and Communications.

The 8th Grade Exploratory Family and Consumer Sciences course is a foundational course.

Prerequisite: None

Length: 9-Week Course

Grade Level: Grade 8

Instructional Philosophy

Students will be expected to meet all the standards listed in this syllabus and be able to demonstrate their understanding of the underlying concepts. The learning styles, interests, and areas of expertise of each student will help direct the design of the instruction. In order to pass the course, students will need the minimum percentage set by their school district.

Course Standards

- HD 3 Analyze practices that promote growth and development
 - HD3.1 Summarize areas of development
 - HD 3.2 Evaluate developmentally appropriate learning activities for children
 - HD 3.3 Demonstrate understanding of practices that promote the health and safety of children
 - HD 3.4 Understand the roles and responsibilities of a caregiver
- NW 2 Explain the components of individual and family wellness
 - NW 2.2 Investigate the relationships between physical activity and a healthy lifestyle
 - NW 2.3 Identify the six main nutrients and their relationship to a healthy lifestyle
 - NW 2.4 Describe factors contributing to nutrition-related diseases and disorders
- R 3 Analyze skills needed to build and maintain positive relationships
 - R 3.2 Analyze how personal standards and ethics guide behaviors in relationships
 - R 3.3 Apply problem-solving strategies to relationship issues
 - R 3.4 Understand strategies to resolve conflicts in relationships
- CE 1 Analyze information about career opportunities to make informed career decisions
 - CE 1.2 Evaluate potential careers in the Education and Training; Arts, A/V Technology

and Communications; Human Services; and Hospitality and Tourism career clusters

Instructional Delivery Plan:

Instruction will consist of individual hands-on activities and projects, group work, lecture, discussion, reading, writing, self-assessment, and the use of technology. The course requires student research and peer and community interaction to solve problems and complete projects.

Students will interview community and family members to obtain information for some course assignments. Professionals from the world of work will share their expertise throughout the course. Students will also use Internet resources to confer with professionals and obtain additional information about the world of work. Students will also use community resources to complete individual and group projects.

Assessment Plan and Grading Scale:

Students will be graded on their journal writings/reflections (5%); assignments (25%); assessments (25%); projects (45%).

Journal Writings/Reflections (5%) – During the course, students will write reflections on learning. Specific directions for each journal writing/reflection will be given with lesson information. Journal writings/reflections will be posted in students' individual Journal under Tools in the course shell. Each journal writing/reflection is worth 10 points.

Assignments (25%) – Throughout the semester students will complete assignments related to course content. Students will complete both individual and group projects. These assignments comprise the assignment work portion of the quarter grade.

Assessments (25%) – To test student knowledge of course content, periodic assessments will be used.

Performance Tasks/Projects (45%) – To demonstrate an understanding of the course content, students will complete performance tasks/projects throughout the semester.

Since this course is taught through the DIAL Virtual School, the grading policy of the Virtual School will apply. The instructor will use each school's individual grading scale when determining grades.