AEP Online Foundations course outline

Course description

AEP Online Foundations is the online version of the Adoption Education Program. This course has 12 modules, with a new module opening up each week. Each module will be open for 2 weeks, opening on the Thursday and closing 2 weeks later on Wednesday at midnight. This should allow participants plenty of time to complete the coursework and assignments. Coursework demands approximately 5 hours a week of your time. There will be a one-week break after week 6 to allow participants time to rest, reflect and get caught up. There are 5 mandatory one hour live online discussions during the 15 week course.

Activities

The course is taught in a multi-media format and activities include:

- Reading articles
- Watching videos
- Listening to audios
- Watching presentations
- Offering written or audio journals
- Participating in online live group discussions
- Vocabulary building
- Answering questionnaires
- Taking quizzes

Evaluation

You will be evaluated based on understanding and mastery of the material, your behaviour and participation, as well as your ability to demonstrate self-awareness and reflection.

AEP-Online goals

To enable prospective adoptive parents to make realistic, well-informed decisions about their capacity and readiness to parent a child by adoption by providing education about core issues in adoption, as required by the Adoption Regulations.

Course outline

Module 1	**Introduction**
Topics:	Getting started, building our community, foster care & adoption
Discussion:	This module includes a scheduled live online discussion.
Module 2	**Attachment**
Topics:	Introduction to attachment, attachment related challenges, teens & parents talk about attachment, separation & loss
Discussion:	This module includes a scheduled live online discussion.
Module 3	**Separation & loss**
Topics:	Introduction to separation & loss, arousal relaxation, learning about grief, helping children cope with grief & loss
Discussion:	There is no live online discussion scheduled for this module.

Module 4	**Child & adult development**
Topics:	How adoption impacts development, attachment, transitioning, the difference between chronological & developmental levels
Discussion:	There is no live online discussion scheduled for this module.
Module 5	**Childhood trauma**
Topic:	Introduction to trauma, the impact of trauma and triggers, responding to trauma
Discussion:	This module includes a scheduled live online discussion.
Module 6	**Child & youth mental health issues**
Topics:	Introduction to child and youth mental health, common mental health issues, parenting strategies
Discussion:	There is no live online discussion scheduled for this module.
Module 7	**Prenatal exposure**
Topics:	Prenatal exposure & adoption, living with FASD
Discussion:	This module includes a scheduled live online discussion.
Module 8	**Race & culture**
Topics:	Introduction to race & culture, stages of identity, visible families, understanding the Aboriginal context in adoption
Discussion:	There is no live online discussion scheduled for this module.
Module 9	**Openness**
Topics:	Introduction to openness, open adoptions
Discussion:	This module includes a scheduled live online discussion.
Module 10	**Legal issues**
Topics:	Learning about the adoption legislation, how children come into care, learning about permanency planning, legal rights & legal risks in adoption, post-adoption assistance
Discussion:	There is no live online discussion scheduled for this module.
Module 11	**Predictable adjustments**
Topics:	Stages of pre-placement, predictable adjustments, preparing for placement
Discussion:	There is no live online discussion scheduled for this module.
Module 12	**Summary**
Topics:	Review of adoption language, review of adoption timeline, review of questions for your social worker, positive discipline
Discussion:	This module includes an optional live online discussion.