

University of Southern Maine

College of Education and Human Development

Conceptual Framework for Preparing Educators and Human Development Professionals for Responsible and Ethical Service

Mission

We seek to foster respectful and collaborative learning communities, well-informed decision-making, valid reasoning, and a concern for equity and social justice in the fields of education and human development.

Core Values

We share the following commitments:

- Democracy – to enact and elicit inclusive dialogue, freedom of expression, and participatory decision-making that includes respect for and consideration of multiple views and perspectives.
- Civility and caring – to attend to the health of our learning and working communities through maintaining constructive communication, protecting individual dignity, and exhibiting empathy, compassion, and openness.
- Equity and Diversity – to seek understanding about, engage inclusively with, and foster the voice and visibility of individuals of all identity groups and perspectives.
- Social Justice – to speak for and empower people who are disenfranchised and work towards a more just society.
- Ethical practice – to engage in and insist on the highest level of professional practice.
- Scholarship – to gain, create, teach, and apply knowledge and skills using methods of research and inquiry that reflect the diverse range of accepted practices within our various academic and professional disciplines.
- Professional Learning and Continuous Improvement – to engage ourselves and our various external partners as learners in our respective fields, use formative feedback, and adjust our practices for mutual and continuing professional growth

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