

CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (CE)

CE100: Preparing for a Career in Early Childhood

Early childhood professionals are responsible for creating developmentally appropriate environments to meet the needs of children they serve. This course provides the opportunity for you to prepare for successful careers in an early childhood environment. Topics addressed include roles, responsibilities, and various career opportunities within the field, professional standards, personal management tools, strategies, and University resources. Additionally, you will preview the portfolio assignment that will be developed in the final capstone course in the program.

Quarter Credit Hours: 5 | Prerequisite: None

CE101: Introduction to Early Childhood Education

This course will present an overview of the field of early childhood development. You will learn the foundations necessary to provide safe, healthy, and high-quality care for young children. An emphasis will be placed on governing standards and regulations, historical perspectives, and current trends. This course will also focus on what it means to be an early childhood professional and will assist you in developing effective professional practices in the field. In addition, you will explore protective factors and the role of resilience in working with children and families from diverse backgrounds.

Quarter Credit Hours: 5 | Prerequisite: None

CE114: Early Childhood Development

This course surveys the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development of children from birth through age 8. In order to provide developmentally appropriate care giving, nurturing, and instruction for the most important developmental years in life, topics will include: attachment issues, developmental milestones, and developmentally appropriate strategies. Using their understanding of how young children develop, students will discuss issues in early childhood care, safety and health concerns, guidance techniques, and behavioral expectations.

Quarter Credit Hours: 5 | Prerequisite: None

CE215: Early Childhood Curriculum Planning

In this course, students will study teaching methods for educational settings that serve young children. Attention will be given to developmental domains, strategies for planning, organizing the learning environment, facilitating teacher-child interactions, guiding children's behavior, conducting lessons, assessing, care giving, supporting play, and addressing standards through integrated and emergent curriculum.

Quarter Credit Hours: 5 | Prerequisite: None

CE220: Child Safety, Nutrition, and Health

This course will advance your understanding of the factors that affect the health, nutrition, and safety of young children. You will explore how to promote children's health through the basic concepts of healthy lifestyles, food, and nutrition. You will also identify aspects of safety, including safety management, safety for children with special conditions, and environmental control.

Quarter Credit Hours: 5 | Prerequisite: None

CE230: Creative Activities for Young Children

This course is designed to help early childhood care professionals provide creative, developmentally appropriate practices in a child care environment. Participants will examine materials and activities that will help foster children's social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development, with an emphasis on activities that encourage independence, exploration, risk-taking, and opportunities to think and act creatively.

Quarter Credit Hours: 5 | Prerequisite: None

CE240: Young Children With Special Needs

This course is designed to help future early childhood care professionals become effective caregivers and advocates for young children with special needs and their families by learning how to apply strategies to address learning differences. You will explore some of the more common learning differences and disabilities currently encountered in the inclusive classroom. They will explain the value of early identification of special needs and the importance of intervening early, in accordance with relevant federal legislation. You also will demonstrate how to communicate and collaborate with families in real-world situations for the benefit of the child with special needs.

Quarter Credit Hours: 5 | Prerequisite: None

CE299: Associate's Capstone for Early Childhood Development

This final course in the Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Development provides you with the opportunity to integrate and apply your learning through your program of study in a comprehensive manner. You will reflect on the courses taken and develop an understanding of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) standards, developmentally appropriate practices based upon child development research, curriculum, and professionalism. This course will include a comprehensive professional portfolio that integrates your learning experiences throughout the program.

Quarter Credit Hours: 5 | Prerequisite: Last term

CE300: Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood

This field-based course focuses on the various methods of assessment and observation, including standardized and authentic assessment strategies, as a way to assess children's growth and the development of knowledge and skills in early childhood education via project-based learning (PBL). You will apply assessment strategies through field experiences and case studies to identify developmental levels, interests, and abilities, and interpret the data collected. You are expected to explore authentic and meaningful assessment methods and develop an interdisciplinary project connecting curriculum, pedagogical content, and program outcomes. This course has a field component that requires 5 hours of observation of a target child from birth-age 3 or age 3-5 and participation in one of the following early childhood settings: child/day care or home center. The culminating project will be presented in the form of a public product at the end of the course.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: None

CE310: Children's Literacy

This course focuses on how children's literature experiences contribute to children's literacy skills. Students will be introduced to a balanced reading framework: shared, modeled, guided, and some independent reading and writing strategies. Reading fluency and comprehension strategies will be emphasized. How to apply assessment strategies, including running reading records, anecdotal records of reading progress, and pre-emergent and emergent literacy scales, will be introduced.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: CE300

CE320: Language Development in the Young Child

This course focuses on language acquisition, development, and communication skills. Students will participate in and use Virtual Field Observations and readings to learn about theories of and influences on how young children acquire and develop language. Students will be presented with an overview of the stages of oral language development and will discuss current thinking with regard to bilingualism.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: CE300

CE330: Teaching Across Content - Math, Science, and Sociology for Young Children

This course examines the teaching skills of inquiry and discovery-based learning in math and science for young children. Using current theories of development, students develop a working knowledge of methods and materials, scope and sequence of concepts through age 8, related curriculum standards, and assessment strategies. The mathematical concepts of numbers, geometry, problem solving, patterns, parts and wholes, measurement, and graphing will be examined. The processes of science will be explored. Students apply sociology concepts as they relate to children within the classroom and the community at large. Students will also learn how to incorporate goals, objectives, and processes into integrated curriculum.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: CE300

CE340: Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders in Young Children

This course introduces students to autism spectrum disorders in young children. Topics include the historical and theoretical foundations of autism and current diagnostic criteria. Students will differentiate the characteristics of autism including comparing differences in brain structure as well as social, emotional, communication, behavioral, sensory-motor, and cognitive characteristics of children with autism spectrum disorders.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: None

CE350: Language and Social Skill Development for Young Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder

This course addresses the study of language, social skills, and communication issues in children with autism spectrum disorder compared to children with typical development. You will discuss language assessments, interventions, and strategies for children with autism spectrum disorder. You will also learn about assistive technology that can support the development of language and communication in children with autism spectrum disorder.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: None

CE370: Funding Development and Financial Planning in Early Childhood Programs

This course will focus on early childhood funding development and financial planning to create high-quality, sustainable programs in various early childhood fields. Topics addressed include efficient accounting systems and funding streams in for-profit and not-for-profit organizations. Emphasis will be placed on creating fund development plans based on sound financial planning, which align with program vision, philosophy, mission, and goals.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: None

CE371: Early Childhood Administration

This course will provide an overview of early childhood administration with emphasis on high-quality program development, evaluation, accountability, and continuous improvement. Research-based strategies will focus on developmentally appropriate practices for program quality and compliance. This course will prepare you for administrative roles within the field of early childhood working with diverse children and families in the community.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: None

CE401: Current Issues and Trends in Early Childhood

This course focuses on current issues and trends in early childhood including policy and legislation that affects the field. Topics addressed include foundations of high-quality education for all children, current research, applied educational theory, ethics, and professionalism. The emphasis will be to examine issues and trends in early childhood through contemporary viewpoints.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: None

CE402: Early Childhood Family, Community, and Advocacy

This course will focus on the multiple needs of children from diverse backgrounds in the context of family, early childhood settings, and community. Emphasis will be placed on partnering with diverse families in reciprocal relationships building on families' strengths to meet the variety of needs of children. Research-based practices will focus on the professional role of advocacy in early childhood including the use of a wide variety of community resources to support children and families.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: None

CE410: Teaching Art and Music in Early Childhood

This course will examine the foundations and theories of the creative arts with young children. Students will learn how to encourage imagination, flexible thinking, problem solving, and creative movement in order to formulate connections with the processes that children employ in their creative expression. Students will use course knowledge to plan developmentally appropriate creative activities for children.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: CE300

CE420: Curriculum Development

This course compares the history, theories, research, and contemporary influences of curriculum development in early childhood education. Developmentally appropriate early childhood lesson plans and activities will be analyzed and developed.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: CE300

CE430: Learning Through Play in the Inclusive Classroom

This course further examines the theories of Piaget, Vygotsky, Erikson, and others to demonstrate how children learn through play and the effect play has on all the developmental domains. Students will learn how to incorporate necessary skill development and assistive technology into play while addressing the individual needs of all children in the classroom.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: CE300

CE440: Teaching Young Children With Autism

This course presents an overview of interventions for young children with autism spectrum disorders and the strategies needed for teaching. Emphasis is placed on evidence-based interventions, with a review of nonresearch-based interventions, for you become critical consumers of the literature related to autism intervention. You will learn pedagogical foundations for best practice in instructional programming and curriculum development for young children with autism spectrum disorders.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: None

CE450: Behavior Intervention and Strategies for Working With Young Children With Autism

This course builds on prior knowledge as you examine classroom management and applied behavior analysis strategies. You will focus on implementation and evaluation of individual and group management programs for young children with autism spectrum disorders.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: None

CE490: Bachelor's Capstone in Early Childhood Administration

The Bachelor's Capstone in Early Childhood Administration is the final course of your degree plan and builds on the concepts of all the courses you have taken within the program of study. The capstone course provides you with the opportunity to integrate and synthesize the knowledge and skills acquired throughout your coursework in a Professional Portfolio that demonstrates your mastery of the stated outcomes of your degree program. This course has a field component that requires 5 hours in an early childhood environment in one of the following: Head Start, Early Head Start, or daycare/preschool. The field component should involve the following age ranges: birth to age 3 or age 3-5 and will emphasize application of the program outcomes. You will also develop resources that you can use in your career as an early childhood administrator.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: Last term or permission of the Dean

CE499: Bachelor's Capstone in Early Childhood Development

This final course provides students with the opportunity to integrate and apply their learning in a comprehensive manner. Students will reflect on the courses taken and develop an understanding of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) standards, developmentally appropriate practices based upon child development research, curriculum, and professionalism. This course will culminate with a comprehensive professional portfolio that integrates learning throughout the program.

Quarter Credit Hours: 6 | Prerequisite: Last term or permission from the Dean