

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION-UG (ECE)

Courses and Descriptions

ECE 200 Infant and Toddler Care and Education 3 Credits

Focuses on nutritional and psychological influences on infant and toddler growth and development, including current research in infant development; childbirth; breast feeding; infant stimulation; intellectual development; attachment behavior; and infants in group care. Recognizing that there is increased demand for infant/toddler care, it is increasingly important to assure that America's infants receive a safe, healthy, emotionally secure, and intellectually rich start in life. High quality care and education of very young children are based upon responsive and respectful relationships among all of the people in each child's life.

ECE 332 Families, Community, and Diversity in Early Childhood Education 3 Credits

This course addresses the role of parents of young children within the context of school, home and society, as well as the influence of culture, traditions and current issues in early childhood education. Students will explore the efficacy of parenting techniques and behaviors on child development in the early years, including cognitive growth, emotional and social well-being and physical health. Students will investigate strategies for fostering home-school partnerships that enhance child development and educational success, as well as the influence of community, culture and socio-economic status on families and schools throughout our world. In addition, this course addresses current issues and challenges in the early childhood profession including inclusion of children with special needs, advocacy for quality care and education for all young children, and any other subject that might arise - either from the lives of children and families, teachers' professional development, or community agencies. A cumulative GPA of 2.75 is required.

Prerequisite(s): EDU 106 and EDU 206.

ECE 450 Developmental Methods and Assessment in Early Childhood Education 3 Credits

The focus of this course is developmentally appropriate and culturally responsive curriculum and teaching P-3 settings as delineated in the guidelines of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Students will learn how to make curriculum and teaching decisions based on knowledge of child development, content area, curriculum content standards, and home and community cultures. In order to meet the ever-changing needs, interests, and growing strengths of individual children, careful observation and assessment provides teachers with information on which to base adjustments of teaching plans. This course will provide opportunities to deepen understanding of child development; gain an appreciation for the professional responsibility of ongoing assessment of children; and, develop the necessary skills to gather, record, and interpret information in a deliberate and reflective manner. Required: 6 hours per week field placement in a Preschool classroom. A cumulative GPA of 2.75 is required.

Prerequisite(s): EDU 106 and EDU 206.