

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Preschool Pathway Certificate

PROGRAM MISSION

The mission of the UCC Early Childhood Education Preschool Pathway Certificate program is to partner with our community to prepare high quality early childhood education providers to meet the cognitive, social, emotional and physical needs of a diverse population of children ages birth to five by offering opportunities for students to both learn theory and put theory and skills to practice in early childhood settings.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Early Childhood Education Preschool Pathway Certificate program is designed for students just entering the early care and education field, those who wish to focus their education and work experience with preschoolers, and those already employed in early childhood education and child care programs and who need an immediate certificate to continue working in an Oregon licensed facility. Students completing the Preschool Pathways certificate will achieve Step 7.5 on the Oregon Registry Steps for the Oregon Center for Career Development in Childhood Care and Education. Graduates may continue to seek the One-Year Certificate, AS, or AAS degree seamlessly, since all of the certificate classes are wholly contained within the degree program.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Students who successfully complete the Early Childhood Education Preschool Pathway Certificate will be able to:

1. Create healthy, respectful, supportive and challenging learning environments for young children based on knowledge of child development
2. Create respectful, reciprocal relationships that support and empower families and involve all families in their student's development and learning
3. Develop and use effective and responsible assessment including observation, documentation and other appropriate tools in partnership with families and professional colleagues to promote positive outcomes for each child
4. Use a whole array of developmentally appropriate approaches, instructional strategies, and tools to connect with children and families and positively influence each child's development and learning
5. Design, implement and evaluate meaningful, challenging curriculum that promotes comprehensive developmental and learning outcomes for every young child
6. Demonstrate behavior reflective of ethical guidelines and professional practices associated with early childhood careers

CAREER CONSIDERATIONS

Students in the Preschool Pathway certificate program receive education and experience specifically designed to support their work with preschool age children. Our Preschool Pathway certificate program focuses on seven crucial learning outcomes to help prepare students for working with young children and their families.

Courses offered in the Preschool Pathway certificate program are also excellent for parents and any others associated with young children.

PROGRAM COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Year One

ECE 101	Seminar/Practicum I	4
ECE 102	Seminar/Practicum II	4
ECE 178	Observing and Guiding Behavior	3
ECE 244	Individ Learn for PreSchoolers	3
ECE 154	Lit and Lang for Children	3
HDFS 225	Child Development	3
HDFS 240	Cont. American Families	3

Total Credits 23

PROGRAM ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Academic Entrance Requirement

- Enrollment in Oregon Central Background Registry
- Verification of MMR vaccinations
- Food Handler's Certificate