

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

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Associate of Applied Science

PROGRAM MISSION

The mission of the UCC Early Childhood Education 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 learn theory and put theory and skills to practice in early childhood settings.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied Science Degree program prepares students to work with infants, toddlers, and preschool aged children in both public and private school settings. Students completing the ECE Associate of Applied Science degree will achieve Step 9 on the Oregon Registry Steps for the Oregon Center for Career Development in Childhood Care and Education.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Students who successfully complete the Associate of Applied Science degree in Early Childhood Development will be able to:

1. Create healthy, respectful, supportive and challenging learning environments for young children based on knowledge of child development in context
2. Create respectful, reciprocal family-teacher partnerships and community connections 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. Demonstrate an array of developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate approaches, instructional strategies, and tools to connect with children and families and positively influence each child's development and learning
5. Apply and integrate academic content to design, implement and evaluate meaningful, challenging curriculum that promotes comprehensive developmental and learning outcomes for every young child
6. Demonstrate their professionalism as an early childhood educator with behavior reflective of ethical guidelines and professional practices associated with early childhood careers

CAREER CONSIDERATIONS

Graduates of the ECE AAS degree will learn specific skills and knowledge that are imperative in working with infants, toddlers, young children, and their families in a variety of early childhood education and care settings. These settings include both public and private infant toddler centers, preschools, private kindergartens, and in-home care settings.

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The ECE AAS course work and practical work experience focuses on obtaining knowledge and understanding of the growth and development of young children, guidance skills, and curriculum planning that supports positive social/emotional, cognitive, mental, and physical development in children. Our ECE AAS degree program focuses on seven crucial learning outcomes to help prepare students for working with young children and their families.

PROGRAM COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Year One

ECE 101	Seminar/Practicum I	4
ECE 102	Seminar/Practicum II	4
ECE 140	Introduction to ECE	2
ECE 150	Creative Activities	3
ECE 154	Literature and Language for Children	3
ECE 178	Observing and Guiding Behavior	3
ECE 230	Health, Safety, and Nutrition for the Young Child	3
ECE 244	Individual Learning for Preschoolers	3
HDFS 225	Child Development	3
HDFS 226	Infant and Toddler Development	3
HDFS 228	The Exceptional Child	3
HDFS 240	Contemporary American Family	3
PSY 130	Understanding Child Behavior	3
WR 121	Academic Composition	4

Year Two

ECE 103	Seminar/Practicum III	4
ECE 104	Seminar/Practicum IV	4
ECE 240	Lesson & Curriculum Planning	3
ECE 247	Admin of Childcare Centers	3
ED 258	Multicultural Education	3
HDFS 201	Individual & Family Development	3
MTH 60	Introduction to Algebra (Or higher)	4
MUS 202 or Choose		3
PSY 101	Psychology or Human Relations	3
SOC 204	Introduction to Sociology	3
SOC 205	Institutions of Social Change	3
Electives		9

Total Credits 90

PROGRAM ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Academic Entrance Requirement

- Enrollment in Oregon Central Background Registry
- Verification of MMR vaccinations
- Food Handler's Certificate
- Students will need to complete either ECE 140, or HDFS 225 before beginning practicum courses