

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND FAMILY STUDIES - DEGREE

Associate of Applied Science Degree Program

Faculty Adviser

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This program prepares students to work with children birth to age five and their families in early learning settings. Courses focus on childhood ages and stages, guidance, and high quality teaching practices. We welcome students of diverse backgrounds and ages. Students must display the skills, emotional stability, and stamina needed for this field. Students with challenges in any area should first consult the program adviser.

Program Outcomes

At the completion of this program, students should be able to:

- Design learning environments to support children's development and learning in all domains
- Implement Developmentally Appropriate Practices and all relevant guidelines
- Articulate the importance of effective observation, documentation and assessment of children's development
- Develop positive relationships with families, colleagues, and community members
- Apply content knowledge and inquiry tools to construct meaningful curriculum
- Demonstrate an exemplary work ethic and uphold the standards of the early childhood profession

Students with a non-credit credential, such as the Child Development Associate (CDA) or Step 7 on the Oregon Registry, may apply for up to 12 transcribed credits at MHCC upon completion of one ECE credit course at MHCC. See the program adviser for more information. Students must successfully complete first-year classes/certificate coursework prior to admission to second-year classes. Program advisers will determine individual eligibility.

General education courses (such as math, writing, health, etc.) can be taken during any term, or before starting the program.

Students must earn a grade of "C" or higher in all program (ECE) courses. Students must also possess or obtain First Aid and Pediatric CPR certification before the fourth quarter of the program.

First Quarter

Fall		Credits
ECE125	The Early Childhood Professional	3
ECE140	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
ECE158	Learning Environments	3
ECE170	Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
WR121Z	Composition I ★	4
Credits		16

Second Quarter

Winter		
ECE144	Observation Techniques	2
ECE145	Positive Guidance	3
ECE147	Infant/Toddler Caregiving	3
ECE166	Seminar - Beginning	1
WE280CDC1	Co-op Education - Beginning - Early Childhood Education 1	3
MTH065 or MTH058	Beginning Algebra II ★ (or higher) or Quantitative Reasoning I	4-6
Credits		16-18

Third Quarter

Spring		
ECE135	Math Concepts in Early Childhood	3
ECE171	Families and Diversity	3
ECE173	Creative Art Experiences	3
Health and Physical Education requirement (https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/aas/#health)	HE252 and/or HE261 required for those without First Aid and Pediatric CPR certification	3-4
Elective ¹		3-4
Credits		15-16

Fourth Quarter

Fall		
ECE243	Language and Literacy	3
ECE244	Observation and Documentation	3
ECE258	Curriculum Development	3
ECE285	Seminar - Intermediate	1
WE280CDC1A	Co-op Education - Intermediate - Early Childhood Education ²	3
Human Relations requirement (https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/aas/#human)		3-4
Credits		16-17

Fifth Quarter

Winter		
ECE248	Special Needs and Inclusion	3
ECE256	Science in Early Childhood	3
ECE260	Values and Issues in Early Childhood Education	3
ECE261	Child Development Principles	4
Credits		13

Sixth Quarter

Spring		
ECE236	Social/Emotional Development	3
ECE246	Home/School Relations	3
ECE286	Seminar - Advanced	1
WE280CDC2 Internship		3

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Elective, if needed to reach 90 applicable credits ¹	4
Credits	14
Total Credits	90-94

¹ Take electives - any courses numbered 100 or above - if needed, to reach 90 degree applicable credits. Recommended electives include:

- American Sign Language (ASL)
- HS101 Introduction to Social Services
- HS135 Case Management: Intake, Assessment, Process and Practice ★
- HS150 The Effective Helper, A Personal Skills Approach,
- COMM115 Introduction to Intercultural Communication ★ 🌐 or COMM218Z Interpersonal Communication ★

² Students must provide proof of current First Aid and Pediatric CPR certification to the program advisor and dean before being allowed to enroll in WE280CDC1A Co-op Education - Intermediate - Early Childhood Education.
