

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT, ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

Program Description

The Early Childhood Education Associate of Science Degree program prepares students to work with young children from birth to kindergarten. The Associate of Science degree in Early Childhood Development has been developed with the cooperation and support of Southern Oregon University (SOU). The degree is fully articulated with SOU's Early Childhood Development (ECD) program and allows students to transfer directly as juniors and be able to begin the ECD coursework at SOU with no loss of credits to pursue a bachelor's degree. Students completing the ECE Associate of 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 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, and supportive family teacher partnerships and community connections that support and empower family involvement in student development and learning.
3. Build 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. Implement an array of developmentally, culturally, and instructional strategies, and tools to connect with children and families and positively influence each child's development and learning.
5. Build curriculum designed to promote and assess meaningful, challenging, and comprehensive developmental learning outcomes for each child.
6. Demonstrate 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 AS transfer degree program 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.

This degree is built specifically for students wanting to transfer to a four year university. Course work and practical work experience emphasize knowledge of the growth and development of young children, guidance skills, and curriculum planning that supports positive social/emotional, cognitive, mental, and physical development. These skills can be applied to multiple degree paths at four year universities. Our ECE AS transfer degree program focuses on seven crucial learning outcomes to help prepare students for courses and degrees in four year universities in a variety of career choices that work with young children and their families.

Program Course Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
First Term		
ECE 140	Intro to Early Childhood Ed	3
ECE 230	Health Safety and Nutrition	3
FYE 100	College Success	2
HDFS 225	Child Development	3
HDFS 228	Exceptional Child	3
WR 121Z	Composition I	4
Credits		18
Second Term		
ECE 101	ECE-Sem-Prac I	3
ECE 154	Lit and Language for Children	3
HDFS 226	Infant-Toddler Development	3
HDFS 240	Contemporary American Family	3
PSY 130	Understanding Child Behavior	3
Credits		15
Third Term		
ECE 102	ECE-Sem-Prac II	3
ECE 150	Creative Activities for Child	3
ECE 178	Observing-Guiding Behavior	3
ECE 244	Indiv Learning-Preschoolers	3
WR 122Z or WR 227Z	Composition II or Technical Writing	4
Credits		16
Fourth Term		
ECE 235	Supporting Child Wellbeing	3
Credits		3
Second Year		
First Term		
COM 218Z	Interpersonal Communication	4
HDFS 225	Child Development	3
MTH 211	Fundamentals-Elem Math I (or higher)	4
SPAN 101	First Year Spanish I ⁶	4
Credits		15
Second Term		
ECE 103	ECE-SEM-Prac III	3
ECE 240	Lesson and Curriculum Planning	3
ECE 247	Admin of Child-Care Centers ²	3
MTH 212	Fundamentals-Elem Math II	4
SPAN 102	First Year Spanish II ⁶	4
Credits		17
Third Term		
ED 258	Culturally Responsive Ed	3
HPE 295	Wellness-Hlth Assess	3
PSY 201Z	Introduction to Psychology I	4
SPAN 103	First Year Spanish III ⁶	4
Credits		14
Total Minimum Credits		98

¹ Course offered in Summer

² Course only offered even years

³ Any program approved Arts and Letters course can be taken

⁴ Any program approved Science can be taken

⁵ Any program approved Social Science can be taken

⁶ Any approved elective can be taken, see advisor for list of course options

Entrance Requirements

- Enrollment in Oregon Central Background Registry
- Verification of MMR vaccinations
- Food Handler's Certificate
Contact the intended university of transfer to determine appropriate general education requirements for transfer. The UCC Associates Degree is designed to transfer seamlessly to Southern Oregon University.
- Students will need to complete either ECE 140 Intro to Early Childhood Ed (3 cr.), or HDFS 225 Child Development (3 cr.) with a grade of C or higher, before beginning practicum courses