

Early Childhood Education

The early childhood education concentration offers the choice of a diploma or an associate of arts degree and is designed for students to continue their education at a four-year college to earn a bachelor's degree in early childhood, early childhood unified education, or elementary education with an endorsement in early childhood. In addition to lecture classes, students gain experience by working in child care centers in Norfolk. The early childhood education concentration is designed to prepare students for leadership positions in small or large child care centers, preschools, Head Start programs, or summer day camps. It also prepares students for careers as a paraprofessional, nanny, and child care provider in a family child care home.

Child care providers require a criminal background check prior to employment. Students will be required to submit to a background check prior to enrolling in early childhood education practicum courses. Individuals with a criminal record may not be eligible for employment. Please check with your advisor.

Suggested Program of Study for Associate of Arts Degree (2 years)

<i>Freshman Year</i>		<i>Sophomore Year</i>	
FIRST SEMESTER		FIRST SEMESTER	
Course	Credits	Course	Credits
ECED 1050 Expressive Arts.....	3	ECED 1160 Early Language and Literacy.....	3
ECED 1150 Introduction to Early Childhood Education.....	3	ECED 1240 Preschool/School-Age Practicum.....	2
ECED 1110 Infant/Toddler Development.....	3	ECED 2060 Early Childhood Education Curriculum Planning.....	3
ECED 1220 Pre-Practicum.....	1	HPER Basic Sports Series*.....	1
ENGL 1010 English Composition I.....	3	History*.....	3
PSYC 1810 Introduction to Psychology.....	3	Natural Science*.....	4-5
	16		16-17
SECOND SEMESTER		SECOND SEMESTER	
Course	Credits	Course	Credits
ECED 1060 Observation, Assessment and Guidance.....	3	ECED 2050 Children with Exceptionalities.....	3
ECED 1120 Preschool Child Development.....	2	ECED 2070 Family and Community Relationships.....	3
ECED 1221 Infant/Toddler Practicum.....	2	ECED 2500 Early Childhood Administration.....	2.5
ECED 1230 School Age Development.....	2	HLTH 1730 Pediatric Basic Life Support and First Aid.....	0.5
HPER 1500 Lifetime Wellness.....	2	Fine/Performing Arts*.....	3
MATH 1010 Math for Elementary Teachers.....	3	Oral Communication*.....	3
English/Literature*.....	3	Social Science*.....	3
	17		18

To earn an associate of arts degree, a student must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 60 semester hours that include the general education requirements.

NOTE: Sixty credit hours (which must include at least one professional education course that deals with children, schools or education) and evidence of Human Relations training (verified through documentation of relevant work experience or Human Relations coursework taken from a four-year institution) will meet the requirements to apply for local substitute teaching certification from the Nebraska Department of Education. Check online at www.nde.state.ne.us for more information.

* See general education requirements.

Required Program of Study for Diploma

FIRST SEMESTER		THIRD SEMESTER	
Course	Credits	Course	Credits
ECED 1050 Expressive Arts.....	3	ECED 1160 Early Language and Literacy.....	3
ECED 1150 Introduction to Early Childhood Education.....	3	ECED 1240 Preschool/School-Age Practicum.....	2
ECED 1110 Infant/Toddler Development.....	3	ECED 2050 Children with Exceptionalities.....	3
ECED 1220 Pre-Practicum.....	1	ECED 2060 Early Childhood Education Curriculum Planning.....	3
Oral Communication*.....	3	HPER 1500 Lifetime Wellness.....	2
	13		13
SECOND SEMESTER			
Course	Credits	Total Credit Hours	
ECED 1060 Observation, Assessment and Guidance.....	3	38.5	
ECED 1120 Preschool Child Development.....	2		
ECED 1221 Infant/Toddler Practicum.....	2		
ECED 1230 School Age Development.....	2		
ECED 2070 Family and Community Relationships.....	3		
HLTH 1730 Pediatric Basic Life Support and First Aid.....	0.5		
	12.5		