

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION-AA

Program Overview

Associate of Arts - Early Childhood Education

The Associate of Arts in Early Childhood Education is designed for students who are planning to enter the early childhood education field as either a teacher or preschool facilities director.

A student who is considering a bachelor's degree in education needs to meet with an advisor immediately to determine the requirements that will fulfill his/her emphasis areas and/or his/her degree. Also, the student needs to be aware of the application requirements for the education program. Additional information regarding state licensure requirements can be obtained from the Nevada Department of Education.

Program Mission

The mission of the GBC early childhood program is to provide students with the skills and knowledge needed to work effectively and professionally with young children, their families, and their communities.

Successful completion of the early childhood education certificate and degrees is designed to qualify students for such employment opportunities as paraprofessionals, teachers, and/or directors in childcare centers, preschools, and home-based programs.

Student Learning Outcomes

Standard #1: Child Development and Learning in Context

Outcome: Students will identify and describe key stages of child development and learning from birth through age five, focusing on major developmental domains.

Standard #2: Family-Teacher Partnerships and Community Connections

Outcome: Students will recognize the importance of family-teacher partnerships and demonstrate basic strategies for effective communication and collaboration with families.

Standard #3: Child Observation, Documentation, and Assessment

Outcome: Students will conduct basic observations and use simple documentation techniques to assess children's development and learning, informing instructional planning.

Standard #4: Developmentally, Culturally, and Linguistically Appropriate Teaching Practices

Outcome: Students will apply fundamental teaching practices that are developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate for young children.

Standard #5: Knowledge, Application, and Integration of Academic Content in the Early Childhood Curriculum

Outcome: Students will implement basic pedagogical methods for teaching early childhood disciplines, ensuring activities are developmentally appropriate.

Standard #6: Professionalism as an Early Childhood Educator

Outcome: Students will understand and apply ethical guidelines and professional standards in early childhood education, advocating for young children and their families.

General Education Requirements

Communications and Expressions

Written Communications (one course required)

ENG 100 **Composition-Enhanced**

5 Credits

Allows students to fulfill their first semester of English while completing the remediation process. Designed for students who did not place into ENG 101 on the placement test/writing sample, but did not score so low that they need ENG 95. Allows a student to refine specific skill deficiencies while completing the first semester of freshman composition (ENG 100 is equivalent to ENG 101). Students will have additional Academic Success Center requirements. Although it is a five-credit course, it does not replace ENG 102. After successful completion of ENG 100, a student must take ENG 102 to complete the general education requirement.

ENG 101 **Composition I**

3 Credits

Critical reading and writing of the expository essay. Emphasizes pre-writing, strategies for organization, and revision.

Oral Communications (one course required)

COM 113 **Fund Speech Communication**

3 Credits

Principles and theories of speech communication. Participation in public speaking and interpersonal communication activities.

THTR 221 **Oral Interpretation**

3 Credits

Introduction to and practice of oral interpretation of literary and dramatic works from Shakespeare to contemporary writers and poets.

Evidence-Based Communications
ENG 102 Composition II

3 Credits

Continuation of English 101. Emphasizes writing from sources, argument, the investigative paper, and research techniques.

Fine Arts (one course required)
ART 100 Visual Foundations

3 Credits

A beginning art class that includes a survey of art and the basic components of design. The class explores visual concepts as they relate to the history of art through class presentations, discussions, and a variety of media. Students should plan for three hours of studio work outside the class.

ART 101 Drawing I

3 Credits

A disciplined foundation in drawing concepts based on visual observation skills.

ART 107 Design Fundmntls I (2-D)

3 Credits

Explores the fundamentals of design using various media focusing on 2-D design.

ENG 205 Intro to Creative Writing

3 Credits

A creative writing course designed to introduce students to the production of fiction and poetry.

MUS 101 Music Fundamentals

3 Credits

Notation, terminology, intervals, and scales. Designed to furnish a foundation for musicianship. Recommended for teachers in public schools and all others desiring a basic music background.

THTR 100 Introduction to Theatre

3 Credits

A survey of the basic principles, facts, and theories providing an understanding of the art of theatre. Course also includes a special focus on the practical technical aspects of the theatre and on live theatre experiences.

THTR 105 Introduction to Acting I

3 Credits

Examines acting fundamentals and focuses on development of vocal, physical, and creative tools to be used on stage.

THTR 204 Theatre Technology I

3 Credits

Lecture and discussion encompassing the philosophy and techniques of technical theatre.

THTR 121 Stage Makeup

3 Credits

This course focuses on the history of makeup and basic approaches to applying make-up for the stage and screen. Make-up supplies will be studied, as well as techniques for corrective, old-age, character, stylized, and special effects makeup.

WELD 200 Metal Art

3 Credits

This course is designed to give the student the basic understanding of two dimensional 2D and three-dimensional 3D metal art. Also covered in this course we will discuss different Cutting, Welding and metal finishing techniques that are used in this discipline as it relates to metal art.

Logical and Scientific Reasoning

Mathematical Reasoning (one course required): Choose from the courses listed below or any higher-level math

course.

MATH 120 Fund of College Math

3 Credits

Includes set theory, logic, consumer mathematics, measurement, geometry, probability, and statistics. Course is broad in scope, emphasizing applications. It is recommended that students have completed prerequisites within two years of enrolling in this course.

MATH 120E Fund of College Math Expanded

3 Credits

Fundamentals of College Mathematics with Corequisite Support: Includes real numbers, consumer mathematics, variation, functions, relations, graphs, geometry, probability, and statistics. Course is broad in scope, emphasizing applications. Fulfills the lower-division mathematics requirement for a Bachelor of Arts Degree. Satisfies mathematics requirement for baccalaureate degrees.

MATH 126 Precalculus I

3 Credits

A third course in algebra that stresses polynomial, quadratic, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions, including their graphs and applications; complex numbers; systems of equations; and basic operations with matrices and determinants, including Cramer's rule. It is recommended that students have completed prerequisites within two years of enrolling in this course.

STAT 152 Intro to Statistics

3 Credits

Includes descriptive statistics, probability models, random variables, statistical estimation and hypothesis testing, linear regression analysis, and other topics. Designed to show the dependence of statistics on probability. It is recommended that students have completed prerequisites within two years of enrolling in this course.

Scientific Reasoning (one course required): Choose from courses listed below or any AST, BIOL, CHEM, ENV, GEOL, PHYS.

ANTH 102 Physical Anthropology 3 Credits
Introduction to the study of how humans, *Homo sapiens*, have emerged as a species and come to dominate the planet by examining processes of human biological and cultural evolution. Topics include inheritance, the emergence of primates, fossil hominids, the development of technology, and biological variability among modern humans. Satisfies general education science.

GEOG 103 Physical Geog Earth Environmnt 3 Credits
Physical elements of the earth's natural features and their significance to man. Topics include earth form and motion, landforms, weather, climate, vegetation, and soils. Four laboratory experiences required.

NUTR 121 Human Nutrition 3 Credits
An introductory nutrition course for the beginning student. Course will center on the major nutrients and their roles in maintaining good health. Students will learn to recognize well-balanced diets and acquire shopping tips and preparation techniques for optimum utilization of food dollars. Class includes four required labs.

Scientific Data Interpretation (one course required)

AST 101 General Astronomy 3 Credits
An introductory examination of the solar system, stellar systems, and stellar and galactic evolution according to currently accepted concepts. Introduces astronomical instruments and light theory.

BIOL 100 General Biology/Non Major 3 Credits
Basic biological concepts, interpretation and application of scientific methods, and effects of biological advances on society. Core curriculum science course; cannot be used for credit toward field of concentration in biology.

BIOL 190 Intro Cell/Molecular Biology 4 Credits
Structure and function of cells. Major molecules of life; composition and physiology of cellular organelles; cell metabolism, reproduction, motility, and gene function of both plant and animal cells. Required for biology majors. Concurrent enrollment in a corresponding lab section is required for this course.

CHEM 100 Molecules/Life Modrn Wrld 3 Credits
Introduction to chemistry in its many forms and applications, physical and organic, with consideration of environmental and social issues. Includes laboratory activities.

CHEM 121 General Chemistry I 4 Credits
Fundamentals of chemistry including reaction stoichiometry, atomic structure, chemical bonding, molecular structure, states of matter, and thermochemistry.

ENV 100 Humans and the Environment 3 Credits
Introduction to the relationship of man and his environment. Current thinking and research concerning the impact of industrialization and urbanization on environmental quality, including the population explosion; the potential decline of the affluent society by the depletion of natural resources; the pollution of air, land surface, and water; and the public agencies and policies designed to solve environmental problems.

GEOL 101 Exploring Planet Earth 3-4 Credits
Fundamental principles of geology including tectonic and surficial processes, oceans, atmosphere, environmental applications, and resources. Includes a laboratory component.

NUTR 121 Human Nutrition 3 Credits
An introductory nutrition course for the beginning student. Course will center on the major nutrients and their roles in maintaining good health. Students will learn to recognize well-balanced diets and acquire shopping tips and preparation techniques for optimum utilization of food dollars. Class includes four required labs.

PHYS 100 Introductory Physics 3 Credits
A concise treatment of the basic principles of physics. Includes mechanics, matter, electricity, magnetism, heat, sound, light, relativity, and nuclear physics.

PHYS 151 Gen Physics I 4 Credits
Primarily for students in arts and science. Topics include kinematics, energy and momentum conservation, rotational dynamics, thermodynamics, fluids, harmonic motion, and sound. Laboratory experiments illustrate many of these fundamental principles.

PHYS 180 Physics Scientist/Engr I 4 Credits
A comprehensive, calculus-based physics course designed for advanced science and engineering students. Consists of intensive word problem solving covering topics of kinematics, vectors, forces, energy, momentum, rotation, angular momentum, equilibrium, elasticity, gravity, fluids, and oscillations. Lab included.

Human Societies and Experience

Structure of Societies (one course required)

ANTH 101 Intro Cultural Anthropology 3 Credits

Study of human cultures across the globe through examination of the basic principles underlying the organization of societies and the ways anthropologists analyze various parts of culture. Students will become familiar with the glue that holds all groups of people together, and how that glue can divide groups of people in profound ways.

CRJ 104 Intro to Admin of Justice 3 Credits

American criminal justice system, its development, components, and processes. Includes consideration of crime and criminal justice as a formal area of study.

CRJ 270 Intro to Criminology 3 Credits

Examines how society interacts with crime and delinquency through the use of the criminal justice system. Studies effective interaction and communication between the general public and members of the criminal justice system. Emphasizes the understanding of criminal behavior from a sociological and psychological perspective.

ECON 102 Prin of Microeconomics 3 Credits

Study of the causes and effects of individuals' choices among alternative uses of scarce resources. Topics include supply and demand analysis, price determination, theories of various market structures, competition and coordination, labor, the role of profit and interest, and government involvement in the economy.

ECON 103 Principles of Macroeconomics 3 Credits

Basic price and quantity relationships, study of monetary systems and policy, inflation, production and growth, recession, unemployment, fiscal policy, supply and demand perspectives, international exchange, and governmental-market relationships.

GEOG 106 Intro to Cultural Geography 3 Credits

Analyze the culture regions of the world including physical settings and cultural patterns including language, settlements, socioeconomic patterns, and historical patterns.

HMS 200 Ethics in Human Services 3 Credits

Real life applications for personal and professional boundaries, beliefs, ethics, values, morals, and codes of conduct in human relationships using ethical decision-making, problem-solving, and critical-thinking activities are emphasized. This course may be repeated up to three times for continuing education credit. (Check with individual licensing boards prior to registering).

PSY 101 Gen Psychology 3 Credits

Survey of the discipline introducing psychological theories, research methods, and principles of behavior.

PSY 208 Psy of Human Relations 3 Credits

Explores the relationships between human beings and assists in the development of interpersonal communication skills which can be used personally and professionally.

SOC 101 Prin of Sociology 3 Credits

Sociological principles underlying the development, structure, and function of culture including society, human groups, personality formation, and social change.

American Constitutions and Institutions (one course required)

HIST 101 U.S. History to 1877 3 Credits

Survey of U.S. political, social, economic, diplomatic, and cultural development from colonial times through Reconstruction. When taken with HIST 102 satisfies the GBC General Education American Constitutions and Institutions Requirement. HIST 101 and 102 need not be taken sequentially. Either class may be taken alone.

Humanities (one course required)

ART 160 Art Appreciation 3 Credits

Introduction to the visual arts, illustrating the place of art in its social and cultural setting.

ENG 203 Intro to Literary Study 3 Credits

Introduction to the elements of fiction, poetry, and drama used in the analysis of literature.

ENG 223 Themes of Literature 3 Credits

Themes and ideas significant in literature.

FIS 100 Introduction to Film 3 Credits

Introduction to the historical development of film as art. Considers the development of cinematic techniques (i.e., cinematography, editing, sound, etc.), cinematic genres (i.e., the western, romantic comedy, etc.) and narrative elements (i.e., plot, character, conflict, etc.) as exemplified by the work of major American and international directors.

FREN 111 First Year French I 3-4 Credits

Development of language skills through practice in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and structural analysis. Language practice required.

FREN 112	First Year French II	3-4 Credits
A continuation of FREN 111. Language practice required.		
HIST 208	World History I	3 Credits
Survey of world civilizations to 1600. Examines societies, cultures, and issues relative to Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Oceania.		
HIST 209	World History II	3 Credits
Survey of world civilizations since 1600. Examines historical societies, cultures, and issues relative to Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and Oceania.		
HUM 101	Intro to Humanities I	3 Credits
An introduction to humanities through a study of seven major arts including film, drama, music, literature, painting, sculpture, and architecture. Each of these arts is considered from the perspective of historical development, the elements used in creating works of art, meaning and form, and criticism and critical evaluation.		
HUM 210	Communicating Diversity	3 Credits
Communicating Diversity is a lower division course designed to familiarize students with the fundamentals of diversity and how those are expressed through communication. Students will develop a deep understanding of the way in which we communicate race, gender, class, sexual orientation, nationality, religion, and physical/mental ability and how it impacts our daily lives. This course will take an intersectional approach to understanding diversity and seek communication strategies for inclusivity. Emphasis will be placed on defining and developing the critical thinking skills necessary to push past oppression, marginalization, and other issues centralized around diverse populations. Students will be encouraged to investigate and discover diversity issues, solutions, and concepts at the local and global level using case studies, current events, and other significant moments in history.		
MUS 121	Music Appreciation	3 Credits
The historical and cultural background of music and origins to the twentieth century.		
PHIL 101	Intro to Philosophy	3 Credits
Basic problems in different areas of philosophy such as ethics, political theory, metaphysics, and epistemology.		
PHIL 102	Critical Thinking	3 Credits
Covers non-symbolic introduction to logical thinking in everyday life, law, politics, science, advertising; common fallacies; and the uses of language, including techniques of persuasion.		
PHIL 135	Introduction to Ethics	3 Credits
Introduction to Ethics: critical introduction to classical and modern ethical theories such as utilitarianism, deontology, and virtue ethics. Emphasis throughout on applying the theories in various contexts such as social, political, or interpersonal. The ultimate goal will be to allow students to clarify their own thinking and positions on important ethical issues confronting society today.		
SPAN 111	First Year Spanish I	3 Credits
Development of language skills through practice in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and structural analysis. Language practice required.		
SPAN 112	First Yr Spanish II	3 Credits
A continuation of SPAN 111. Language practice required.		
SPAN 211	Second Year Spanish I	3 Credits
Considers structural review, conversation and writing, and readings in modern literature.		

Technological Proficiency

EDU 214	Prep Teachers to Use Tech	3 Credits
Lab course on advanced skills and strategies for integrating technology into the K-12 classroom. Computer experience is required in word processing, basic spreadsheet design, and file management.		

Social Science (one course required)

HIST 102	U.S. History Since 1877	3 Credits
Survey of U.S. political, social, economic, diplomatic, and cultural development from 1877 to the present. Course satisfies the Nevada Constitution Requirement. When taken with HIST 101 satisfies the GBC General Education American Constitutions and Institutions Requirement. Can be used to satisfy the Nevada Constitution Requirement for out-of-state transfer students who have previously satisfied the United States Constitution Requirement. HIST 101 and 102 need not be taken sequentially. Either class may be taken alone.		

Humanities/Fine Arts (one course required): Choose from the courses listed below or any transferable 200-level ENG course or any 100- or 200-level AM, ART, FIS, FREN, HUM, JOUR, MUS, PHIL, SPAN, THTR.

GRC 103	Intro Computer Graphics	3 Credits
Introduction to the computer as a graphic communications tool using image editing and page layout software. Software literacy, computer graphics terminology, design application, and production are stressed.		

GRC 156 Design with Illustrator 3 Credits
 Introduction to visual communication as it relates to commercial art using vector-based software with an emphasis on corporate identity. Covers graphic design methodology, layout, typography, symbols, logos, and logo systems developed from thumbnails through final design.

HIST 208 World History I 3 Credits
 Survey of world civilizations to 1600. Examines societies, cultures, and issues relative to Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Oceania.

HIST 209 World History II 3 Credits
 Survey of world civilizations since 1600. Examines historical societies, cultures, and issues relative to Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and Oceania.

Program Requirements

ECE 200 The Exceptional Child 3 Credits
 This course focuses on the characteristics, training, and educational needs of children with disabilities including children who are gifted. It explores the existing educational agencies, programs, and instructional methods designed for children with disabilities.

ECE 204 Principles Child Guidance 3 Credits
 A study of effective communication with children in guiding behavior. Emphasis will be placed on techniques which help children build positive self-concepts and individual strengths within the context of appropriate limits and discipline. The study includes uses of direct and indirect guidance techniques as well as introduction to guidance systems.

ECE 250 Intro Early Childhood Edu 3 Credits
 Introduces students to early childhood education. Course deals with the total preschool program including types, objectives, philosophy, curriculum, physical plant, and equipment, as these aspects of the program relate to the needs and interests of the preschool child.

ECE 251 Curriculum Early Child Edu 3 Credits
 This course will consist of methods of planning and teaching curriculum for children three to five years old. Included will be curriculum development, children's play, lesson planning, and daily scheduling. Emphasis on art, science, literature, music, language, blocks, dramatic play, etc.

ECE 262 Early Lang/Litrcy Develop 3 Credits
 Course focuses on the four areas of Language Arts: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Through a hands-on and interactive approach, students will explore the process of combining quality practices with specific materials and strategies focused on language and literacy development. In addition, students will examine the fundamentals of oral language and literacy-rich environments supported by the knowledge, skills, and dispositions that are predictive of later success in learning to read and write.

HDFS 202 Introduction to Families 3 Credits
 Study the dynamics of development, interaction, and intimacy for primary relationships in contextual and theoretical frameworks. Review societal issues and choices facing diverse family systems and individuals living within families.

HDFS 232 Diversity in Children 3 Credits
 The course considers the development of young children from the prenatal period through age eight, focusing in particular on diversity among children. Diversity will be explored in the terms of cultural, ethnic, and linguistic variations as well as differences in ability and typical and atypical development.

Nevada Highway Patrol and FBI background check required.

Suggested Course Sequence

1st Semester - Fall

Course Credits ECE 250 3 ENG 100 or 101 3-5 ECE 204 3 MATH 3-6 PSY 208 3 TOTAL 15-20

2nd Semester - Spring

Course Credits ECE 251 3 ECE 262 3 ENG 102 3 FINE ARTS* 3 SCIENTIFIC DATA INTERPRETATION*
 3-4 TOTAL 15-16 *Choose with advisor

3rd Semester - Fall

Course Credits ECE 200 3 EDU 214 3 HDFS 202 3 HUMANITIES/FINE ARTS* 3 HIST 101 3 Total 15 *Choose with advisor

4th Semester - Spring

HUMANITIES* 3 ORAL COMMUNICATIONS* 3 HDFS 232 3 HIST 102 3 SCIENTIFIC REASONING*
 3-4 TOTAL 15-16 *Choose with advisor

