

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION-AAS

Program Overview

Associate of Applied Science - Early Childhood Education - Early Childhood Emphasis

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 developmental milestones and learning processes in children from birth through age five, focusing on major developmental domains.

Standard #2: Family-Teacher Partnerships and Community Connections

Outcome: Students will establish and maintain effective communication and collaborative relationships with families and community resources to support children's development and learning.

Standard #3: Child Observation, Documentation, and Assessment

Outcome: Students will perform systematic observations and use appropriate documentation techniques to assess children's development and learning, guiding instructional decisions.

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

Outcome: Students will implement teaching practices that are developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate, tailored to the needs of young children from diverse backgrounds.

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

Outcome: Students will design and implement developmentally appropriate curriculum and activities that integrate academic content areas, fostering holistic development in young children.

Standard #6: Professionalism as an Early Childhood Educator

Outcome: Students will demonstrate professional behavior, adhere to ethical guidelines, and advocate for the well-being and rights of young children and their families.

General Education Requirements

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.

Evidence-Based Communications (one course required)

ENG 102 Composition II 3 Credits
Continuation of English 101. Emphasizes writing from sources, argument, the investigative paper, and research techniques.

Mathematics (one course required): Choose from the courses listed below or any higher-level math course. Excludes MATH 389

MATH 116 Technical Mathematics I 3 Credits
Provides technical mathematical core material so that the student gains practical problem solving experience. May include arithmetic operation, integers, exponents, scientific notation, algebraic expressions, equations, metric system, trigonometry, and logarithms. This course satisfies the general education requirement for occupational/technical AAS degree. It is recommended that students have completed prerequisites within two years of enrolling in this course.

MATH 116E Technical Mathematics Expanded 3-5 Credits

Provides technical mathematical core material so that the student gains practical problem solving experience. May include arithmetic operation, integers, exponents, scientific notation, algebraic expressions, equations, metric system, trigonometry, and logarithms. This course satisfies the general education requirement for occupational/technical AAS degree.

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.

MATH 126E Precalculus I Expanded 3 Credits

Precalculus I Expanded with Co-requisite support: Includes equations, relations, functions, graphing; polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and circular functions with applications; coordinate geometry of lines and conics; analytic trigonometry; matrices and determinants; and binomial theorem. 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.

Science (one course required)**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.

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.

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.

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.		
U.S. and Nevada Constitutions: HIST 101 and HIST 102 or PSC 101		
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.		
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.		
PSC 101	Intro American Politics	3 Credits
A survey of United States, national, state, and local governments with emphasis on the cultural aspects of the governing process. Satisfies the legislative requirement for the United States and Nevada Constitutions.		
Human Relations		
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.		
Humanities or 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.		
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 205	Intro to Creative Writing	3 Credits
A creative writing course designed to introduce students to the production of fiction and poetry.		
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 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.		
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.		
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 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.		
THTR 204	Theatre Technology I	3 Credits
Lecture and discussion encompassing the philosophy and techniques of technical theatre.		
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.		
Technology		
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.		
Program Core 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 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.

Program Emphasis Requirements**Infant/Toddler Requirement: (two courses required)****ECE 126 Social/Emotional Development 3 Credits**

Study of effective development in infancy and toddlerhood. Emphasis is placed on experiences and techniques or use in the home and child care setting which will foster self-concept and social interactions for children from birth to three years of age.

ECE 127 Role of Play Infnt/Toddlr 1-3 Credits

Study of the role of play as it affects the social, emotional, and physical and intellectual growth and development of infants and toddlers.

ECE 130 Infancy 3 Credits

Course studies social, emotional, language, and sensorimotor development in infancy. Emphasis is placed on facilitating optimum infant and toddler development.

Emphasis requirements**ECE 231 Practicum:Early Child Lab 6 Credits**

Working in a preschool setting with young children under the supervision of a master teacher, planning and implementing activities. Practicum will normally be taken during the final year of the child development program. Law requires a TB test prior to enrollment.

ECE 210 Assess of Young Children 3 Credits

This course focuses on how to observe, document, and assess the growth and development of young children in early care and education settings. Students learn and practice a variety of appropriate observation techniques, documentation methods, and assessment strategies and tools. Students are introduced to the goals, benefits, and uses of assessment for young children. Confidentiality and assessment partnerships with families and other professionals are also explored.

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.

HDFS 201 Lifespan Human Developmnt 3 Credits

Individual development, roles, and interrelationships within the family system through the lifespan.

Intro to Families or Diversity: (one course required)**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.

Suggested Course Sequence**1st Semester - Fall**

Course	Credits
ECE Infant/Toddler*	3
ECE 204	3
ECE 250	3

Course	Credits
Written Communications*	3-5
Mathematics*	3-6
TOTAL	15-20

*Choose with advisor

2nd Semester - Spring

Course	Credits
ECE 262	3
ECE 251	3
ECE Infant/Toddler*	3
ENG 102	3
American Constitutions*	3-6
TOTAL	15-18

*Choose with advisor

3rd Semester - Fall

Course	Credits
ECE 210	3
ECE 200	3
HDFS 202 or 232	3
Humanities/Fine Arts*	3
HDFS 201	3
TOTAL	15

*Choose with advisor

4th Semester - Spring

Course	Credits
ECE 231	6
PSY 208	3
Science*	3
EDU 214	3
TOTAL	15

*Choose with advisor