



Early Childhood Education (Associate of Science)

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM

(offered by the Department of Education)

The early childhood education (ECE) program is designed to prepare students for work with children in nursery schools, daycare centers, preschool programs, and primary grades (grades PreK-3).

TTU's associate of science degree in Early Childhood Education will help students develop a substantive knowledge base in all areas of children's development. Students will learn general and advanced principles of cognitive, physical, and affective development, as well as practical insights for incorporating developmentally appropriate spiritual training into everyday classroom experiences. TTU offers a unique balance between theory and practice by encouraging active application of classroom principles.

In summary, students capabilities as an educator will be enhanced by the development of knowledge about how and what children learn, practical preparation in instructional strategies, and immediate opportunities for practice.

Program Objectives

Upon completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Work effectively with diverse populations of children in a variety of settings.
- Teach young children, drawing from a deep conceptual understanding of how they learn different through domains of knowledge.
- Create developmentally appropriate experiences for young children that are engaging in the present as well as preparatory for later learning requirements.
- Work cooperatively with parents, using an understanding of the family as a context for young children's development.
- Act as a leader in educational settings.

Our Faculty

ECE faculty members are drawn from the Departments of Teacher Education, Social Science, and Psychology.

The core faculty includes:

- Roger Stiles, Ed.D.
- Susan Lovett, Ed.D.
- Kelly Edgmon, Ed.S.
- Starr Hoover, M.S.
- Matthew Johnson, M.Ed.

Early Childhood Curriculum

Early Childhood Concentration (PreK-3)

The early childhood education program is a 60 hour degree program designed to prepare students for work with children in nursery schools, daycare centers, preschool programs, and primary grades (PreK-3). All early childhood education majors must complete General Education Core Requirements, General Electives, and the Early Childhood Education requirements (methods courses and field experiences).

General Education Requirements

FOUNDATIONAL STUDIES (13 credit hours)

ACAD-1001 Success Orientation
CHMN-1011 Personal Evangelism
CISS-1003 Computer Fundamentals
ENGL-1013 English Composition I
ENGL-1023 English Composition II

GENERAL CORE CURRICULUM (18-19 credit hours)

BIBL-1113 Old Testament Survey
BIBL-1413 New Testament Survey
THEO-2113 Bible Doctrines I
THEO-2123 Bible Doctrines II
ENGL-3603 Children's Literature
Laboratory Science Selection

OR

MATH-1013 or higher level course

Departmental Requirements

MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS (24 credit hours)

EDUC-2023 Exceptional Children in the Regular Classroom
EDUC-2113 Working with Families of Young Children
EDUC-2123 Assessment of Young Children
EDUC-2133 Early Childhood Curriculum Development
EDUC-3113 Educating the Young Child
ENGL-3603 Children's Literature
EDUC-3103 Administration of Early Childhood Programs
PSYC-2223 Infant and Child Development
PHED-1303 Human Nutrition, Wellness, & Safety

General Elective Requirements

GENERAL ELECTIVES (5-6 credit hours)

PROGRAM TOTAL = 60 credit hours

Major Course Descriptions

EDUC-2023 Exceptional Children in Regular Classrooms

Mildly handicapped children, including the mentally challenged, the emotionally disturbed, the physically handicapped, the learning disabled, and the gifted are discussed. Includes descriptions of various handicapping conditions as well as suggestions for meeting needs in a regular classroom. Field experiences include fifteen hours in a classroom where exceptional children are enrolled.

EDUC-2113 Working with Families of Young Children

An introductory course for persons interested in providing services for infants, toddlers, pre-school, and early elementary school aged children, both with and without disabilities, and the relationship between the school and student families.

EDUC-2123 Observation and Assessment of Young Children

Overview of the assessment process, preliminary assessment skills, and using assessment results in planning for guidance/instruction of young children. Observation in the assessment processes will be emphasized.

EDUC-2133 Early Childhood Curriculum Development

Overview of curriculum and activities that are developmentally appropriate for diverse groups and individual children. Particular emphasis will be placed on lesson and unit planning, emergent curriculum, and the creation and use of learning centers.

ENGL-3603 Children's Literature

An introduction to children's literature. Enduring classics, distinguished contemporary works and notable Christian writings for children are among some of the aspects that are studied. Characteristics of good literature, illustrations, and illustrators are also examined.

EDUC-3103 Administration of Early Childhood Programs

Philosophy, objectives and methods for organizing and operating a kindergarten, nursery school, day-care center and play group for children below six years of age. Also includes the planning of pre-school facilities and the selection of equipment and personnel.

EDUC-4013 Early Childhood Methods and Management

Introduction to the various learning and management strategies and theories appropriate for young children. Emphasis is placed on the content, methodology, and materials for enhancing learning, and on creating learning experiences appropriate to early developmental characteristics, such as learning centers and hands-on materials. Emphasis is also placed on classroom management that will foster learning. The students will develop a personal philosophy of classroom management consistent with Biblical principles. Fifteen hours of field experience are required.

PSYC-2223 Infant & Child Development

A study of the physiological, psychological, and spiritual growth of the child from conception to the preadolescent level. Developmental research is emphasized.

PHED-1303 Human Nutrition, Wellness, & Safety

Introductory Nutrition covers the principles of human nutrition. The emphasis of the course is to promote understanding of human nutritional needs for proper growth, development and life.