

Early Childhood Education (ECH)

ECH 306 - PRINCIPLES OF EARLY CHILDHOOD ED

Semester Hours: 3

This introductory course will provide preservice early childhood educators with basic knowledge of the core principles and foundations of early childhood education. The course introduces students to the historical and sociocultural forces that have impacted the field along with contemporary early childhood programs and models, recent trends and issues, and theories of play. Admission to teacher education program required.

ECH 320 - DIFF INSTR FOR EARLY LEARNERS

Semester Hours: 3

An early childhood education curriculum course designed to provide practical knowledge for blending content areas to maximize children's learning and prepare teacher candidates to meet the needs of children across the curriculum. Focus is on the implementation of a curriculum designed to promote learning and development in the social, emotional, physical, language and cognitive domains. Additionally, the course will emphasize developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate and effective teaching approaches to enhance each child's learning and development. Admission to teacher education program required.

ECH 330 - ASSESSMENT OF YOUNG LEARNERS

Semester Hours: 3

This course provides candidates with an understanding of the forms, functions, methods, and roles of assessment for planning and implementing effective early childhood programs for young children, ages birth to five, from diverse cultures and with varied learning needs. Candidates will explore both quantitative and qualitative approaches to evaluation and assessment. They will learn about technological adaptations to enhance the assessment process. Students will gain an understanding of appropriate strategies for conducting, reporting, and decision making related to specific functions of assessment. They will learn about assessment strategies necessary for second language learners and about adaptations for children with disabilities. They will use selected assessment strategies with young children in their field placements and are expected to become competent in the use of authentic assessment strategies to describe a child's learning strengths and instructional needs. Admission to teacher education program required.

ECH 340 - LANGUAGE & SPEECH DEVELOPMENT

Semester Hours: 3

This course provides an introductory examination of the development of language and speech in young learners. Pragmatic, syntactic, and phonological analyses of children's language and speech development are required. Admission to teacher education program required.

ECH 490 - EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERNSHIP

Semester Hours: 3

Observation, participation and teaching in at least two early childhood settings with children ranging from infancy to grade 3 (full time, 15 week semesters). Students will also attend campus-based seminars designed to meet specific needs of the interns. Admission to the teacher education program required.