

Early Childhood Education—A.A. Degree

An Associate of Arts Degree in Early Childhood Education is designed to prepare students to plan developmentally appropriate educational experiences for children from birth through age 9/Grade 4. Students develop skills in the observation and assessment of young children and in planning developmentally appropriate curriculum in all subject areas. Courses in this program are aligned with NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) standards as well as standards from the Pennsylvania Department of Education for high-quality teacher preparation.

Students earning the Associate of Arts degree will be qualified for many entry level positions in the child care field. Students may also opt to transfer and continue work toward a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, preparing them for positions in both child care and elementary education up to Grade 4.

Fieldwork is a required element of the many of the courses in Early Childhood major, requiring students to spend time outside of the college classroom in settings ranging from child care to early elementary school. Student must possess the following clearances prior to the start of fieldwork in the first semester of the freshman year: Pennsylvania Child Abuse Clearance, Pennsylvania Criminal Background Check, and FBI Background Check.

Early Childhood Major

Suggested Course Sequence

First Semester	Credits
ED 102 Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
ED 104 Child Development	3
EN 101 Fundamentals of Composition I	3
Computer Science Core (Required: CS 105 or CS 106)	3
Religion Elective	3
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Second Semester	
ED 208 The Inclusive Classroom	3
ED 105 Family Partnerships in Early Childhood	3
EN 102 Fundamentals of Composition II	3
PL 100 Philosophy and the Human Condition	3
Mathematics Elective	3
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Third Semester	
ED 204 Curriculum, Program Planning and Assessment: Infants and Toddlers	3
ED 209 Teaching Mathematics in Early Childhood	3
Education Elective	3
Science Elective (4-credit)	4
Social Science Elective	3
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Fourth Semester	
ED 210 Integrated Arts in Early Childhood	3
ED 212 Early Literacy Foundations	3
ED 214 Teaching Science in Early Childhood	3
History Elective (HS 103 or HS 104)	3
Liberal Arts Elective	3
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Total Credits	61