

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Students who intend to pursue a career working with children and wish to continue their education at a four-year college will pursue the Associate of Arts degree, which includes early childhood courses as well as general education classes that meet bachelor's degree requirements for careers in early childhood, early childhood inclusive education, or elementary education with an endorsement in early childhood.

In addition to lecture classes, students may gain experience by working in child care centers and schools. Child care providers require a criminal background check prior to employment. Students will be required to submit a background check in ECED 1220 prior to enrolling in early childhood education practicum courses. Individuals with a criminal record may not be eligible for employment. Please check with advisor.

Suggested Program of Study for Associate of Arts Degree (2 years)

FIRST YEAR

First Semester	
Course	Credits
ENGL 1010 English Composition I*	3
Behavioral Science*	3
Fine Arts and Language*	3-4
Social Science*	3
ECED 1150 Intro to Early Childhood Education	3
	<u>15-16</u>

Second Semester	
Course	Credits
COMM 1110 Public Speaking*	3
MATH 1010 Math for Elementary Teachers	3
History*	3
English/Literature*	3
ECED 2070 Family and Community Relationships	3
	<u>15</u>

SECOND YEAR

First Semester	
Course	Credits
EDUC 1110 Introduction to Professional Education ...	3
ECED 1050 Expressive Arts	3
ECED 2060 Early Childhood Education Curriculum Planning	3
Elective(s)**	6
	<u>15</u>

Second Semester	
Course	Credits
ECED 2050 Children with Exceptionalities	3
Natural Science*	4-5
EDUC 1100 Human Relations in a Pluralistic Society OR SOCI 2150 Exploring Unity and Diversity	1-3
Elective(s)**	7-8
	<u>15-19</u>

Total Credit Hours 60-65

To earn an associate of arts degree, a student must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 60 semester hours that include the general education requirements.

*See general education requirements.

**Recommended electives: ECED 1060 Observation, Assessment, and Guidance, ECED 1110 Infant and Toddler Development, ECED 1120 Preschool Child Development, ECED 1160 Early Language and Literacy, ECED 1220 Pre-Practicum, ECED 1260 Early Childhood Health, Safety, and Nutrition, ECED 1610 Infant Practicum, ECED 1620 Toddler Practicum, ECED 1630 Preschool Practicum, ECED 2450 Early Childhood Administration, EDUC 2000 Educational Psychology, EDUC 2250 Children's Literature, MATH 1015 Geometry for Elementary Teachers.

Sixty credit hours and evidence of Human Relations training (*verified through documentation of relevant work experience, successful completion of EDUC 1100 Human Relations in a Pluralistic Society, SOCI 2150 Exploring Unity and Diversity, or Human Relations coursework taken from a four-year institution*) will meet the requirements to apply for local substitute teaching certification from the Nebraska Department of Education. Check online at www.education.ne.gov/tcert/ for more information.