

Early Childhood Education

Bachelor's Program: Option 3 - Initial Licensure (Teacher Workforce)

Program Overview

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education

Certifications earned:

- Illinois Professional Educator License (PEL)
 - Early Childhood Endorsement, Birth to Grade 2
 - Early Childhood Special Education Approval Endorsement, PreK
 - ESL Endorsement, K-12
- IL Gateways Credentials:
 - Early Childhood (ECE), Level 5
 - Infant Toddler (ITC), Level 3

Candidates: Candidates who do not have a bachelor's degree and seek initial licensure with an endorsement in Early Childhood Education (Birth to Grade 2). Candidates must be in the teacher workforce (i.e. currently employed full-time as teacher in a childcare center or as a paraprofessional in a school) - and are approved as such.

Coursework

Introductory (5 courses, 15 hours)

- EDUC 2310: Foundations of Education (3)
- EDUC 2330: Educational Psychology I - Child Growth and Development (3)
- SPED 2101: Survey of Students with Exceptionalities (3)
- EDCP 2101: Introduction to Educational Technology (3)
- ENGL 2131: Literature for Children and Adolescents (3) **part of GenEds*

Professional (14 courses, 42 credit hours)

- EDUC 3550: Applied Educational Psychology (3)
 - EDEC 3555: Learning
 - EDEC 3556: Classroom Management and Environments
 - EDEC 3557: Assessment
- EDUC 3410: Classroom Management and Responsive Learning Environments (2)
- EDEC 3099: Developmentally Appropriate Practices in Early Childhood Education (3)
- EDEC 3570: Assessment & Differentiated Instruction in Early Childhood Education (3)
 - EDEC 3575: Assessment Practices
 - EDEC 3576: Types of Assessments
 - EDEC 3577: Differentiated Instruction and Culturally Relevant Assessments
- EDEC 3590: STEAM in Education (3)
 - EDEC 3595: Integrated Curriculum and the Arts
 - EDEC 3596: Project-Based Learning
 - EDEC 3597: STEAM
- EDEC 4550: Family, Community, and Culture (3)
 - EDEC 4555: Family
 - EDEC 4556: Community
 - EDEC 4557: Culture
- EDEC 4551: Field Experience 1 - Infants & Toddlers (1)
- EDEC 4560: Science and Social Studies Methods, CRTL & Exceptional Learners (3)
 - EDEC 4565: CRTL & Exceptional Learners
 - EDEC 4566: Science - Teaching and Learning
 - EDEC 4567: Social Studies - Teaching and Learning
- EDEC 4561: Field Experience 2 - Preprimary Grades (1)
- EDEC 4570: Literacy Methods in Early Childhood Education (3)
 - EDEC 4575: Literacy & Language - Teaching and Learning
 - EDEC 4576: Reading
 - EDEC 4577: Writing & Literature

- EDEC 4571: Field Experience 3 - Literacy in Primary Grades (1)
- EDEC 4580: Math Methods in Early Childhood Education (3)
 - EDEC 4585: Math - Teaching and Learning
 - EDEC 4586: Numbers, Operations & Algebraic Thinking
 - EDEC 4587: Measurement, Geometry & Data
- EDEC 4581: Field Experience 4 - Math in Primary Grades (1)
- EDEC 4999: Student Teaching in Early Childhood Education (12)

-Candidates may be eligible to earn credits for prior learning experience for some modules.

Teaching Specialization - ESL Certificate (18 hours)

- BBED 4501: Teaching English as a Second Language (3)
- BBED 4520: Foundations of Bilingual and ESL Education (3)
- BBED 4525: Assessment of Language of Minority Students (3)
- BBED 4530: Methods and Materials for Teaching in Bilingual Programs (3)
- BBED 4538: Cross Cultural Education (3)
- BBED 4977: Reading Strategies in the Bilingual and ESL Classroom (3)

Total Program Hours: 72

Total Program Semesters: 5-7 (2-3 years)

Course Offerings:

Time: evenings (except field experiences)

Modality: online synchronous (at a scheduled time), online asynchronous, face-to-face (intro courses & field experiences)

Design: most program courses are designed in three 1-credit hour modules (5 weeks each). Candidates may be eligible to earn prior learning experience for some modules.

Program Start: fall start only

Course Schedule: ECE program courses are only offered once a year.

Some courses have prerequisites that are required to be followed (i.e. courses must be taken in order).

Gen Eds: (49 hours)

- Math: 3 hours
- Science: 7 hours (2 courses and 1 lab)
- Written communication: 6 hours
- Oral communication/speech: 3 hours
- Health: 3 hours
- Social Science: 9 hours
- Humanities or Fine Arts: 3 hours (preferably Non-Western Humanities or Third World Culture)
- Humanities - ENGL 2131, Children's Literature: 3 hours
- Fine Arts: 3 hours
- other: 10 hours

-equivalent courses can be transferred

Total Degree Hours: 121